



St. David's Episcopal Church

JUNE 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.

THANKFUL FOR SAINT DAVID'S

I have had a busy few months. In addition to the normal busy-ness, I have been blessed with the opportunity to spend time with friends and family, including celebrating the college graduation of my niece, spending Mother's Day with my mother, and camping for a few days with one of my sons.

My time away has been wonderful and restorative. It's also about used up my vacation for the year, so expect me to be tired and grouchy by December!

Time away has made me realize again what a wonderful parish we have. Our wardens and clergy cover for me in my absence. Good things continue to happen whether or not I am here.

Most recently, our Spring Clean-Up happened while I was away, as did the final preparation work for our auction. I came back on a Thursday to a building and grounds that looked great, with a BIG and very successful event immediately on the horizon, and Terry set to preach that Sunday, when the Women's Book Club also met.

What I see, perhaps more clearly than any other single person at Saint David's, is how well our parish embodies what Church is supposed to be.

As Paul puts it in the reading for Pentecost Sunday, "There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (1 Cor 12:4-7).

We are a richly gifted parish whose people really do come together in service to our one Lord and the common good. I am proud to bear witness to that Spirit and to be part of this parish. Thank you all!

In Christ's name.

Fr. 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 runs from now until Advent at 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!

HEALING MINISTRY:

In the front row of chairs in Church 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

After months of delay, things are moving. The Prison will orient another four people to join this ministry, including our very own Penny Miller! At least that's the plan. This comes at a good time because scheduling may be tricky in the summer.

But things are going 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. Others handle the Mondays in between. Our numbers are small, but the conversations are great. I am coming to look forward to seeing our regulars each month! Please keep praying for the prisoners and for this ministry. 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.

TUESDAY CONVERSATIONS, by Fr. Harvey

I continue to experiment with names for this group. A group of us meet roughly every other Tuesday at 4:15 on Zoom to discuss a chapter of a book. We recently started Richard Rohr's *Things Hidden: Scripture as Spirituality*, and it's definitely not too late to join us! As I write this article, the dates for our June session are not set, but I plan to propose June 13th and 27th. Please talk to me if you would like more information about the book or our sessions. We'd love to have you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

We're taking the summer off. The last day of Sunday School for this program year will be Sunday, June 18 (Father's Day). We're also evaluating 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!! And a BIG thank you to Norma Turcotte and our teachers and helpers for this year!!!!

TURNING THE PAGE TO PENTECOST (by Ted Zern)

As the liturgical calendar turns from Easter to Pentecost, a recent article that appeared in the on line giving platform we use, Tithely, caught my attention. It seemed especially fitting as Fr. Harvey noted in the latest Dovetale, describing Pentecost as the birthday of the Church.

While the author of the article is unnamed, it is dated March, 2023. It offers a glimpse into what the body of the church could look like and has its roots through the book of **Hebrews**. The book of **Hebrews** was written to the church but the last chapter in particular provides a seemingly straightforward description of exactly what a great church will look like. As you move through each of these 10 benchmarks that were cited in the Tithely article, consider how each may be applied to our very own St. David's.

1. Brotherly Love

"Let brotherly love continue" (13:1)

A healthy church will be a place of fondness, where fellow brother and sister believers experience the joys of relationship and fellowship.

2. Hospitality

"Don't forget to show hospitality, for by doing so some have welcomed angels as guests without knowing it" (13:2).

A healthy church will be hospitable. Think of your church as a "hospital." Hospitals don't turn people away, they don't demand money up front (although maybe your insurance card, but no card required in church!), and they don't judge anyone who comes in for help. They just provide it!

3. Remember fellow believers who are being persecuted or mistreated

"Remember those in prison, as though you yourselves were in prison with them, and the mistreated, as though you yourselves were suffering bodily" (13:3).

This refers specifically to those who are suffering for the cause of Christ. We should feel their pain, even as though we ourselves are suffering.

4. Be content in what you have

"Keep your life free from the love of money. Be satisfied with what you have, for he himself has said, 'I will never leave or abandon you'" (13:5).

A healthy church will learn to be content with what God gives them. Don't be envious of the big church down the road, or the church that has more stuff. Praise God for what He has given them and do likewise with what He has given you. This applies to individual believers as well, as Christians should be content with that which God has blessed them.

5. Respect and submit to leaders

"Remember your leaders who have spoken God's word to you; Obey your leaders and submit to them, since they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account, so that they can do this with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable to you" (13:7, 17).

A healthy church respects both leaders who have gone before (vs. 7) and leaders who are currently serving (vs. 17). Pastors/teachers have an awesome responsibility to God for what they do, so follow them for their benefit (joy) and yours (avoiding the unprofitable).

6. Make Christ the center of all things

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (13:8).

A healthy church remembers that Jesus never changes, so our main goals should never change. While some earthly things often morph into what becomes much different than what was, the core point of every ministry and activity should be telling the unchanging message of Christ. He is the Rock and the Foundation!

7. Seek to do good

“Don’t neglect to do what is good and to share, for God is pleased with such sacrifices (13:16).

Healthy churches make an impact on their communities, investing in relationships, providing for physical and spiritual needs, and demonstrating the love of Christ in tangible ways, even when that comes at a cost.

8. Be steadfast in good doctrine

“Don’t be led astray by various kinds of strange teachings...” (13:9).

A healthy church will never, ever stray from the basic message of salvation through Christ alone. The author of Hebrews reminds us that Jesus was that perfect Sacrifice that paid for the sins of man, once and for all. No matter what topics or passages we teach and preach, healthy churches always point people toward Christ.

9. Worship God Sacrificially

“Therefore, through him let us continually offer up to God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name” (13:15).

A healthy church understands that worship is about much more than singing on Sunday morning. Yes, the fruit of our lips includes singing and praising, but we must also remember that every word from our mouth ought to demonstrate our complete devotion to the Savior. Every aspect of our lives should be spent in worship, or service, to God (see Romans 12:1)

10. Pray

“Pray for us, for we are convinced that we have a clear conscience, wanting to conduct ourselves honorably in everything. And I urge you all the more to pray that I may be restored to you very soon” (13:18-19)

A healthy church understands that prayer is essential. Here, we see prayers for spiritual needs (vs. 18) as well as personal and physical needs (vs. 19). At every level, healthy churches are filled with great people of prayer as they undergird the ministry of the church and the spiritual vitality of its members.

So, there you have it, a kind of measuring stick to gage whether the church, in particular St. David’s, is living out the vision described in Hebrews. How do you think St. David’s stacks up? The key to all of this is to understand that the church is not just a building, but a collection of people. The more we as individual church members put these things into practice, the more our church resembles what God prescribed. Remember also that healthy does not mean perfect. The journey is long and there will be bumps along the way, but let’s not lose our compass.

JUNIOR WARDEN: Submitted by Bob Rendrick

The Clean-up day went well. Angel from the Church of the Last Harvest joined us and helped to organize the storage area. David and Norm assembled the shelf for storage. A shelf was added to the Kitchen to help organize items that have been stored on the counter.

Now on to the next project.

Thank you to all that helped.

(From Fr. Harvey): And, of course, a big thank you to Bob for his leadership!!!!

RECAP OF SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENTS THRU JUNE 18TH:

Submitted by Norma Turcotte

After a successful Christmas Pageant directed by Kim Kozik, Sunday School resumed in January after the holidays.

February: Children made Valentines for CWW.

March: "Blessing Basket" of socks and underwear was collected and given to Lorraine's Soup Kitchen/Pantry in Chicopee and also to the Kahn family. Thank you to Marcel Lauzon for delivering the clothing to "Lorraine's."

April: Good Friday Stations for Children and Egg Hunt. 2000 eggs were filled by the Noyes Family.

May: Children planted Marigolds in pots and made Mother's Day Cards to celebrate Mother's Day.

May 21st: Children planted tomatoes and lettuce in the raised beds and flowers in the Marquee Box. Thanks to Marcel and purchases at Cecchi's.

June 18th: Last day of Sunday School classes. Children made Father's Day Cards and Celebrated with ice cream sundaes at Coffee Hour.

July and August: Children attend Church

September 10th: Sunday School resumes.

Special thanks to our Amazing Sunday School Staff:

Overseer Deacon Terry

Teachers: Helene Robbins, Kim Kozik, Sue O'Hare, Michelle Torres, Norma Turcotte, Ellen Scott, Christine Turcotte-White, Diane Seaver, Penny Miller and Gretchen Ziemba.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ENJOY YOUR SUMMER.

GRADUATES:

Congratulations to Alexis Bana on graduation from Agawam High School. Lexie (as she is fondly known) will be attending WNEU in the Fall.

Congratulations to any graduates that we may not know about.

NEWCOMERS BREAKFAST:

All newcomers and other interested people are invited to a free breakfast on Saturday, June 16 from 10:00 to 11:30. Mostly it's a chance for conversation and fellowship, but we'll also talk a bit about ways to get involved for those who want that. Please join us! And feel free to bring friends!

PRE SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please keep any announcements before the 10:00 service VERY short. If you don't have a microphone, people watching the service online cannot hear you, no matter how loud your voice is. Thanks!

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

Our meal this month is Tuesday, June 6, beginning at 11:30. As always, all Veterans eat free. Everybody is welcome to come help out. Please help spread the word!! Thanks!!

HELP WANTED, by Fr. Harvey

Several of our ministries are looking for new members. If you are interested in joining the **lawn crew**, helping with our **gardens** (flower or vegetable), or serving as an **usher**, 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 Duttons have done beautiful work establishing a perennial garden around the labyrinth 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.

SERVE SAFE REQUIREMENTS

In order to comply with Serve Safe regulations, please let the volunteers at coffee hour serve you, and stay out of the kitchen. Thanks!!

CHURCH PICNIC:



Our Picnic this year will be Sunday, June 25, immediately following the 10:00 service. (Since we livestream and also live broadcast the 10:00 service, we can't easily change our service times.)

Hot Dogs and Hamburgers will be provided, pot luck dishes will be suggested to make the picnic complete. A sign up sheets will be posted as of June 4th for attendance and food. Bob is looking into renting a tent. He will be asking for a little help with set up and break down of tables and chairs.

If anyone is interested in games for the children, please see either Jo Joubert or Bob Rendrick.

Looking into **some Adult entertainment**. Any suggestions, see Jo

LOTS OF FUN TO BE HAD

FATHER'S DAY IS COMING, by Fr. Harvey

Carrie tells me this is the most important day of the year. Or maybe that was Mother's Day....Anyway, we're celebrating Father's Day on June 18th, with Ice Cream Sundaes after the 10:00 service, sponsored by the Children's Ministry. Best of all, you don't have to be a Father to have a scoop!

CELEBRATING GRADUATES:

If you or someone you love is graduating, at any level!!, please let the office know. We want to recognize important milestones as they happen!

THE RETURN OF DOMINOES!!

Dominoes is back! The group will gather at Saint David's on the second and fourth Mondays 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!

APPALACHIAN TRAIL MAGIC, by Fr. Harvey

Churches in the Berkshires have teamed up to offer "trail magic" to hikers passing through on the Appalachian Trail. That means things like hot dogs and soda, or else a free charge for hikers' cell phones. Benjamin and I spent three days on the Appalachian Trail in May and received a bit of Trail Magic. All we got was water, but it was still a really wonderful thing.

Last year a group of us headed out there one day to take a turn, and said it was tons of fun. The food, drink, and chargers are all provided. Our role is to welcome hikers and offer them the stuff. A group of us will head out there on Saturday, June 24. We have enough people, but can always use more company. If you are interested in joining us, please let me know. Thanks!

CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS: by Fr. Harvey

We never know what will happen at Church without Walls. For whatever reason, our May meeting had more people than we have had since the pandemic began, which was great. After our service, a new person wandered around the Cupboard, including into areas that are off limits on Sundays. One of our regulars stopped him. I was touched by his sense of protectiveness towards the Cupboard. He clearly felt that it was a special place. Our June date is the 4th—Trinity Sunday—and we'll see what happens next. Thanks, as always, to the people who prepare the food and make this ministry possible!!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

Wishing All June HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

June 16	Sue O'Hare
	Cathy DeBonville
June 23	Eric Noyes

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB : Submitted by Leader Linda Seabury

Dear Women's Book Club Members,

On Sunday, 5/21, we were treated to a zoom meeting, facilitated by Father Harvey, with Amor Towles, the author of "The Lincoln Highway". It was an exciting and great experience to hear from this incredibly talented author on the writing of his book and two others of his books. It sounds as though there will be movies made from these books. Looking forward to seeing them when they come out.

(On a side note, Amor Towles was one of Fr. Harvey's roommates at Yale)

The book we will be reading this month is "Anxious People" by Fredrick Backman. It is an easy and quick read with only 349 pages this time. (But who's counting?)

If you need a book, please let me know, and I will be glad to give you one. Thanks to Penny Miller, the books have been ordered and are already in. (Cathy, Roxanne and Diane, I will make sure I find you to give the book you indicated that you wanted.)

Our last Women's Book Club meeting, until the fall, will be on Sunday, June 18th, (Father's Day) at 11:15, in the Community Room. Looking forward to seeing you then.

Thank you for all the support and love you have shown to some of the most beautiful women in our parish. AMEN!

God bless,
Linda

Dearest Linda,

I think I can say on behalf of all of us a huge THANK YOU to you for hosting the Women's Book Club. What a refreshing, challenging, and exciting experience for all book lovers. Seeing Amor Towles on Zoom was AMAZING!!! and such a privilege.

Thank you. Norma Turcotte

AUCTION UPDATE: Submitted by Scott Seabury

We had another great success!! People generously donated. The baked goods were tasty and helped keep the energy high. Our auctioneer was both quick and funny, so things moved along in a highly entertaining way.

This year we brought in \$5,000.00, about \$1,000.00 more than last year.

Big thank you to Kim Kozik for the awesome baskets she and Stan donated to the auction. (29 baskets total). Very much appreciated.

The crew who handled the business were efficient as always. Big thanks to everyone who made this event the success it was!!

BAZAAR and TAG SALE: Submitted by Jo Joubert

Soon we will be planning for the Fall Bazaar. We will be searching for vendors. If anyone would like to suggest a particular vendor that they would like to bring on board, please let Jo know. We will be having a meeting (TBA) and I encourage anyone that would like to attend.

Several Church members have asked if we are having a tag sale this year. Yes we will be holding it end of July or first of August.

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 saint-davidsMA@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!!

Carol Fabrycki is retiring from her calendar duties, which means we are looking for a second Calendar Keeper. Please talk to me if you are interested. You can also talk to her or Janessa to get the real scoop!

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

The **Parish Cupboard** is sponsoring a **Golf Tournament** on June 3 at the Saint Anne's Country Club. This is one of their biggest fundraisers for the year. For more information, please see the flyer on our bulletin board.

TWO cancer support group events are coming up in our communities:

“The Pink Way” is sponsoring a 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, June 17 at 8:30 in School Street Park. (<https://www.facebook.com/events/607260087493030>) And

“Each Moment We're Alive” is sponsoring a “**Canine Fur Cancer Support Walk**” on Friday, June 23 from 5:00 to 9:00. (<https://eachmomentwerealive.networkforgood.com/events/54505-4th-annual-canines-fur-cancer-support-walk>).

For more information, please click the links or see printed flyers on our bulletin board.

Area Churches are setting up a new **Circle of Care for a recently arrived Syrian refugee family**. If you are interested in joining the Circle, please let me know and I'll put you in touch with the right people.

Finally, we have been asked to share information about a survey the town of Agawam is doing to get public input on a **proposed Housing Production Plan**. It takes 10-15 minutes to complete. You can find the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AgawamHousingSurvey>.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND VISITORS

Sometime in June we'll have a training for new Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors, as well as a refresher for anyone who is already part of the rotation. If you would like to join either of these ministries, please let me know so that we can find a time that works for everyone. And, of course, thanks to all our current and continuing Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors!!

COMMUNION CLASS FOR KIDS:

We are planning to offer a **Communion Class for children** this summer, probably meeting after Church on Sundays. Please let Fr. Harvey or Norma Turcotte know if you are interested, and we'll make sure to find dates that work for everyone.

CREATION CARE KIDS' CORNER - by Mary Moore

SUMMER SCAVENGER HUNT

Here are some things to look for when you are outside this summer. Since you may not find everything in one day, why not keep track by writing down what you did see? Some examples of what you might see are in parentheses, but you might spot different ones. Enjoy!

A bird with some red or orange feathers (robin)

A bird with blue feathers (blue jay)

A leaf that is dark red (Japanese maple)

A flower on a tree or bush (rose)

A fruit on a tree or bush (cherries)

A mammal with 2 or more different colors of fur (cow)

An insect that flies (butterfly, bee)

An insect that lives in a colony (bee or ant)

A worm

A spider web

The first day of summer is called the summer solstice, and in the northern hemisphere it is usually on June 21st, but sometimes it is on the 20th or on the 22nd. Whichever date it falls on, it is the day when the sun is as far north in the sky as it will get in the northern hemisphere. Because the sun is so far north, we get the most hours of daylight around this time. Summer in the northern hemisphere officially ends in September at the Autumnal (or Fall) Equinox.

BE AWARE OF THE SUN:

Despite health warnings about sun damage, many of us still subject our skin to the sun's burning rays. More than a third of adults and nearly 70% of children admit they've gotten sunburned within the past year, according to the CDC. Years of getting too much sun can lead to early wrinkling and age spots, and it makes you more likely to get skin cancer.

USE SUNSCREEN

Cover any exposed areas of skin liberally with at least 1 ounce of broad-spectrum sunscreen. That means sunscreen that protects against UVA and UVB rays.

The sunscreen should have an SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 30. Follow these tips for applying sunscreen:

- Apply sunscreen about 30 minutes before you go outside.
 - Use sunscreen even on overcast days, because UV rays can penetrate clouds.
 - Reapply sunscreen every 2 hours – or more often if you're sweating heavily or swimming.
- If you wear makeup, apply sunscreen first and then put on your foundation. By itself, foundation doesn't have the broad-spectrum sunscreen that you need, even if it does have some sunscreen in it.

JUNE CALENDAR:

Our Weekly Events

Sunday: Services at 8:00 and 10:00

Sunday School at 10:00

Monday: Men's Bible study at 7:00

Friday: Healing Eucharist at 12:00 (except June 9)

Bible Study at 1:00 (in person and Zoom) (except June 9)

Contemplative Prayer at 2:30 (in person and Zoom) (except June 9)

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

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

Special Events

Sunday, June 4: Church without Walls at 12:00 at the Parish Cupboard

Monday, June 5: Prison Bible Study at the WCCC at 7:00

Tuesday, June 6: Veterans Lunch at 11:30

Friday, June 9: NO Healing Eucharist, Bible Study, or Contemplative Prayer

Monday, June 12: Dominoes at 6:00

Tuesday June 13: Conversation on Scripture at 4:15 on Zoom (?)

Saturday, June 17: Newcomers Breakfast, 10:00-11:30

Sunday, June 18: Father's Day! Ice Cream after the 10:00 service!

Sunday, June 18: Women's Book Group at 11:15

Wednesday, June 21: Vestry at 7:00

Saturday, June 24, Appalachian Trail Ministry in the Berkshires

Sunday, June 25, Church Picnic beginning at 11:15

Monday, June 26: Dominoes at 6:00

Monday, June 26: Prison Bible Study at 7:00 at the WCCC

Tuesday June 27: Conversation on Scripture at 4:15 on Zoom (?)

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 at 7:00-9:00 PM: Al-Anon Meeting

Community Events

Saturday, June 3: Parish Cupboard Golf Tournament at St Anne's Country Club

Saturday, June 17: 5K Run/Walk to support local people with breast cancer, at 8:30 at School Street Park

Friday, June 23: Canines Fur Cancer Walk, from 5:00-9:00 at the Irish Cultural Center Pavilion, West Springfield



*“If you have the choice between being
right and being kind, choose being kind.”
(Dr. Wayne W. Dyer)*

PHONE: (413) 786—6133

FAX: (413) 786-4682

EMAIL: saintdavids@comcast.net

OR Jo’s Cell 413-374-7756

E-Mail joubertjo77@comcast.net

**St, David’s Episcopal Church
699 Springfield Street**