



February 2025 Newsletter

We had a very productive annual meeting last Sunday with good discussion. In addition to a photo slide show of 2024 activities (thanks to Michele Quinn and Dick Dean) and thanking people for all the work they have done in so many ways supporting the life and ministry of St. David's, here are some of the major highlights:

- Although 2024 had a budget with an \$11,100 deficit, we ended the year with \$1,300 in the red. The 2025 budget has a deficit of \$10,300.
 - Deb Ogin and Irene Curtin wrapped up their 5 one-year terms serving as Treasurer and Clerk, and Dick Dean his three-year term on the vestry. Paula Klenner and Carla Boucher finished up their second year as delegates but are willing to serve another two-year term. Elaine Clark was elected as Senior Warden, George Ogin as Treasurer, Laura Campbell as Clerk, Braden Golas as Vestry, and Richard Boucher will continue for another year as Jr. Warden.
 - Richard Boucher gave an update on church renovations, most being made possible by the generosity of the Kagan family. A survey was done of the property to clearly establish our boundaries and wetlands. Instead of the former Sunday School room below the sanctuary becoming the transitional housing apartment we had originally envisioned, "Cyndi's Place" will now become a family friendly room for Isaiah 58 case managers to meet with their homeless and home insecure clients (especially those with children). It can also be used to conduct classes on topics such as finances and parenting as well as providing storage space for supplies. The lower hall bathroom will be made handicap accessible and a dishwasher installed in the kitchen. We're looking at upgrading the lights and ceiling of the small coffee room. Finally, because the ramp doesn't quite meet ADA standards and takes up a lot of space, and the outside life to the deck will soon not pass inspection, the property committee will be exploring the possibility of freeing up the space in the lower hall by replacing the ramp with a handicap lift and using that ramp to make the front entrance of the church wheelchair accessible.
 - After a lively discussion the parish decided not to continue to have a Barn Sale but explore other ways to raise funds.
 - The mission of The Dave Hall Fund was expanded from being limited to foster children and homeless children to be used for "children's needs".
- This parish is such a blessing! Thank you! Carolyn

OUTREACH

End 68 Hours of Hunger – Our February outreach is for the school food pantry which makes sure that children have food to eat from Friday afternoon till lunch on Monday. Currently the program serves some 85 children. Goods have also often been provided to their families. Currently donations of food and household supplies (paper products) can be dropped off at the church this month. People are also welcome to make monetary donations by writing a check made out to St. David's with 68 Hours of Hunger on the memo line.

HAPPENINGS

Saints Class and Lent Madness – A class on the saints is continuing to meet after coffee hour on Sundays. As we get closer to Lent (Ash Wednesday is March 5), there will be a poster of brackets for the 32 saints competing this year to win the "Golden Halo" posted in the upper hall. We'll watch the progress of the saints as participants vote for their favorites.

Kids Day - Valentine's stories and Crafts Saturday, February 8th 9:30am - 2:30pm

We will look at Valentine's Day - the saint, the customs and most importantly - the Bible stories that tell us why this holiday is so important. We will learn about the 10 commandments (known in Godly Play as The Ten Best Ways to Live) and the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Snacks, lunch, games, and creating old fashioned Valentine cards. There is still room for a few more kids. To register please contact *Michele Quinn ASAP*.

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Meditation/Mindfulness Class – Feeling stressed? Want to deepen your prayer? Although our instructor Samson Lee is moving back to Colorado, there is such an interest in learning and practicing meditation, we will meet anyway. The class will be held in the sanctuary on Mondays from 2:30-3:30 *beginning February 3rd*. There will be some instruction, time for meditation, and sharing. We'll do this again for five weeks and decide where to go from there.

Book Group – The next monthly book discussion group will be held Thursday February 27 at 10 am in the small coffee room. The book of the month is Joshua by Joseph Girzone. All are welcome!

Annual Winter Doldrums Pot Luck Supper and Yankee Swap – Tired of the cold and dark? Want to share some good food and laughs? Come to our annual pot luck supper and Yankee Swap on *Saturday February 15* in the lower hall at 6PM. Bring a dish to share, and if you want to participate in the Yankee Swap, a wrapped gift. It can be ANYTHING – something edible, a gift you want to get rid of, something really nice or something absolutely outrageous. We'll explain then how it works, but in a nutshell, everyone draws a number. When your number comes up, you get to pick one of the wrapped gifts and open it for all to see. You can then choose to keep it or "swap" it for some other gift that had already been opened. It is not only fun to see some of the gifts, but which ones everyone wants that keeps getting "swapped" again and again.

Confirmation and Reception – Bishop Rob will be with us on Palm Sunday, April 13. Whenever he makes his parish visit, it is an opportunity to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church. If you are thinking about this, please talk to Carolyn soon. If there is enough for a group, we'll plan a series of classes (of which anyone is welcome to attend) to learn more about the Episcopal Church, how it is similar/different than other Christian denominations, and to talk about scripture, worship, sacraments, the meaning of the baptismal vows being renewed, and other topics the group would like to discuss.

Coming soon - St. David's Patron Saint Day! – Since David of Wales is remembered on March 1st, we're going to learn about and celebrate the person after whom our parish is named on Sunday March 2nd. As a paternal feast it can take precedence over the regular assigned scripture lessons. It will be fun! Stay tuned for more!

One final piece of business - **In-kind Donations**

It was very helpful to have people this year begin to get into the habit of reporting in-kind donations. The people of St. David's have always been a group that supports events, provides services, and buys things for the church as a freely given donation. We are blessed with everyone's generosity! But it is helpful for us to know the actual costs of the ministries and operations of the church. When you purchase things for the church (such as property or office related or food for community dinners or supplies for the craft fair, etc.) fill out an "in-kind donation" form found in a box of files next to the copy machine, and put it in the treasurer's mail slot (2nd one). The giver can be anonymous. Thank you!

2025 Officers and Vestry

Elaine Clark – Sr. Warden, 603-898-7576
Richard Boucher – Jr. Warden, 978-204-3115
George Ogin – Treasurer, 603-560-0805
Laura Campbell – Clerk, 603-425-3944
Maria Posey – Vestry, 603-275-2278
Brandon Sousa – Vestry, 603-401-8892
Braden Golas – Vestry, 603-362-7381
Miriam Acevedo – Vestry, 603-489-3731