



St. David's Episcopal Church

AUGUST DOVETALE

2023

MISSION STATEMENT:

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to love and serve God and community, committing ourselves to lives of joyful worship, prayer, and the teaching of Scripture.

SLOWING DOWN AND GEARING UP

August always feels a little strange to me. On the one hand, it's still summer and things are slower at Church. We continue with our regular events, but not much else. I enjoy the slower pace in part because it gives me time to do things like go on a camping trip with a friend and help my son move into his new home in Chicago. I also enjoy some time just relaxing!

On the other hand, August is the time to prepare for the coming program year. That means things like lining up Sunday School teachers, preparing the fall serving schedule, and making decisions about formation offerings. Not every bit of the planning is fun, but I enjoy thinking about the big picture, about what we should be doing in the fall and how to make it happen. Thankfully I am ably helped by the Vestry and other leadership!!

That combination of fewer activities and more planning means two things. There will be times when it might be hard to reach me for a couple of days. If I am ever out of reach, I'll make sure to line up coverage for pastoral emergencies. But there will be times when I'll be slow to respond to non-emergencies.

It also means that I would love to hear from people about their thoughts for the upcoming program year. Please let me or other members of the leadership know what you would like to see, what would help you to grow spiritually or would just be fun. Now is the easiest time to think things through and get them on the calendar!

I end with the prayer that people are having good summers, staying cool and dry as much as possible!

In Christ's name.

Fr. Harvey

FRIDAY EVENTS: by Fr. Harvey

Most Fridays we have a Healing Eucharist at noon, Bible Study at 1:00, and Contemplative Prayer at 2:30. All three are in person, but you can also join the last two by Zoom. All three will meet every Friday in August, but we'll take the Friday before Labor Day (9/1) off. I'll be in Atlanta that day celebrating my parent's 60th wedding anniversary!

HEALING PRAYERS: by Fr. Harvey

We have been offering individual healing prayers after the 10:00 service most Sundays. But the number of people on the team has dropped to three, which makes this a time to reflect on whether we want to continue offering healing prayers each week. As I write this article, the prayers are pondering. If you have thoughts about it, please let me know. Also let me know if you are interested in possibly joining the Team. If so, we can offer training. No matter what happens, please join me in thanking Jude and Sue O'Hare, Jim Shields, and Terry Hurlbut for their years of prayers!!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: by Fr. Harvey

The Bishop makes a formal visitation to Saint David's every other year. When I last checked, the schedule for next year wasn't finalized, but he will probably be at Saint David's in February. Among the joys of his visits are confirmations and receptions into the Episcopal Church.

To get ready, we are offering Confirmation Classes this Fall, probably on Sundays after the 10:00 service. It looks like we should have a good group, with adults and teenagers. If you are interested in more information or joining the classes, please let me know. Teens should be at least sixteen by the time the Bishop comes, although exceptions can be made for interested younger children. Folks who don't need to be confirmed or received but would like to learn more about their faith and our Church are also welcome!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: by Fr. Harvey

This is my annual appeal for Sunday School teachers and helpers. We hope to resume Sunday School on Sunday, September 10. Ideally by that time we will have four or five teachers and another four or five helpers. If you are interested in helping, please talk to me or Deacon Terry. If you would like to learn more about what teaching or helping involves, we can put you in contact with people who know. Thanks!!

SERVICE LEADERS: by Fr. Harvey

Later this month, we'll be putting together the Fall serving schedule for readers, chalice bearers, ushers and streamers. People can join the rotation anytime, but it is easiest at the beginning of a three-month cycle. You can see what each of these roles includes by watching people on Sunday mornings, but let me know if you have questions about any of them and/or if you would like to join one of the rotations. Thanks!

FLOWERS AND THE ALTAR CANDLE: by Fr. Harvey

Most weeks, the flowers and/or the altar candles are given to the glory of God and in honor of someone important to us. If you would like to remember, honor, or give thanks for someone, please complete the form (available in the narthex), attach a check for the relevant amount, and return it to the office or put it in the collection plate

PRISON BIBLE STUDY:

Mary Moore “I was in prison and you came to visit me. ... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25: 36 and 40b

After some long delays in getting started - first dealing with covid, then trying to schedule a mutually agreeable orientation session involving 8+ people - we were finally able to begin this ministry last winter. Our initial leaders group consisted of 7 clergy members from different Christian denominations plus 1 rabbi. We also had 1 lay person, but have since expanded to include 3 more. Teams of 2 - 3 of us rotate through the month, with a different team going each week (on Monday nights). The goal is not to preach, but to connect with the women incarcerated at The Women’s Correctional facility in Chicopee using the stories of women in the Bible as a jumping off point for discussion. Most of the meetings are based loosely on the way we run contemplative prayer, i.e. read through a passage of the Bible, sit silently for a bit to think about the scripture, then discuss what sticks out to us. We may read through 2 or 3 times, followed by deeper and deeper discussions each time. As with any meaningful reading of scripture, we try to apply it to our own lives. In other words, how is the reading relevant to the present day? We always end by offering up a prayer to God. One of the most pleasant surprises in this ministry was how quickly a feeling of mutual trust and respect developed between the women in the prison and us. These women are eager to share their stories with us. Depending on what other programs are running on a particular Monday evening, the group size fluctuates between 2 and about 10 inmates. Regardless of the numbers though, everyone is fully engaged and each session is met with appreciation and satisfaction from ALL participants. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Father Harvey

Deacon Terry -- Our prison ministry continues to be a success on the first Monday of each month. We read the book of Ruth, followed by a movie on the book. The inmates loved the book and the movie. Great conversations, insights, and reflections. We are now on the book of Job.

These folks are engaged and bring an amazing perspective to our readings and are appreciative to us. We have a new leader in our group, Sue Frazier from All Saint’s Church in South Hadley, who is Linda Seabury’s sister. It is wonderful to have Sue a part of our team. It is an interesting ministry, one that may not be for everyone, (as it once was with me), but very rewarding, knowing we are fulfilling Jesus’ words of visiting those in prison.

Reaching people outside our four walls is what we try to do.

“If you can’t get the crowd to come to you, go to the crowd.”

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY : by Beth Kronlund

What is a Prayer Shawl Ministry? This ministry brings together knitters and crocheters in fellowship to create shawls to be blessed and given to those who need to be wrapped in love and prayer.

Shawls can be simple or more involved but the focus is on sharing your time and talent in a meaningful way. At our first meeting, we will be discussing yarns, patterns, and what help is needed to get shawls underway.

Please contact Beth Kronlund at (413) 348-2089, kronlundbc@gmail.com with any questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry begins meeting monthly on Sunday, September 10 after the 10am family service

FRANCISCAN FELLOWSHIP MEETING: by Fr. Harvey

Saint Francis Day is October 4th, which falls on a Wednesday this year. That Saturday, we will host the annual Saint Francis Day Celebration for the New England Fellowship of Third Order Franciscans. Mostly this is just to let you know what is happening. But contact me or Terry Hurlbut if you would like to learn more about the Franciscans or about this event. It also reminds me that we haven’t offering a blessing of pets recently. If you have thoughts about that, please let me know. Thanks!

WINE MINISTRY:

If anyone would like some homemade wine, please see Mary Moore. There is a suggested donation, which goes to support ministries of St. David’s.

SAINT DAVID'S CALENDAR: by Fr. Harvey

You can now find every event scheduled at Saint David's, as well as every Saint David's event scheduled other places, on the calendar on our webpage. Take a look at it if you haven't already done so (saintdavidsMA@gmail.com). It's impressive! To add something to the calendar, please first check if the space and time you want are open. Then email our calendar keepers at saintdavidsMA@gmail.com to make your request. It will be official when you hear back from them.

Janessa Piteo continues managing our calendar, and is now joined by Beth Kronlund. Either can respond to your requests, but I'm thinking Beth will particularly help with requests from renters, which has become its own important and complicated set of issues. Please join me in thanking both for their help!!!

THE RETURN OF DOMINOES!!: by Virginia Ventulett

Dominoes is back! The group gathers at Saint David's on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6:00 to play a couple of games, share a few laughs, and probably enjoy some yummy goodies. Please join the fun. If you don't know how to play, people will teach you—it's easy!

SAFE CHURCH TRAININGS

The Rev. Tanya Wallace, our Diocesan Safe Church Officer, will be leading Safe Church training on the following dates via Zoom:

Friday, August 25, 9-2 p.m. Clergy, Staff, Lay leaders

Tuesday, September 5, 5-8 p.m., Volunteers

Tues/Thurs, September 19 & 21, 5:30-8:00 p.m., Clergy, Staff, Lay leaders

Sunday, October 22, 2-5:00 p.m., Volunteers

Please consider your commitment as space is limited in each Zoom session. Your parish will be billed for your registration. Please sign up early. Registration closes one week prior to training date.

TUESDAY CONVERSATIONS: by Fr. Harvey

A group of us meet roughly every other Tuesday at 4:15 on Zoom to discuss a chapter of Richard Rohr's *Things Hidden: Scripture as Spirituality*. It's a great book, and it's not too late to join us! As I write this article, the first August date will be Tuesday the 8th, when we'll discuss chapter five. Please talk to me if you would like more information about the book or our sessions. We'd love to have you!

DIOCESAN RESOLUTION: by Fr. Harvey

As part of our ongoing work on Becoming Beloved Community, the Beloved Community Commission is sponsoring a resolution at Diocesan Convention called “A commitment to healing the legacy of slavery and racism through an act of atonement.” The resolution calls for members of our Diocese to research the degree to which we profited directly or indirectly from slavery and, assuming we did, to make recommendations to the 2024 Convention for appropriate atonement. If you are interested in seeing the resolution or would like to share your thoughts, please talk to me. Thanks!

*******UPDATES*******

NEIGHBOR TROUBLES: by Fr. Harvey

As some of you have noticed, our neighbors on the far side of the retaining pond have been doing a lot of work over the last several years. It turns out, some of that work was on our land. We had a survey done to confirm our suspicions, and then approached the neighbors (a father and son who own adjacent properties) to resolve the issue. That has not been easy. As I write this article, we hope to reach a resolution with one of the two. Negotiations are not going as well with the other, and we may need to file a legal complaint against him, although we are hoping it won't come to that. Please pray for an amicable resolution to these disputes!

RENTAL UPDATES by Fr. Harvey

As I have said many times, we increasingly rely on rental income to fund our ministries. Our relationships with our different tenants has become an important part of our Church life.

But not a particularly stable part of our Church life, since tenants tend to come and go. On the plus side recently, Jason LaFleur, the caterers of Farmer's Table, has been busily renting our kitchen this summer, which is great. A Saturday Narcotics Anonymous Group also recently resumed meeting at Saint David's (although we don't really aim to make money on rentals to twelve step groups; that is part of our mission). On the negative side, the Church of the Last Harvest, which had been renting quite a few hours each week, found another building where they could have whatever hours they wanted, including Sunday mornings.

I am grateful to John Litchfield and the Rental Committee for their ongoing work in managing rentals for us. If you know of possible tenants, for single events or a continuing relationship, please let John or the committee members know. Thanks!

HUMAN TO HUMAN GOLF TOURNAMENT: by Fr. Harvey

Human to Human is the umbrella organization of the Diocese which raises money to support ministries that are not exactly housed at any single parish.

The main example is the Veterans Ministry, but it also supports a chaplain for the Women's Correctional Center of Chicopee (where we do our Prison Bible Study), Laundry Love, and other things.

On September 18 they are sponsoring a golf tournament at the Ledges Golf Club in South Hadley. We will probably be a partial sponsor of the event. For more information or to register for the tournament, please go to: <https://www.humantohuman.org/golf-tournament>. Thanks!

VETERANS MEAL: by Fr. Harvey

We are in the complicated part of the year for our Veterans Lunches. Normally we offer a lunch every first Tuesday of the month. But we skipped July since that would have been on July 4th. Our August meal will be the first, as usual. In September we don't offer a normal meal, but the Lions distribute coupons for a free meal at the Big E. Then we're back at it with no exceptions beginning in October.

We have also had a recent change. Our Veterans Lunches have been part of the Diocese's Building Bridges Program. For most of the time we have been offering the meals, our affiliation with Building Bridges has meant that they promoted our meals and sent representatives to them. But Building Bridges has their particular way of hosting meals that was always a little different than what we were doing. After the June meal, I and the coordinator of Building Bridges, Chris Carlisle, decided we would no longer be part of the Building Bridges program. They will continue to promote our meals, but as an independent offering. The conversation was amicable, helped by the fact that Chris and I are old friends. Still, I think the separation will be for the best.

One consequence of separating from Building Bridges is that we'll need to do some fund-raising specifically for our Veterans Meals. If you are willing to contact local businesses to solicit their support, please let me know. Same if you have any questions. Thanks!



- 8/1 Jude O'Hare
- 8/5 Kathy Glista
- 8/9 Valerie Clapp
- 8/12 Tara Freeman
- 8/14 Danny Barna
- 8/30 Joanne Freeman

Wishing Fr. Harvey and Carrie a very
From ALL of your Flock at St. Davids



CAREGIVERS:

Susan Amabile is restarting our Caregivers' Ministry, to provide help to parishioners with temporary or permanent needs. The ministry can help with things like rides, meals, and errands.

If you are interested in being part of the ministry, please contact Susan. Thanks!

**Hi I am St. David's Garden and I need some care. Can anyone help me.
See Fr. Harvey.**



CREATION CARE KIDS' CORNER: - Ecosystems by Mary Moore

Have you ever noticed that the types of plants and animals that live in one kind of place are different from the ones that live in a different setting? For example, cacti and road runners (a type of bird) live in the desert; cattails and frogs live in wet areas like swamps. The collection of living things like plants and animals, and non-living things like dirt, rocks, and water, that all interact with each other in a given area is called an ecosystem.

The kinds of plants found in a specific place depend on the amount of rainfall, the temperature, and the soil found there. Likewise, the types of animals that can live in an area also depend on those non-living things plus the plants that live there.

A healthy ecosystem is one in which all the separate parts are in balance. In other words, there are never too many of one kind of plant or animal to cause the number of another kind of plant or animal to go up or to go down too much. Let's say that one year, there is a high population of bobcats in a forest. More bobcats means more squirrels get eaten that year. Because so many squirrels get eaten that year, in the next year there will be fewer baby squirrels being born. That will make it harder for the bobcats to find squirrels to eat. Now, because there are more bobcats around than there is food for them, some, but not all, of the bobcats and their babies won't get enough to eat, and they will die. As soon as the number of bobcats goes down, the number of squirrels will go up again. So, the numbers of bobcats and squirrels go up and down a little bit from one year to the next, but overall, there is a balance. There are never too many of either one in this forest.

For an example of an out of balance ecosystem, we'll stay with the bobcats and squirrels. Let's say the humans living near this forest don't like having bobcats in the woods because these people want to be able to hike around and not have to worry about a bobcat attacking them or their pet dog. So they kill or otherwise remove all the bobcats. Oops! Now there are too many squirrels. More squirrels could mean having a lot more ticks around. And too many ticks is bad news for us because they carry diseases that can make us (and some other animals) very sick.

Some of the things that can upset the balance in an ecosystem are pollution, climate change, over-hunting, over-fishing, and/or habitat loss. Examples of habitat loss are cutting down too many trees in an area (What would you do if you were a bird competing with other birds for a tree to nest in?) and water pollution that is so bad that fish in a lake can't live there any more.

QUICK FACTS FROM THE CREATION CARE TEAM: by Pauline Mortenson

\$5.5 trillion of funding is what the world's 60 largest banks have given to the fossil fuel industry. This is since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, according to the 2023 report Banking on Climate Chaos.

\$350 million the Department of Transportation is allocating to tribes, states and communities for wildlife bridges and other measures which will allow animals safe passage over roads.

263,496,496 tons of carbon dioxide the Bureau of Land Management expects the Alaska Willow oil project will indirectly emit over its lifetime of 30 years. This is actually equivalent to the annual emissions of two million gas-powered cars.

The State of Maryland passed a bill requiring auto dealers to sell an increasing annual percentage of zero-emission trucks & vans starting in 2027.

By 2026 the nation's largest offshore wind operation is set to be completed off the coast of Virginia. The Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project includes 176 wind turbines which are expected to save up to five million tons of CO2 emissions. They will generate more than 2.5 gigawatts of power which is enough to keep the lights on in over half a million homes.

RED CROSS BLOOD DONATION by Sue & Jude O'Hare

Jude O'Hare has Leukemia and has been given many pints of blood most every week for the last 8 months. With Jude being in and out of the hospital and Cancer Center, parishioners have asked how they can help. I think the best way they can help is by donating blood because Jude has used such a large amount of blood.

HERE ARE THE DETAILS:

Blood can be donated at the red Cross in Springfield. That is the closest donation center in our area.

The address is **150 Brookline drive in Springfield. [Www/redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).**

Anyone donating will need to call before going and make an appointment, or you could end up driving there to find out they are full for that day. Phone number : 1-800-448-3543

TIMES ARE FOLLOWS:

Sundays—7:30 AM-3:45 PM
Mondays— 11AM—7:15 PM
Tuesdays-11AM—7:15 PM
Wednesdays-11AM—7:15 PM
Thursdays-10:30AM-6:45PM
Fridays— 7:45AM— 4:00PM
Saturdays-7:30AM-3:34PM

It means so much and is appreciated

We are thankful for Linda Seabury here at St. David's. Linda is on St. David's Choir and lends her knowledge and talent to help those of us newbies to the Choir.. When Linda had her surgery one of the choir members decided that Linda should have something made with love to keep her warm. She also felt that it should reflect what Linda loves so much — MUSIC.

So she designed a pattern which she crocheted. Great work Dina.



TAG SALE RESULTES: by Jo Joubert

I want to send out a Great Big thank you to Lenny Scott for taking on the chore of getting the Church ready for the Tag sale. Also, he coordinated putting the Church back together for Sunday Service. Thank you to Ellen Rendrick and Kim Kozlk for Raffle table. Thanks to Valerie Clapp and Beth Kronlundbc for the bake sale table. BIG thank you to Dina Joubert, Sandy Joubert, Ellen Scott, Valerie Clapp Mary Fleury and Ellen Rendrick for all their help setting up and breaking down the items. We are disappointed in our success perhaps it was the wrong time of year. \$80.00 on Raffle, \$23.00 on Bake sale And \$371.00 on Tags.

FROM THE KITCHEN CREW: by Jo Joubert

Rhubarb Crumb Loaves

For the rhubarb loaves:

3/4 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1 egg
1/2 cup buttermilk
1 /2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1 1/4 cups flour
3/4 cup chopped rhubarb

For the crumb topping:

1/2 cup powdered sugar
1/2 cup all purpose flour
4 Tbsp. unsalted butter, melted
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
Pinch of salt

Directions

Preheat the oven to 325.
Combine the brown sugar, vegetable oil, egg, and buttermilk in a large bowl.
Stir in the salt, baking soda, vanilla, and flour until the flour is just combined.
Fold in the rhubarb.
Divide the batter between pans.
In a small bowl, stir together the ingredients for the crumb topping. Using your hands, break the mixture into crumbs and sprinkle it over the bread batter. Pat down slightly.
Bake for 20-25 minutes, until a knife inserted comes out clean.

CROCK POT CHICKEN AND STUFFING Recipe from Jim Shields

Season 4-6 boneless chicken breasts (about 1-1/2 lbs) with salt & pepper

Place in crock pot and pour 2 cans cream of chicken soup over them

Prepare stuffing according to package. Arrange over chicken.

Cover crock pot and cook at high 3—4 hours . You can vary amounts based on our needs.



**Who said Church is only for praying.
Many other events are held at St. David's.
Even Hair cuts.**

AUGUST CALENDAR

OUR WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Services at 8:00 and 10:00

Monday: Men's Bible study at 7:00

Wednesday: Choir Practice at 3:30

Friday: Healing Eucharist at 12:00

Bible Study at 1:00 (in person and Zoom)

Contemplative Prayer at 2:30 (in person and Zoom)

M-F: Morning Prayer at 8:00 AM (on Facebook)

M-F: Compline at 8:00 PM (on Zoom)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tuesday, August 1: Veterans Lunch at 11:30

Sunday, August 6: Church without Walls at 12:00 at the Parish Cupboard

Monday, August 7: Prison Bible Study at the WCCC at 7:00

Tuesday August 8: Conversation on Scripture at 4:15 on Zoom (chapt 5)

Wednesday, August 9: Dominoes at 6:00

Wednesday, August 16: Vestry at 7:00

Wednesday, August 23: Dominoes at 6:00

Monday, August 28: Prison Bible Study at 7:00 at the WCCC

REGULAR RENTALS

Mondays from 6:30-8:30 PM: OA

Thursdays from 9:30-11:00 AM: OA

Saturdays from 7:00 to 9:00 PM: Al-Anon Meeting

Saturdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM: Narcotics Anonymous



It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35

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