



## March/April 2021 Newsletter

### *FROM THE RECTOR*

Remember the game hopscotch? You had to jump over squares with stones in them that would hopefully get you to the end faster. This feels like a time when we are tempted to do some jumping.

Even though there are a few snow packs in the back parking lot and a couple of places on the front lawn of the church from the plow, people were running around today in their T-shirts and shorts enjoying the weather. Even though the temperature was only around 63, it is if we are trying to jump from winter directly into summer.

Then there is the temptation to jump right over this critical time during the pandemic. Vaccines started to roll out. The infection rate finally began to drop from “red” to “orange”. We are so tired of this pandemic. We are so sick of the restrictions on social interactions that many people and states are behaving as if it is over even though 80% of the population hasn’t been vaccinated and new very infectious strains are rapidly spreading. The epidemiologists and our bishop is begging us not to jump over this transitional period but rather hold the course. We’re continuing to do that at St. David’s. While we are preparing for the time when we will be able to worship together indoors, we are anticipating a more gradual roll out with, as the weather warms, having zoom services every week and outdoor services every other week.

Finally there is the temptation to jump from Palm Sunday to Easter. But more often than not, God leads us through the hard times to the joy of new life. During Holy Week we walk with Jesus through his passion to the resurrection. I think as we do so this week, we will find ourselves offering to God the many losses of this past year, giving new meaning to us all of the joy and promise of Easter.

Have a blessed Holy Week and a joyful Easter!

Carolyn

## WORSHIP

### Holy Week



Palm Sunday, March 28, 9:30 AM zoom service – Blessing of palms and the dramatic reading of the passion. You can pick up a palm at the church on the 27<sup>th</sup> or simply pick up a branch from your yard.



Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7 PM zoom service with Agape meal – Remembering Jesus' last night with his disciples/



Good Friday, April 2, 7 PM zoom service – Stations of the Cross using a beautiful set of woodcuts by Margaret Adams Parker with contemporary reflections and prayers.



Easter Sunday, April 4, 9:30 AM zoom service with special music and Agape Meal  
11:00 AM simple outdoor Holy Eucharist. Bring a piece of bread, masks, and a chair.

### Diocesan Services

The Diocese will be offering online worship services throughout Holy Week. To access the zoom links, go to the diocesan website [nhepiscopal.org](http://nhepiscopal.org) on the [Worship & Liturgy](#) page.

### Preparing for indoor worship

The church purchased a wide-angle web cam, tripod, and several cables. Doug Moore installed another small ceiling microphone so that those on zoom can easily hear the service, and Carolyn purchased a couple of small amplifiers which attach to her laptop so those in the congregation can hear those on zoom when doing readings and prayers. We will be doing some practice services, and will also be soliciting feedback from both those participating on zoom and those in-person. Should the hybrid model work, we may then purchase a screen so those on zoom can be seen. Taking things one step at a time with a sense of playful experimentation!

## OUTREACH

### Dave Hall Fund

We had a month off from birthdays for foster children, but two were this March. One girl asked for a couple of sweatshirts which we purchased. Another is a 16 year old girl who just was admitted. Her clothes don't fit and for several days she refused to say anything. Who knows what she went through to end up at the group home. But we were able to get out of her that she would like a strip of LED lights to hang in her room, so we purchased one with a remote control that can change colors and even pulse to music, and also gave her a \$25 Walmart gift

card. Mary Francis, our liaison with the home, said last time she was there, one girl exclaimed that "I had the best birthday ever!" We are letting these kids know that they are important and that people care.

### **Hike for Hope**

St. David's has generously supported Lazarus House Ministries each September for their big annual fundraiser "Hike for Hope". Lazarus House Ministries serves the poorest of the poor in the greater Lawrence area providing shelter, meals, homeless outreach, case management, a thrift shop, and a food pantry. Lazarus House just announced that they are moving their big annual fund raiser to May. So we'll be collecting donations all during the month of April for this worthy ministry. We'll be sponsoring Denise Labrecque and Micki LeBlanc as "walkers" who both worked for decades at Lazarus House. Make checks out to St. David's with Hike for Hope on memo line or Lazarus House; or you can also donate through Pay Pal on our website.

### *CHRISTIAN EDUCATION*

#### **Sacred Ground**

The group doing this series will be wrapping up the course within the next couple of weeks. But if anything, our work is about to begin as we discern what are some ways we at St. David's can begin to do our part as a part of the Episcopal Church to help heal the legacies of racism.

*AVAILABLE IN THE FOYER free for taking and sharing*

#### **Parish Directories**

the latest **Episcopal Newspaper**

**Day by Day** devotional booklets for March, April, and May

**Bulletins** for the upcoming Sunday are usually there by Tuesday afternoon.

