



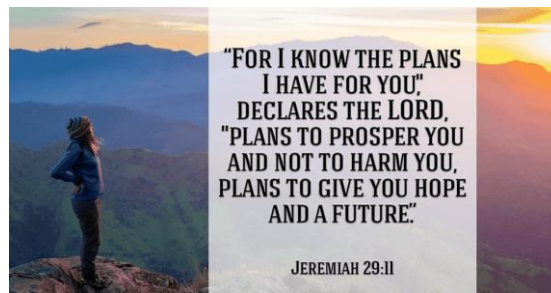
# THE JANUARY DOVETAL

St. David's Episcopal Church

2021

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE (by Ted Zern)

The first phase of the 2021 Stewardship Campaign continues as we approach the end of the year. Looking back on 2020, there is much for which to be thankful. Yup, I said thankful. I realize that it is sometimes hard to reflect and not feel compelled to focus on all the things we did not or could not enjoy. We could not visit with family and friends the way we would want to, we could not shop in person in an actual store, we could not hug, smile (without a mask), and most of all, we could not worship in person with the faith community of St. David's. So why be thankful? Well, there are now two approved vaccines, technology has provided a way to stay connected, we have found ways to worship and pray on a daily basis, we have continued outreach in novel and unexpected ways. How about being thankful for a Rector, Deacon, Senior and Junior Wardens, Music Director, Music Vocalists and Children Ministers who faithfully and tirelessly brought us together in worship and prayer. How about being thankful for the talents of those who built and staged the Nativity in the front of the Church, the ushers/parking lot attendants, collection and delivery of donations to the Parish Cupboard, the Office Angels and the list goes on. St. David's is alive and well thanks to a congregation who has remained faithful to their commitment of time, talent, and treasure. As we look ahead to 2021, consider the words of Jeremiah.



As of December 19, a total of 33 pledges have been received. As a matter of reference, there were just over 50 pledges for the past year. Each financial pledge matters. So, as you read the words from Jeremiah and if you have not yet submitted a financial pledge, I hope you will consider remaining a vital part of the backbone of St. David's. When we look to the future, we pray that St. David's will remain a beacon of hope for each of us and that this Church will continue to be a partner in our life's journey.

The easiest way to submit a pledge is to email the pledge secretary at [tzern@comcast.net](mailto:tzern@comcast.net) or call Ted Zern at 413-786-1679. God Bless!



## Giving From The Heart (by Ted Zern)

As the new year dawns, we are indeed full of hope. With COVID vaccines in play, there is renewed enthusiasm that we will soon return to in-person worship and celebrate this remarkable community of faith at St. David's. In the meantime, we are reminded of those pesky "new year's resolutions." You know, the ones which we have every good intention of keeping but somehow fail to maintain. We make these with a wish of accomplishment. So, for 2021, let's consider a different kind of resolution, one made in prayer, a resolution to use our time and talent as called by God. On **Sunday**, February 14, St. David's

offers a chance to give thanks for the blessings of time granted, and the blessings of talents bestowed. On that date, stewardship turns from consideration of financial gifts to one of spiritual gifts, i.e. **our time and** talent, gifts from the heart.

#### *What is Stewardship of Time and Talent?*

It is the wise and responsible use of the gifts God has entrusted to each of us. It is believing that God has created each of us with unique abilities and attributes which make us who we are. Consider these gifts those of the heart so it seems fitting that the commitment date for this phase of stewardship coincides with Valentine's Day.

#### *Why is This Important?*

Our lives have real meaning only when we use our gifts in accordance with God's will. As we grow in stewardship, we grow in our relationship with God by inviting Him to live in our hearts.

#### *How Can I Be a Good Steward of My Time?*

We are given opportunities each day to be good stewards. No gift is greater than time, and yet, nothing is so easy to waste. Time spent in prayer, nurturing relationships or just enjoying the world's beauty is time well spent.

#### *What are My Talents?*

We often hold back from recognizing our gifts because of a narrow definition of "talent." We think "talented people" are extraordinary achievers or have easily identifiable gifts, such as music or art. Yet, talent also includes being a good listener, being able to organize people, relating well to children or teens, and being patient with others. As Christians, we recognize that our gifts are meant to be cultivated and shared with others through family and friends, church, community and with the world.

#### *How Can I Be a Good Steward of My Talents?*

Begin by recognizing the talents you have been given. Be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Let go of preconceived ideas about yourself. Be still and listen with the "ear of the heart."

#### *An Invitation to Action-A Few Suggestions*

Do something for yourself and your relationship with God. Consider answering the challenge to read the New Testament.

Join a Bible study or small group, or consider attending contemplative prayer sessions.

Get involved with fellowship events at church; get to know your church family. This seems particularly important this year.

Regularly worship and get to know the people around you, pray often and sing loudly.

Seek out ways you can share your gifts with the various ministries of the congregation.

Offer your time and talent on Sunday, February 14 by completing a declaration form (spoiler alert) which will be found in the next issue of the *Dovetale*.

## **Parish New Year's Resolutions**, by Fr. Harvey

The New Year is upon us, and still our building is closed. Thankfully, people are being vaccinated and the end of the pandemic is in sight, if still too far away.

The pandemic has been horrible, but it has taught us some valuable lessons. And one of the big lessons is that we can still be Church even when we don't have access to our building. Despite the closure, our worship has been lively. Attendance has generally been good at our Christian formation offerings. We have remained committed to outreach, if in new forms. *We* are the Church. We have continued to be the Church. And we will continue to be the Church.

Later this month we will gather, on zoom, for our annual meeting. (Details are inside this edition of the *Dovetale*.) Annual meeting is an opportunity for us to take stock of where we have been, and where we feel called to go.

That stock-taking is valuable anytime, but it is particularly valuable given the unprecedented year we have had. This year, more than at any time since I arrived at Saint David's nine years ago, we need to learn from our recent past as we make decisions about our imminent future.

On January first, many people make resolutions for the new year. We won't all be together that day (although you can tune in to Morning Prayer!). But Annual Meeting is our opportunity to make resolutions for our parish. After the pandemic, what do we want to retain from the previous year? What do we want to resurrect from past years? What are we being called to let go? What new things should we try?

In the weeks leading up to our Annual Meeting, please pray for our parish. Ask God for guidance, and listen for God's call, to you as an individual and to us as a parish. Dream big. And then share your dream. Talk to me or a member of the vestry.

I don't know what the new year will bring. But I know this: God has a plan for us. And God will be with us as we try to get on board. Lord, give us ears to hear!

### **Our Building is Still Closed**, Fr. Harvey

Last month, the vestry voted to close our building at least through December. Unfortunately, the pandemic numbers remain high, so we regretfully decided to extend the closure through January. Unfortunate though it is, I am convinced it is for the best. As we have been told many times, staying safe is a way of loving our neighbors. Thankfully, vaccines are on the way!!

### **Communion During a Pandemic**

Even though we aren't worshipping together in person at this point, we want to make sure that people have access to Holy Communion. With the Bishop's permission, we can make consecrated wafers available before and after services. Our plan is to do both.

Immediately following the 9:00 Sunday service, we leave consecrated wafers on a table in the narthex for at least thirty minutes for people to pick up. You can also pick up consecrated wafers during the week on Wednesdays from 11:00 to 1:00 and Thursdays from 11:00 to 12:30.

Yet another option is to have someone drop the consecrated hosts off at your house on Wednesdays or Fridays. If you would like that, please contact the office or let Fr. Harvey know.

Finally, we will continue to say the Prayer for Spiritual Communion during the livestreamed services for those who are not able to have a physical wafer.

Our suggestion is that you consume the sacrament as close to the worship service as possible. So, if you pick it up immediately following the service, consume it right away. If you pick it up during the week, wait until the next service and then consume it just after the prayer of consecration.

One last suggestion: if possible, have someone else give you the host while saying the words, "The body of Christ; the bread of heaven." Ideally Communion is something we all give to each other.

### **Wine-Making Ministry**

This ministry/fund raiser continues! If you would like a bottle of homemade wine, please contact Mary Moore. The suggested donation is \$10, and the varieties available (while supplies last!) are: Cabernet Sauvignon; Chardonnay; Malbec; Blueberry; and dry and sweet meads. All proceeds go to support our mission and ministries. Thanks to Mary for leading this effort, with help from a fine wine-making crew!

### **Friday Healing Eucharist**

Our building remains closed at least through the end of the month, which means we will not have our Friday Healing Eucharist. We will resume that service as soon as it is safe to do so.

## **Virtual Pastoral Care**

As the weather turns cold and we all retreat inside, it is more important than ever that we be sensitive to each other's needs. Isolation can be as harmful as the covid-19 virus, and it is likely to increase as the winter wears on! Please stay in touch with your brothers and sisters at Saint David's. Reach out by phone or email or in whatever other way seems appropriate. And if you are struggling, emotionally, financially, or logistically, please let Fr. Harvey know.

## **Prayer Shawls**

This is a great time to make, use, or give someone a prayer shawl. If you have one to be dedicated, let Father Harvey know, and he can include a prayer of dedication as part of our Sunday service. If you would like to pick one up from the Church, please let the office know, and we'll try to make appropriate arrangements. Prayer shawls can be a great comfort to people who need a little boost, and that is a lot of us these days! Thanks to everyone who participates in this wonderful ministry!!!

## **Technology Update, by Fr. Harvey**

We continue to work at upping our technology game, and now the Diocese is offering a little help. We can apply for a grant covering up to \$2000 of technology upgrade expenses. Conversations have begun about what we might want to do next. If you have ideas, please let me know!

## **Daily Prayer**

We (Saint David's) continue to offer Morning Prayer every weekday at 8:00. Deacon Terry leads it on Mondays and Fridays, and Father Harvey leads it on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Saint Mark's offers Compline or something similar at 8:00 every weekday evening except Wednesdays. Please take advantage of these services as you are able. And please spread the word!

## **Sunday School at Home**

Our children still can't gather at the Church for Sunday School classes, and most families seem to be about zoomed out. But we want to continue to support our children's Christian formation. Wonderful Ellen Scott is therefore mailing helpful materials to every family that requests it. If you are not receiving those materials and would like to do so, please contact the Church office. And a BIG thanks to Ellen for making this important part of our common life happen!!!

## **Annual Meeting and Call for Nominations, by Fr. Harvey**

It is now official that our Annual Meeting will be on Zoom. That complicates life, but we carry on as we have done throughout the pandemic. *The meeting will be the fourth Sunday of January, following a single service at 9:00*, as always. I'll be hosting it on Zoom from the Church.

Although meeting on Zoom will be a little strange, the meeting will in other respects be what we are used to. We will receive reports from our ministries; the 2021 budget will be presented; and we'll elect a new vestry as well as Convention representatives.

This is therefore also a call for nominations. The following positions are all one-year terms: Senior Warden; Junior Warden; Clerk; Treasurer; and Assistant Treasurer. We therefore elect people to fill those positions every year. In addition, two members of the vestry complete their three-year terms each year, and so we always need to elect people to fill two regular vestry positions. This year, we also need to elect people to serve out two uncompleted terms: one for a single year and one for two years.

I am happy to say that we already have a full slate of nominees. But nominations remain open until the meeting itself, including from the floor. We cannot put out nomination forms and a box for nominations, of course. But if you would like to nominate someone, please contact the Church office or Fr. Harvey. If you nominate someone other than yourself, please first make sure they are willing and eligible to serve! Thanks!!

## **Annual Reports**

Because our Annual Meeting will be on Zoom this year, the written annual reports are more important than ever. We hope to distribute them electronically and also make some available in hard copy for those who prefer that. Wonderful Jo Joubert has volunteered to compile the reports. If you would like to make an annual report and haven't already done so, please send an electronic version of your report to Jo as soon as you can.

## **The Financial Picture**

Although the numbers for 2020 are not final as I write this article, it seems clear that we will end 2020 in remarkably good financial shape. Thanks to the faithfulness and generosity of our people, we have a budget surplus! That is a remarkable accomplishment in the midst of a pandemic!!

## **Our Vestry and the Budget**

We are now putting the finishing touches on the 2021 budget. That turns out to be pretty complicated. We don't know when we will reopen, which means we don't have a good idea of our likely rental income or what fundraisers we will be able to run. Because our building was closed for most of 2020, our expenses from last year don't help much with planning for expenses in 2021. The one thing we do know is that our pledges are down a bit as a result of stalwart parishioners who either died or moved away. Since our expenses are likely to go back up before our miscellaneous income does, we anticipate a budgeting challenge.

Even now the vestry is hard at work on the 2021 budget. Everyone will have an opportunity to see the results at our annual meeting. Stay tuned!

## **Rector's Discretionary Fund**, by Father Harvey

This is my regular reminder that I have a small discretionary fund which is intended to give people a little financial boost when necessary. If you get in a bind, please talk to me. I should add that our conversation and any help from my discretionary fund will be fully confidential.

## **Reimbursements**

Across from the office are forms for receiving reimbursements for expenses people incur on behalf of Saint David's, as well as a list of which vestry member is in charge of which budget line. You can also see who is in charge of which budget area on our webpage at <https://www.stdavidsagawam.org/leadership.html>. If you need to spend the Church's money, please either complete the form yourself or be in touch with Father Harvey or Treasurer Jude O'Hare so they can fill out the form for you. Please first make sure to get approval from the relevant vestry person. Thanks!!

## **Friday Bible Study at 1:00**

The Friday Bible Study continues to meet on Zoom each week at 1:00. By the time you read this, we will probably be finished with Paul's letter to the Galatians and just getting started on his first letter to the Corinthians. Please join us! And spread the word!

## **Contemplative Prayer and Lectio Divina**

"Lectio Divina" is a prayerful reading of a Bible passage, interspersed with short periods of silence. The basic question we ask ourselves is, what is God saying to me through this passage? At least as long as our building remains closed, we plan to offer contemplative prayer on Zoom every Friday at 2:30. Please join us!

## **Reading the New Testament**

By the time you read this article, we will have finished our 2020 journey through the New Testament. As a finishing touch, we'll have a final Zoom conversation about the book of Revelation on Tuesday, January 5 at 4:00. Our plan is to talk for a few minutes and then pray together with a single passage. All are welcome even if you haven't been part of our conversations to this point.

In 2021 we plan to do something a little different. Instead of reading the entire New Testament, we'll focus on the Gospel of Mark, which is the source for most of our Sunday Gospel readings this year. To help us, we'll use a kind of commentary by Michael Casey called *Fully Human, Fully Divine*, which is available on Amazon starting as low as \$2.99. If you are interested in being part of this journey through Mark, please let Fr. Harvey know, and tell him if you will get the book on your own or if you would like his help. All are welcome!!

## **Mission Statement**

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

## **Beloved Community: Sacred Ground**, by Fr. Harvey

Several of us joined a "Sacred Ground Circle" for serious conversations about race and faith. The circles have met three times so far, and will continue to gather once every three weeks or so for ten sessions.

The third session was on Native Americans, which was truly eye-opening! Among other things, we watched a video about the colonists' encounter with the Native Americans of Massachusetts. As we all know, that encounter didn't end well for the Native Americans. But the materials were not all about exploitation and oppression. It turns out that the colonists and the Native Americans traded mostly peacefully for roughly three decades before the relationship went bad. As I heard the story, it was a call for both repentance and for hope that different ethnic/cultural groups can actually live together.

## **Online Directory**

We plan to produce a new and updated Book of Names this year. But this is a reminder that the most up-to-date address information we have on parishioners will normally be in a password-protected directory on our webpage. We don't want to print the password, but please contact Father Harvey if you would like it. If you have a chance to use the new directory, please take a moment to check your listing. If you need to make a correction, please contact Father Harvey or Laurie Littlefield. And thanks again to Laurie for making this happen!

## **Outreach during a Pandemic** by Fr. Harvey

Our Parish continues to reach out to help those in need in really impressive ways. Our most recent effort was a contribution to Springfield's "Toy for Joy" program, which provides Christmas gifts to needy families in the Springfield area. We are thinking of this as a kind of version of the Agawam Christmas Project, which we were unable to do this year. Thanks to Jim Shields for his leadership in our outreach ministry!!

## **Springfield Church Without Walls**

Since we can't do our normal Church without walls worship service, we plan to join the Springfield Church without Walls crew at Court Square. They, too, are unable to hold a service, but they continue to offer free lunches, with a prayer. Our plan is to join with others on the first Sunday of the month, every other month, beginning on January 3. Our contribution is fifty snacks. Other Churches will provide the rest of the meal. You can contribute snacks by dropping them off in the tub we set out for the Parish Cupboard, labelling them CWW. If you are interested in helping to deliver the snacks, please be in touch with Deacon Terry. And a big thanks to Terry for his leadership in this new ministry!

## **Young Scholars Program**, by Fr. Harvey

This is a request for contributions of time, not money! The Young Scholars Program offers college scholarships to elementary school students. You read that right—elementary students. The idea is that at-risk children benefit from early interventions. The children come from the MLK Charter School and the White Street School, both in Springfield. The schools nominate promising children. The Young Scholars Program promises money if/when the children actually go to college. In the meantime, the schools and the program combine to offer enrichment and support.

If you would like to join this effort, please talk to me. I have served on the Board of the Program for the last few years, and I strongly recommend their work. You can also check them out online at [www.youngscholarsfund.org](http://www.youngscholarsfund.org). The Program can always use money, but the real need at this point is for “scholar partners.” Each partner tracks one or more students. At a minimum, that means getting their report card each summer. That has been my own practice. For people with more time, partners are invited to get more engaged in the lives of their scholars. Particularly in this time of disrupted school, children can use a little extra adult support! For most supporters, this is the most rewarding part of the work since it means getting to know the children and their families.

## **Building Bridges Veterans Ministry**

This ministry remains on hold. But I recently heard from the Rev. Chris Carlisle, the person who oversees the effort on behalf of the Diocese, assuring us that the Diocese remains committed to supporting Churches who are part of this important work. Apparently a few places have begun to offer drive-by lunches for area veterans. We haven't yet had any conversations about offering sack lunches at Saint David's. But we look forward to resuming this ministry as soon as we can safely do so. This is another place to stay tuned!

## **Prayer Cycles**

We have put out updated versions of our two monthly prayer cycles, both of which are available in the narthex and on our homepage under the “Worship” tab. One lists all the nations of the world, and the other lists the people and the ministries of Saint David's. Please take a look particularly at the list of our people and ministries. We want to make sure to include everyone!

Please also give the prayer cycles a try if you are not already doing so. It takes just a few minutes each day, and over the course of a month, you pray by name for every nation in the world, and every member and ministry here at Saint David's. We could all use more prayers these days!

## **Prayer Requests**

Back in the good old days, by which I mean ten months ago(!), we listed prayer requests in the bulletin each week. We can't do that now. If you would like us to include a prayer request on Sundays or in Morning Prayer during the week, please let Fr. Harvey know. We also have an online prayer chain. To put out a prayer request on it, please contact Father Harvey or Kathy Glista. Do the same if you'd like to receive the prayer requests. If you are requesting prayers for someone other than yourself, please first confirm that the person would like to be on the list. And don't forget thanksgivings. It's good to offer those, too!!

## **The Book of Common Prayer and The Daily Office**

One the great, and often neglected, resources of our tradition is the Prayerbook. Now more than ever we all need to be cultivating a regular practice of prayer at home, and the Prayerbook can help. Our livestreamed services (Morning Prayer; and Compline with Saint Mark's) come from the Prayerbook and are intended at least partly as an opportunity for folks to use these prayer services themselves. We have also put in the narthex

copies of a specifically Epiphany version of Morning Prayer, along with the schedule of readings for January. We can mail them to anyone on request. Just call the office or send Fr. Harvey an e-mail.

If you need a Prayerbook, let Fr. Harvey know and we can arrange a time for you to pick one up at the Church. An easy-to-navigate online version is available here: [Online BCP](#).

## **Prayers in the Church Building, by Fr. Harvey**

One of the things the Bishop allows, indeed encourages!, us to do is open our building for times of private prayer. We can't simply open up the building because we don't want people to unintentionally gather. But if you are interested in some private time in the sanctuary, let me know. One easy option is Fridays between 11:00 and 3:00, when I am there anyway, the Church is unlocked, and nothing is happening in the sanctuary. Other times are possible, too. But please don't just come unannounced. Let me know in advance what time(s) you would like so that I can make sure you have the sanctuary to yourself.

## **Prayers for Our Nation**

We are just through a bitterly contested election that most definitely did not end on election day. From where I sit, it is hard to see a clear and constructive way forward for our nation. But that is all the more reason to pray. In a normal year, we would have a special prayer service as close to inauguration day (January 20) as possible. We can't have an in-person service this year, but our livestreamed service of Morning Prayer that day will include non-partisan prayers for our nation from the back of the Prayerbook. Please make a special effort to join us in prayer or else offer your own prayers that God's will may be done. Those who are unhappy with the election results, and I assume no one is perfectly happy with all the results, should make a special effort to pray for the leaders we didn't support. After all, they presumably need extra prayers!

## **Bement/Waterfield Educational Grants**

Our Diocese offers a small College Scholarship for students who are active in an Episcopal Church in the Diocese. If you know someone who is qualified, please make them aware of this excellent opportunity. For more information, see <https://www.diocesewma.org/grant-opportunities/bement-grants-bement-waterfield-educational-grants/>.

## **Bishop's Visitation**

Our Bishop makes a formal visitation of every parish in the Diocese about once every two years. The schedule for the year just came out, and we are the very first. I assume that means they decided to start with the best parish and work their way down! The Bishop will join us Sunday, January 3 for our livestreamed service, at which he will preach and celebrate the Eucharist. Please make a special effort to tune in and hear what Bishop Fisher has to say to us in this strange time.

## **Creation Care Corner: Jim Shields.**

Organic recycling has arrived in Agawam. On 12/3/20, Vanguard Renewable Organics Recycling Facility powered up its new facility on Main Street Agawam. The equipment will separate expired or unsafe food and beverages trucked in from area supermarkets, colleges, bars and hospital cafeterias and turn it into an organic slurry. Up to 250 tons of food per day can be processed. Three times each day the slurry from the facility's holding tanks is pumped into an 8000 gallon tanker, and is transported to the 5 farms in Massachusetts and one in Vermont which work with Vanguard. The slurry is a "nice, balanced meal" for anaerobic digesters at those sites to complete the food-to-**fertilizer** process. Commonly recycled stuff include dairy, ground beef, soup, chocolate, and beer. The facility can process 8 kegs of beer every 12 minutes! This is a practical solution for the food and beverage industries, because a 2014 Mass. state law prohibits commercial entities with more than 1 ton of food waste per week from throwing it in the garbage. As an example of the recycling, milk from farms in Hadley is sent to Agri-Mark West Springfield to make butter. Butter that cannot be sold is sent to Vanguard in Agawam, and from there to the Hadley farm's digester so it can be used as fertilizer. Just another example of how creative recycling can work.



## **Christmas Thanks**, by Fr. Harvey

Even, maybe especially, in this strange time, December was a big month for us. I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who contributed to making it all work. It's a long list!

Thanks to Sue O'Hare and the office angels who kept things running smoothly and, in addition to their regular duties, managed two all-parish mailings! Thanks to Carol Fabrycki, Bob Rendrick, Jim Shields, Susan Amabile, Paul-Lou Mortenson, and the Duttons for all they did to decorate the street-side of our building. Thanks to Virginia Ventulett and the Seaburys for leading us in music, including lots of carols on Christmas Eve and a recorded carol for a joint service of Lessons and Carols. Thanks to Ted Zern for his work on stewardship. Thanks to the vestry for their faithful leadership. Thanks to Jo Joubert for help with the annual reports and the Dovetale. Thanks to those who attended our Advent Bible Study, as well as the other Bible Studies and prayer sessions we do as part of our regular business. Thanks to Jim Shields for keeping us active in outreach even when we can't gather in person. Thanks to Lenny Scott for keeping the building looking good, and to Bob Rendrick for making sure we have access when we need it, whether or not it snows. Thanks to Deacon Terry for his help in preaching and worship as well as in outreach. Thanks to everyone who has been part of our worship—it's a pleasure to see you even when we are all masked! Thanks to Ellen Scott and Norma Turcotte for making quality Christian education materials available to our children. Most of all, thanks to God for all of you!! And, if I have forgotten a contribution, I apologize!!

### **Creation Care, Kids' Corner: Constellations** by Mary Moore

Have you ever done a dot-to-dot drawing where you connect dot #1 to dot #2, #2 to #3, and so on until you have a full picture? Now imagine doing that same thing using the stars up in the sky for the dots. That is exactly what people have been doing for thousands of years, and the "pictures" that they "draw" are called **constellations**. It takes some imagination, but you can do it too.

One constellation that you might have heard of is the Big Dipper. It looks like a giant measuring cup or a saucepan and the two stars along its far edge point to the North Star. Being able to find this particular star was very important to travelers. If they knew which way was north, they could figure out which direction to go for south, east, and west too. In fact, runaway slaves used the Big Dipper and the North Star when they tried to escape to the northern United States or Canada. There is even an old folk song called "Follow the Drinking Gourd" that refers to how the slaves knew which direction to go in. They would find the drinking gourd, or Big Dipper, then use it to locate the North Star.

Some constellations such as the Big Dipper can be seen year round, but others such as Orion (a hunter with a bow and arrow) are visible for only part of the year. This is because Earth moves in an **orbit**, a giant circular path around the sun, but the stars in the constellations stay where they are. Earth also spins around, or **rotates**, making it look like the constellations and the sun are moving across the sky, when it is really we who are moving. So we are changing where we are all the time. Sometimes we are in a place where we can see certain constellations such as Orion, sometimes not.

**Activity:** Ask friends or family members if they know of any constellations that they can point out to you. You can also make up your own. When you look at the night sky, do any groups of stars stick out to you? Do they make a shape that looks like something familiar? For example, a skinny triangle might resemble a dog's tail; a curved line might remind you of a rainbow. You can make up a story to go with your constellation too. Whether you are gazing at your own or another constellation, watch how it appears to be in different parts of the sky (again, that's because Earth is moving) and check to see if it is visible year round.

## FROM THE KITCHEN CREW

Ingredient	Quantity	Substitute
Baking Power	1 tsp	1/4 tsp baking soda + 1/2 tsp cream of tartar
Butter	1 cup	1 cup margarine
Buttermilk	1 cup	1 Tbsp vinegar + 1 cup milk
Chocolate	1 oz	3 Tbsp cocoa + 1 Tbsp shortening
Cornstarch	1 Tbsp	2 Tbsp flour
Corn Syrup	1 cup	1 1/4 cup white sugar + 1/3 cup water
Herbs	1 Tbsp fresh	1 tsp dried
Cream	1 cup	1/2 cup butter + 3/4 cup milk
Sour Cream	1 cup	1 cup yogurt
Brown Sugar	1 cup	3/4 cup white sugar + 1/2 cup molasses
Vegetable Oil	1 cup	1 cup applesauce
Molasses	1 cup	1 cup honey
Bread Crumbs	1 cup	1 cup cracker crumbs

www.journeytothegoal.com

### **Cheesy Bacon Appetizer Cup:** (New Years Eve)?

1 cup Kraft Mayo  
1 1/2 cups Kraft Shredded Cheese  
1 pkg Whole Bacon Bits  
24 Filo Baking Cups {in the freezer section}  
1 can Rotel

1. Preheat oven 350
2. Start by draining the can of Rotel.
3. In a large mixing bowl combine the 1 cup Kraft Mayo, Rotel and the entire package of bacon bits
4. Stir
5. Add in 1 cup Kraft cheese. You can use any cheese you like, but I always prefer the Mexican blend.
6. Fill each baking cup and place on baking sheet. I like to sprinkle the tops of each one with a little bit of cheese.
7. Bake 15 - 20 minutes. I like them crispy so I normally do 20 minutes.
8. Let cool and serve.

# JANUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				12/31 New Years Eve Be Safe	1 New Years day	2
3 Services livestreamed at 9:00 Bishop Visit C.W.W at 12 Spfld chapter	4 Morning Prayer 8:00 Men's Bible study every Monday at 7	5 Morning Prayer 8:00 NT conversation 4:00	6 Morning Prayer 8:00	7 Morning Prayer 8:00	8 Morning Prayer 8:00 Zoom Bible Study every Friday at 1; Contemplative Prayer, at 2:30	9
10 Sunday services livestreamed at 9:00	11 Morning Prayer 8:00 Men's Bible Monday at 7	12 Morning Prayer 8:00	13 Morning Prayer 8:00	14 Morning Prayer 8:00	15 Morning Prayer 8:00 Zoom Bible Study every Friday at 1; Contemplative Prayer, every Friday at 2:30	16
17 Sunday services livestreamed at 9.	18 Morning Prayer 8:00 Men's Bible study at 7	19 Morning Prayer 8:00 vestry 1/19 at 7:00;	20 Morning Prayer 8:00	21 Morning Prayer 8:00	22 Morning Prayer 8:00 Zoom Bible Study at 1; Contemplative Prayer, at 2:30	23
24 Sunday services livestreamed at 9. Annual Meeting	25 Morning Prayer 8:00  Men's Bible study at 7	26 Morning Prayer 8:00	27 Morning Prayer 8:00	28 Morning Prayer 8:00	29 Morning Prayer 8:00  Zoom Bible Study every Friday at 1;  Contemplative Prayer, every Friday at 2:30	30

Compline with St Mark's at 8 pm every weekday except Wednesday





*Every time you pray, it's God in you telling you to pray.  
You wouldn't even desire to pray except for God in you.  
It's God in you that loves God, that desires God, that seeks God.  
Every time you choose God on some level, God has in the previous nanosecond just  
chosen you, and you have somehow allowed yourself to be chosen --- and responded  
back! (John 15:16)*

*Richard Rohr, Things Hidden Scripture as Spirituality*

## **St. David's Episcopal Church**

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB @  
WWW.STDAVIDSAGAWAM.ORG**

### **Mission Statement**

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