



St. David's Episcopal Church

JULY 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.

SUMMER SLOWDOWN

I am writing this during a frenzy of activity in June, as we wrap up the program year. I always enjoy this annual burst of busy-ness. And I am always grateful for the summer slowdown that follows!

During the summer, most of our weekly and monthly events continue as usual. But even some of them slow down. The Vestry normally takes one of the two summer months off. Sunday School and the Women's Book Group are on summer break, too. Our July Veterans' meal won't happen because it would fall on July 4.

But the real slowdown is in special events. Things will happen this summer: a group of us are going to Fenway to watch the Red Sox play the Atlanta Braves on July 25. But not as many things happen at Church as during the program year.

I say again that I am grateful for the slowdown. Maybe it goes back to my years of teaching, but I have always appreciated the shifting intensity of the different seasons. During much of the year, we are on the go. During other parts of the year, we rest a little more. Then back to action. And then back to rest, and so on.

During the summer slowdown, I enjoy more time with family and friends than usual. I'll celebrate my 31st wedding anniversary on August 1, and my parents' 60th (!) anniversary on August 31. A lot of us spend more time travelling, although I've about finished my own travel for this year.

But, whatever else you do, I encourage everyone to continue your spiritual practices. Keep praying and reading the Bible. Continue to worship with us. Enjoy a break from busy-ness. But don't take a break from God!!

In Christ's name, Harvey

MORNING PRAYER

We continue to join with area Churches to offer a livestreamed version of Morning Prayer on our Facebook page Monday through Friday at 8:00. Please tune in as you are able! But also remember that we put forms in the narthex for seasonal versions of Morning Prayer and also for Compline. The forms there now are for Pentecost, which lasts until the end of November. The forms are intended to help you say Morning Prayer or Compline on your own. Joining us or praying Morning Prayer or Compline on your own is a great way to add a little prayer into your weekly routine!

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 date for our July session is tentatively Tuesday the 11th, when we'll discuss chapter four. Please talk to me if you would like more information about the book or our sessions. We'd love to have you!

FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY AT 1:00

Our Friday Bible Study meets Fridays at 1:00. Many of us gather in person in the Community Room, while a few others join us by Zoom. We have just begun the Old Testament book of Ezra. That makes this an excellent time to join us if you haven't been but have wanted to. All are welcome, and you don't have to have any background knowledge about the Bible—just an interest in learning!

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER ON FRIDAYS AT 2:30

We gather Fridays at 2:30 for a session of contemplative prayer. We read a passage of Scripture three times, interspersed with short periods of silence. The basic question we ask ourselves is, what is God saying to me through this passage. Our sessions are hybrid: some of us gather in person, while others join us on Zoom. Please join us in whatever way is most comfortable for you!

HEALING MINISTRY

In the front row of chairs are baskets with small ribbons. If you would like special prayers at the altar during Communion at Sunday services, bring a ribbon with you. Fr. Harvey or Dcn. Terry will offer a quick prayer. Please return the ribbon afterwards!

We also offer prayers for healing after the 10:00 service. If you would like to receive prayers for yourself or for a loved one, please go to the altar after the service to meet the designated person offering prayers that week. If you would like to join the rotation of those who offer healing prayers, please let Fr. Harvey know. Thanks!!

PRISON BIBLE STUDY, by Fr. Harvey

It is official: our team has three new members, including Penny Miller and the sister of Linda Seabury, Sue Frazier! It's great to have a few more people in the system, especially in the summer when scheduling gets complicated!

But things continue to go well. Our sessions are Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00. Deacon Terry joins another Deacon to lead sessions on the first Mondays of the month. Mary Moore and I cover the fourth Mondays. Our numbers are small, but the conversations are great. I look forward to seeing our regulars each month! Please keep praying for the prisoners and for this ministry. Thanks!

Congratulations to ALL our graduates!!

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND VISITORS

Please welcome our new Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors! And, of course, thanks to all our excellent current and continuing Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors!!

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is taking a break for the summer. A BIG thank you to Norma Turcotte and our teachers and helpers for all their hard work this year!!!! We'll take this time to evaluate how we want to go forward next fall. If you have ideas and/or are interested in participating in our Children's Ministry, please talk to Fr. Harvey or Deacon Terry. Thanks!!

THE JOHN O'HARE VETERAN'S MINISTRY, by Fr. Harvey

This month, the first Tuesday is July 4th! I hope everyone will celebrate the birthday of our nation, and pause to thank veterans for their sacrifices on our behalf. But we won't be having a Veterans Lunch that day. We'll be back at it in August on the seventh. Please help spread the word!! Thanks!!

APPALACHIAN TRAIL MAGIC, by Fr. Harvey

Thanks to those who participated in our Appalachian Trail Ministry! On Saturday, June 24, Mary Moore and I headed west, accompanied by two people from Saint Andrews: Mike Scuderi and Ed Butrick. We spent the day sharing a little "Trail Magic" with hikers and enjoying nature ourselves. If people are interested, we could probably find another date this season for a second round. Just let me know. And I'm sure we'll do it again next summer, too.

CALENDAR KEEPING, by Fr. Harvey

On our webpage, you can find the calendar of all our events, along with the space in the building or grounds that will be used for that event, where relevant. You can also see our events that are offsite.

If you would like to schedule an event, please first check the calendar to see if the space you need is available. If so, please contact the Calendar Keeper (Janessa Piteo) at saintdavidsMA@gmail.com (a dedicated email address) to request the space. It will be reserved when you receive confirmation that the space is indeed available. Thanks!!

COMMUNION CLASS FOR KIDS: by Fr. Harvey

Congratulations to the "graduates" of our Communion Classes for Kids! They are Anthony Bellucci, Lucas & Jacob Colson, and Brady & Jack Klinakis. Thanks to Norma Turcotte, Madeleine Soukup, and Deacon Terry for making the classes happen!

On similar subject Norma purchased Adventure Bibles for the younger boys and travel type bibles for the older boys.

THE SOUND SYSTEM:

Sound is a perennial problem at every Church, as best I can tell. Certainly, we are no exception! But we have recently made two improvements that should help.

For people in the Church, we have always made available earpieces directly connected to our sound system, which typically work better than hearing aids. Those are still an option, but we now have acquired sound loops that can broadcast directly from our sound system to people's own hearing aids and/or cochlear implants, as long as the hearing aid/cochlear implant has telecoils. That sound should be even better.

Our bigger struggle has been a persistent hum during our livestreams and broadcasts. Just how bad it was depended on the week, but it sometimes made our services unwatchable. We now believe the source of the problem was our mixer, which we have replaced. The hum should be much reduced and maybe even eliminated. Please pray that it is!!

TENANT NEWS: by Fr. Harvey

We've had some changes in our tenants. Mercy Church (Saturday afternoons) and the Spanish Church (Sunday afternoons) have left us, and seem to have disbanded. The Last Harvest Church will be leaving soon. On the positive side, the Narcotics Anonymous Group that previously met on Saturday evenings has returned. The full schedule of regular rentals is on the calendar.

RED SOX VERSUS BRAVES!! by Fr. Harvey

On Tuesday, July 25, a group of us are heading to Fenway to watch the Red Sox play the Atlanta Braves. I am grateful to Susan Amabile for organizing the trip! Most of our crowd will be cheering for the Red Sox, of course. But I'll be wearing every bit of Braves clothes I have, and willing to participate in a little good-natured wagering! FYI, on the day I am writing this, the Braves are first in their division and tied for the best record in the National League, with a winning percentage of .615. It would be unkind of me to include the statistics for the Red Sox!

THE RETURN OF DOMINOES!!

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!

We had 2 tables of 4 each on June 14th. Thank you Virginia for organizing the fun night. Michelle won at table 1, and Jo won at table 2.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB: by Leader Linda Seabury

Dear St. David's Women's Book Club Members,

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement this past year. Our book club will be on "hiatus" (as Beth Kronlund would say) until the fall. :)

As Roxanne Zern expressed, "I would never have read the books that were suggested to read, but I have enjoyed being educated and reading in a different style".

Enjoy your summer beautiful women. Looking forward to meeting with you in the fall.

Blessings,
Linda

CHOIR

Thank you to Linda for the beautiful solo on Father's day and to Virginia for accompanying Linda. Also thank you for all the guidance, for the new members from both Virginia and Linda. Very much appreciated.

FATHERS DAY CELEBRATION

A BIG thank you to the Sunday School staff and children for the ice cream sundaes that they provided for Fathers day. Everyone enjoyed the delicious treats.

CHURCH PICNIC:

Thanks to everyone who made our picnic a success!!!

Great food and friends.. The event was moved inside due to the expatiations of foul weather. However, we had great weather but very hot and humid, so everyone enjoyed the comfort of the inside decision. Big thank you to Bob Rendrick and his team for cooking the burgers and hot dogs. Thanks to all who helped clean up after.

HELP WANTED: by Fr. Harvey

If you are interested in joining the **lawn crew** or helping with our **gardens** (flower or vegetable), please let me know, and I'll put you in touch with the right person. For the gardens, we are particularly looking for someone to help with the flowers around the labyrinth. The Dutton's have done beautiful work establishing a perennial garden that doesn't require too much maintenance beyond watering and weeding. After years of dedicated work, they are stepping back, but I feel sure they would consult with anyone willing to take over part of the gardens.

DEVELOPMENT: Submitted by Jo Joubert

ANNUAL TAG SALE: July 29th 9—3:30

Tables will be set up on Friday, July 28th. Anyone that is available to help will be appreciated. Suggestions are always welcome, see Jo or Ellen Rendrick.

Items that are to be used for the sale can be stored in **ROOM 5** **PLEASE STORE NEATLY. IN BOXES THANK YOU.**

HOLIDAY BAZAAR:

The Bazaar will be held on November 18th. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The fee is \$30.00 for a space. Applications will be available SOON

Ellen Rendrick is in charge of the Basket Raffle. Linda Paquette and Ellen Scott will help Ellen.

Kim Kozik is in charge of the Lottery Tree.

Beth Kronlund is in charge of the 50/50 Raffle.

Valerie Clapp and Dixie Lauzon are in charge of the Bake Sale Table.

Virginia Ventulett is in charge of St. David's Christmas Tag sale table.

Carol Fabrycki is in charge of St. David's Development Table.

Jo Joubert and Sue O'Hare are in charge of Vendors.

Jo & Megan Amrich will do the Advertising.

Valerie Clapp and Bev Larson are in charge of flyers.

Bob Rendrick is in charge of the Luncheon (Jim, Marcel) (Sue A. making soups and chicken salad)

Bev Larson is in charge of the servers. Menus will be available to each vendor and public.

Lynn and John Litchfield are in charge of the Lunch Ticket sales.

Scott Seabury will oversee the Bank for St. David's needs.

We also plan to list Vendors and table location advertised for the public to see what is offered at OUR bazaar.

PLEASE: IF anyone has suggestions feel free to see Jo, Ellen or Virginia.

Not only is this event a fundraiser, it can also be a lot of fun

CREATION CARE KIDS' CORNER - by Mary Moore

JULY SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

July may make us conjure up thoughts of fireworks with their sparkling displays and thunderous booms. But there are plenty of sights and sounds in nature to look and listen for too.

Try to find or hear these:

butter and eggs - a flower that shows up along the roadside or dry, waste areas, starting around the second week in July. They get their name from the 2 different yellows of their petals: a pale yellow (butter) and a darker, orangish-yellow (egg yolks). The blossoms look like miniature snapdragons, and the stems and leaves are thin and delicate.

wild blueberries - usually smaller than the blueberries that you buy in the store or at a farm stand. What they lack in size, they make up for in taste. They are starting to get ripe around the middle of the month.

jewelweed - these plants love moist, shady places. The plant can be 2 or more feet tall; the flowers are cone shaped and are a light orange-yellow with speckles. Some people use the juice (sap) from the stem or crushed leaves to treat poison ivy. They also go by the name "**touch-me-nots**" because the small pods that hold the seeds burst open at the slightest touch, shooting the seeds a few feet away from the parent plant. These flower towards the end of July. Look for the seed pods later in August.

katydids - an insect so named because of the sound it makes, i.e. "Katy did" (or slight variations of that). You can hear them at night.

cicadas - mostly active during the day, these bugs get louder as the day progresses. Their sound can be described as whining or a high pitched hiss. You might want to check them out on YouTube. Both katydids and cicadas appear around the middle of the month.

gray treefrogs - these make a trilling noise. Cloudy days are the best time to try to hear them.

THE TRUTH ABOUT RECYCLING: Jim Shields

You've probably read or heard that recycling is dead or a joke, that only 5% of plastics get recycled, etc.; I know that I have. Here's the truth: plastics recycling in Mass. is alive and well. There are 9 Materials Recovery Facilities in Mass. where over 638,000 tons of plastic containers, paper, bottles, and cans go for sorting every year. Once the paper, cardboard, metals and plastic are sorted and separated from glass, they are compressed into 1000 pound bales and sold to companies to be made into new products and packaging. Plastics recyclers buy the baled plastics which they wash and grind into post-consumer resin, which they then sell to manufacturers that produce packaging, housewares, textiles, automotive, and agricultural products. The Springfield MRF was the first in the state to be built, in 1991, and has recently been retrofitted to improve its sorting efficiency.

In Mass., it is illegal to dispose of glass, metal, and plastic containers and paper in landfills. When non-recyclable items like plastic bags, diapers, electronics, garden hoses etc. are placed in the recycle bin, they must be hand-sorted out and placed in a "residue" pile. This adds to the sorting costs, damages sorting equipment, and poses risks to the workers.

According to a 2020 survey, 90% of recyclable plastic is reclaimed by North American recyclers. But about 40 million U.S. households don't have a recycling option, so that needs to improve. So don't believe the nay-sayers, and let's redouble our recycling efforts. Recycling is a vital part of our state's economy, and it saves resources, energy, and reduces greenhouse gases.

"God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good."

Genesis 1:31

NEW MEMBERS BREAKFAST:

Thank you to Bob and Dan for cooking, to Val, Linda, Mary and Norma for serving and cleaning up.

Thank you to Sue Amabile for getting the sausage donated. Of course thank you to Fr. Harvey for giving a view of all the ministries and outreach that St. David's support.

HOLIDAY DINNER: Submitted by Jo Joubert

Before we know it the holidays will be upon us. Bob and I have been thinking about the menu for the Holiday dinner that we do each year. This year we think that we should change up a little.

How does Chicken Franchise, with potato wedges, candied carrots for the main meal sound? Accompanied by soup, salad and dessert.

If anyone has any suggestions feel free to approach us.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Beth Kronlund is very interested in leading the Prayer Shawl ministry. The ministry would meet once a month to share ideas and patterns. Anyone interested see Beth. More information to come.

PERSONAL NOTES FROM CHURCH MEMBERS

Personal Notes has been added to our News Letter. Hopefully St. David's members will share happy events or even sad times. I will be happy to include any requests for our family and friends.

The regular articles are wonderful but they tend to be repetitive but still necessary. I have been told that sometimes the Dovetail isn't read. ☹

Linda Seabury has a great report from her Dr. and says she will be dancing SOON.

Alexis Bana (Bob and Ellen Rendrick's Granddaughter), fondly known as Lexi, graduated Pro Merito from Agawam High school. Lexi got awards in Outstanding Achievements in Public Production and Peer Leadership. Lexi also is very talented at Field Hockey and Lacrosse, she played several years for Agawam High and now coaches 6 & 7 year olds in Lacrosse.

She will be attending New England University. She will double major in Elementary Education and Psychology. She plans to be a teacher and has a goal to someday be a school principal. Lexi is also a St. David's graduate. Many of us have watched her grow up here. Congratulation Lexi from your St. David's Family.

Jo's Joubert's granddaughter (Michelle) got Student of the year in one of her classes. She also got an award for "Kindness student" and has all A's. Proud grandmother here.

Jo also has a new Great Granddaughter, born June 11th, weighing 6# 8 oz, 18". Eloise Elizabeth is very healthy and beautiful.

Thanks to Mary Moore for her donation of a peach tree which has been planted in honor of all the dedicated work that Mary and Larry Dutton has done for our Labyrinth and surrounding grounds.

FROM THE KITCHEN

SPINACH – ARTICHOKE DIP

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- □ 3 cloves garlic minced
- □ 2 cups baby spinach fresh
- □ 1 can artichoke hearts in water
- □ 1/2 teaspoon basil
- □ salt & pepper
- □ 1 teaspoon onion powder
- □ 8 ounces cream cheese
- □ 1/2 cup sour cream
- □ 3/4 cup grated parmesan cheese divided

Instructions

- Heat **olive oil** over medium heat in a large skillet. Add in **garlic** and **spinach**. Cook, stirring until spinach has completely wilted. Remove spinach and garlic and place on a cutting board to cool slightly.
- Drain **artichoke hearts** and chop into small pieces. Chop cooked spinach and garlic into small pieces. Add **artichokes**, **spinach** and **garlic** back to the hot pan and cook to remove any excess moisture, being careful not to burn the garlic. Sprinkle in **basil**, **salt**, **pepper**, and **onion powder**.
- Melt in cream cheese, sour cream, and 1/2 cup parmesan cheese into the veggies until fully melted and smooth. Transfer to oven-safe dish and top with remaining parmesan cheese.
- **Broil** until cheese has melted and dip is bubbly. **Serve hot with chips, pita bread and/or veggies.**

ZUCCHINI CASSEROLE

- 6 Tbsp butter
- 4 small or 3 medium zucchini
- 1/2 cup onion
- Cup carrots shredded
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 can evaporated milk
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1-1/2 cup Pepperidge farm herb stuffing

Quarter and slice zucchini. Shred carrots and chop onions. Sauté carrots and onions in butter. Add zucchini. Sauté for 15 minutes. Add soup, milk, sour cream and stuffing. Bake 1 / 2 hour at 350° F.

JULY CALENDAR:

OUR WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Services at 8:00 and 10:00

Monday: Men's Bible study at 7:00

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

Sunday, July 2: Church without Walls at 12:00 at the Parish Cupboard

Monday, July 3: Prison Bible Study at the WCCC at 7:00 (?)

Tuesday July 4: Independence Day! No Veterans Lunch this month

Tuesday July 11: Conversation on Scripture at 4:15 on Zoom (?)

Wednesday, July 12: Dominoes at 6:00

Wednesday, July 19: Vestry at 7:00 (?)

Tuesday, July 25: Red Sox Game!

Wednesday, July 26: Dominoes at 6:00

Monday, July 24: Prison Bible Study at 7:00 at the WCCC

Saturday, July 29th St. David's Annual Tag Sale 9 – 3:30

REGULAR RENTALS

Sundays from 1:30 to 5:30 PM: Church of the Last Harvest

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

Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 PM: Church of the Last Harvest

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

Thursdays from 6:30 to 9:30 PM: Church of the Last Harvest

Fridays from 6:30 to 9:45 PM: Church of the Last Harvest

(except 4th Fridays)

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

Saturdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM: Narcotics Anonymous (new addition)



**‘Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom.’
— Aristotle**

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