



St. David's Episcopal Church

OCTOBER DOVETALE

2021

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.

Program Year Kicks Off: by Fr. Harvey

Well, we are up and running. Sunday School is back, for which I give thanks to God! We had several Creation Care events to celebrate Creation Season. Confirmation Classes continued for our teens. We re-started Church without Walls at the West Springfield Parish Cupboard. We continue to gather for coffee hour each week. We had our Veterans' Lunch, and we helped at the Springfield Church without Walls. That's in addition to our regular round of Worship, Bible Study, and online prayers. It's been a packed month!

Looking ahead, there is more to come: our first-ever annual auction; fun events for the kids around Halloween; community suppers resuming in November; our Holiday Bazaar. And, of course, shadowing all that life and activity is the continuing pandemic.

When I first heard that the protection offered by vaccines might wane over time, my heart sank. When I heard that the vaccines actually continue to offer good protection against hospitalization and death, I felt better. As I watched the rising infection numbers in our area, I was anxious. Now that the numbers may be creeping down, I feel better again. Such is life these days.

As a practical matter, our advance planning is inevitably provisional at this point. We are moving ahead as if everything will be fine. If infection numbers rise, we may have to adjust our plans. Staying both active and safe isn't easy!

But I write this the day after our September vestry meeting. We began with prayer and a discussion about a passage from Scripture. We took care of business. We shared brownies! And we laughed a lot. Our vestry keeps me going.

More generally, I continue to find comfort and strength in you, the people of Saint David's. We have all struggled at points. But I consistently find people who lift my spirits, who remain committed to God's call and God's mission, who remind me why we do what we do, and who help me to have fun doing it.

Together we will continue to work at being God's people in this time and place. And for that, I am always grateful!

Harvey +

COVID PRECAUTIONS: by Fr. Harvey

At the September Vestry meeting, the Vestry endorsed the following COVID precautions. These are recommendations rather than requirements. But please remember that some of our members and visitors, particular our youngest members and visitors, are unvaccinated and therefore at risk.

- Please wear a mask during worship unless masking interferes with your breathing.
- Please maintain social distance as much as possible when choosing your seat and when coming to the altar for Holy Eucharist.
- Please spread out at social times such as coffee hour.
- When using the restroom, please shift the sign on the door to “Occupied” if you prefer others not to come in. (And please shift it to “Vacant” when you leave!) If the sign already says “Occupied,” please wait outside until the person exits. You may want to knock to make sure someone is in there!
- All children and teachers will wear masks when indoors for Sunday School.

Thank you for your help in keeping all of us safe and healthy!

Discretionary Funds, 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. Deacon Terry does too. If you get in a bind, please talk to one of us. I should add those conversations and any help people receive from either 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>. As always, if you need to spend the Church’s money, please complete the form and get the signature of the relevant vestry person. Thanks!!

OUT REACH MINISTRY:

Food For the Poor Visit 10/10/21

Father Bruce Torrey will be back visiting St. David’s on 10/10/21 at both the 8am and 10am services on behalf of the Food For the Poor ministries. FFTP is a Christian ministry serving the poor in 17 countries throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. Through donations they are able to provide food, fresh water, housing, education, healthcare and more. Please be prepared to make a donation (check made out to Food for the Poor) on 10/10 if you feel moved to do so.

See Jim Shields or Fr. Harvey if you have questions.

Mercy Medical Center, Emergency Room:

Many times a patient has been brought into the ER in clothing that is not appropriate to be worn at their release. The clothing that is available for giving out is usually small sizes. If anyone would like to donate some larger sizes for the patients in need of something to wear to go home, please see Fr. Harvey or Jo Joubert. Thanking you in advance.

Fall Clean-Up, by Fr. Harvey

Our Fall Clean-Up will be Saturday, October 16, beginning at 9:00 and finishing whenever we are finished—normally about lunchtime. I’m not much actual help, but I can say that we always manage to have a good time! Perhaps best of all, the Church provides lunch!

If you can join us, please sign-up in the narthex. It’s a great help in planning lunch. Whether or not you plan to join us, please share your ideas about what needs to be done on another sheet in the narthex. Thanks to Bob Rendrick, our tireless Junior Warden, for his leadership! And thanks to everyone who joins us!

Church without Walls, by Fr. Harvey

September was a big month for Church without walls! On September 5, we joined with other Churches for our bi-monthly turn at the Springfield service in Court Square. It's a great ministry, but we are re-evaluating our participation now that we have resumed Church without walls at the Parish Cupboard. Please let me or Deacon Terry know if you have thoughts about this.

But the big news for the month was the resumption of our Church without walls at the Parish Cupboard in West Springfield. We have teamed up with an ecumenical group of Churches from Agawam, West Springfield, and Holyoke to offer this service and free lunches every week. We kicked it off on the 12th.

It was a modest start. Just a single person joined us! Thankfully several people from Saint David's participated, as did the new director of the Parish Cupboard, so we could have a service. Afterwards, we gave the lunches to Bob for use at the Cupboard during the week.

I assume this ministry will grow over time, as the people we are there to serve get back in the habit and used to the new location. I am grateful to Bob for allowing us to meet in the parking lot of the Parish Cupboard and providing us with a canopy to use when the weather doesn't cooperate.

Our next turn will be Sunday, October 10. Between now and then, I'll find out how many people attend the services of the other Churches so that we'll have a better idea of how many lunches to prepare. To contribute, please sign-up in the narthex, indicating what you will provide.

Thanks to everyone who makes this ministry possible!!

Creation Season Wrap-Up

Thanks to the leadership of our Green Team, we have had an active Creation Season. For our first event, we welcomed the Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, the Creation Care Missioner for the Diocese, as our guest preacher. The next week, we blessed our gardens and grounds with a walking prayer service. We publicized opportunities to join in the Connecticut River Clean-Up and the Library's Climate Change Preparedness Week. Our final event was a "Creation Walk" on Sunday, October 3, beginning around 11:30. Thanks to the Team that made it all happen!!

Creation Care Kids' Corner - Autumn Scavenger Hunt by Mary Moore

October is a time of big changes outside. The leaves on some trees are still green at the beginning of the month, turn bright yellow, orange, or red by the middle of the month, and have all fallen by the end. Including different color leaves, here are some things to look for in October.

You may not find everything in one day, so keep track by writing down what you see each day. If you write down the date too, you can save your list for next year and look for the same things. If you do this, you may want to say what kind of tree a particular leaf came from. Will you find them on about the same date next year?

Have fun!

- ⇒ a leaf that has turned yellow
- ⇒ a leaf that has turned red or orange (Be careful not to touch the bright red leaves if they are poison ivy.)
- ⇒ flocks of bluebirds (usually 5 - 20 in the group)
- ⇒ a squirrel gathering acorns
- ⇒ a blue jay gathering acorns
- ⇒ an open, ripe milkweed pod dispersing its seeds (using the wind)
- ⇒ a turkey vulture gliding high up in the sky
- ⇒ the fluffy, ripe top of a cattail dispersing its seeds (using the wind)
- ⇒ dark purple pokeweed berries on a bright pink stem (Do NOT eat these berries!)
- ⇒ a chipmunk with its cheek pouches full of food



Sunday School and Children's Ministries:

We kicked off the Sunday School year on September 12th, and things are off to a great start. The kids head out after the praise song (the second hymn of the service) and come back for Holy Communion. In between they mostly stay outside for a combination of learning and fun that is also safe. Thanks to Valerie Smart and her team of teachers and assistants for all that they do for our children!!

Confirmation Classes

A wonderful group of four young women continue studying for confirmation with Fr. Harvey and Chrissy Turcotte White. The young women are Lexi Barna, Eden Berry, Madeleine Soukup, and Emmerson White. Please say a prayer for them as they explore their faith and prepare to make a mature commitment to Christ. Please throw in a few prayers for Chrissy, who will also be confirmed!

Caregivers, by Fr. Harvey

The people of Saint David's have a long tradition of supporting each other in times of need. Now we are hoping to organize this generosity into a more regular ministry. If you are willing to offer fellow parishioners occasional help, please let me know. My goal is to have a handful of names of people who are willing to offer rides, run local errands, and/or provide meals when people need that. If we get several volunteers for each kind of help, no helper will be overburdened and people who can use a little help will get the help they need. Please also let me know if you are willing to help coordinate this ministry. Thanks!!

Friday Noontime Healing Eucharist

On Fridays at noon, a small group of us gather for a service of Holy Communion, including a conversational sermon on the saint of the day and an opportunity for people who so choose to receive anointing and special prayers at the altar. It's a wonderfully intimate service and perfect for people who want to worship but are concerned about gathering with larger numbers of people. All are welcome—please help spread the word!

Friday Bible Study at 1:00

This has become a hybrid event. Most of us meet in person in the Community Room on Fridays at 1:00. With snacks! Others join us by Zoom. We have a mounted screen in the Community Room, which allows everyone physically present to see and hear people on Zoom. We have just started reading the book of Job, one of the most challenging and relevant books on the entire Old Testament. All are welcome. And you don't have to have any background knowledge about the Bible—just an interest in learning!

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? We continue to offer contemplative prayer on Fridays at 2:30 and, like so much else, we now meet both in person and on Zoom. Please join us any Friday!

Reading the Gospel of Mark

Several of us are reading the Gospel of Mark together this year, guided by a kind of commentary by Michael Casey called *Fully Human, Fully Divine*. In October we plan to meet on Zoom at 4:15 on Tuesday, the 19th. All are welcome. If you are joining us for the first time, let Fr. Harvey know so that he can tell you where we are in the Gospel and in Casey's book.

We anticipate finishing Mark and the Casey book in November. But I am hoping the group can continue with another book as we move into the next year. If you would like to join us then and have a book to recommend, please let me (Fr. Harvey) know. Thanks!!

**“Give thanks to the Lord for He is good;
for His steadfast love endures forever”**

Daily Prayer, by Fr. Harvey

We have LOTS of opportunities to pray online together, with at least one option every weekday. On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, the Diocese offers a zoomed service of Compline at 8:00 PM. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, Deacon Terry and I team up with Saint Mark's to offer Morning Prayer on Facebook at 8:00 am. (Terry or I lead it on Thursdays.) And on Fridays, the good people of Saint Mark's stream evening prayers at 8:00.

For people who prefer to say Morning Prayer or Compline by themselves, we have put versions of those Prayerbook services in the narthex. You can, of course, also just use the book if you have one!

Wine Tasting at Mary Moore's House

On Saturday, October 9 (rain date, 10/10) beginning at 1:00, Mary Moore will host a wine tasting at her house, featuring her homemade wines! Join her for fun and fellowship, as well as some fine wine! You can take home some of your favorites, for a suggested donation of \$10 for most bottles and \$15 for the dessert wines. If you can't make the tasting but would still like a bottle or two, please let Mary know, and she can make it happen.

Eucharistic Ministers

This is yet another ministry that is coming back after more than a year. Before the pandemic, Eucharistic Ministers served the chalice at Communion. We are not yet in a position to offer the chalice, but we want more people without clerical collars up front! We have resumed a regular schedule of Eucharistic Ministers who join Deacon Terry or Father Harvey in offering the consecrated bread, each with a drop of consecrated wine on it. If you would like to be part of the rotation, please let Father Harvey know. Thanks!!

Healing Ministry

We are back to offering prayers for healing each week at the altar 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!!

Prayer Shawls

Now that Fall is here and many of our talented members are inside more, it 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. Thanks to everyone who participates in this wonderful ministry!!!

PARISH LIFE: by Susan Amabile

Saturday, August 14th St David's hosted an Outdoor Concert and a Family Fun day. Proceeds to our Sunday school program. Valerie Smart had lots of games and crafts for the kids to do. Valerie also worked with the kids on Wednesday nights from 6pm-7pm through the summer. Free Freeze Pops for kids Saturday and Wednesday nights!!
Homemade baked goods donated by parishioners were yummy. Chef John O'Hare on the grill with burgers and dogs; always a favorite!
Linda Seabury beautifully performed the National Anthem to start the day off.
Our own Renee Sprinthall and Jim Shields AKA THE BAND - RUST provided a variety of songs for everyone's enjoyment. RUST introduced their new member, Dave who is the guitarist.
Many thanks to all from St David's who worked to make the day happen.
And thanks to all those who attended.

Parish Life Coordinator
Susan Amabile

Auction Update

It's almost here! Our first annual auction!! Scott Seabury and his intrepid crew of auction volunteers are ready to lead us on Saturday, October 23, from 1:00-4:00 p.m., with a viewing of items to be auctioned from 12:00-1:00. At this point, we have plenty (I mean, PLENTY!) of donations.

We could still use a few volunteers; if you are interested, please contact Scott. But our main challenge is getting the word out. We'll publicize the auction through our normal channels. But please invite any and everyone you know! The event is free and fun, with food provided.

We do require that everyone present wear masks. Thanks!!!

Community Suppers Resume

Our plan is to have the first Community Supper since the pandemic began on Monday, November 1. I say our "plan" because everything depends in part on what happens with the pandemic. But hope springs eternal, and so we are moving ahead on the assumption that we can gather safely. All going well, we'll be looking for volunteers to help in the next couple of weeks.

Outdoor Craft Fair

We have rented our grounds to the organizer of a series of Outdoor Craft Fairs, the next of which will be October 9. This is emerging as a good relationship. The organizers make a donation to Saint David's after each fair and are providing us contacts for our own Holiday Bazaar. Thanks to the tireless John O'Hare and friends, we sell food at the fairs, which makes the experience more pleasant for fair-goers and earns us a little extra money.

Diocesan Convention

The Diocese made the wise decision to move Diocesan Convention online again this year. It will begin with a broadcast service of Morning Prayer on Saturday, November 6 at 8:30 open to everyone. At 9:30, we'll take up the regular Convention business. Our delegates are Carol Fabrycki and Penny Miller, with Linda Seabury and Kathy Glista as alternates. I am grateful to all four of them for their willingness to serve!

Our delegation plans to join Convention from the Saint David's Community Room. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Upcoming Safe Church Trainings

The Diocese requires that everyone working with children receive a Safe Church training at least once every three years. Church employees and lay leaders are strongly encouraged to do the same. The trainings are pretty intense, but they are also an important safeguard in keeping our children safe. Wonderful Carol Fabrycki, our Safe Church officer, keeps track of who received trainings when. If you think it might be time for an update, please check with her.

The upcoming trainings are:

Tuesday/Thursday, October 19 & 21, Full Day, via Zoom, 5:30 -8:00 PM

Wednesday, November 17, Volunteer, via Zoom, 5:00-8:00 PM

Tuesday/Thursday, December 7 & 9, Full Day, via Zoom, 5:30-8:00 PM

Holiday Bazaar

The Holiday Bazaar is back, and will be held on Saturday, November 20th. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Susan Amabile. As part of the event, we'll have a St. David's table(s), which is one of our biggest moneymakers. We sell used holiday and seasonal items (Autumn, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Winter-themed) and new crafts made and donated by our St. David's members: small "floral" arrangements, wooden spoons or spatulas, original paintings, hand-made ornaments, angels, rustic chic wood plaques, wreaths, and knitted or crocheted items or stockings, to name a few.

If you have questions or have items you wish to donate, please see Virginia Ventulett. Thanks!!

Veteran's Ministry, by Fr. Harvey

Our September Veterans' Lunch was another great success, and particularly well-timed, coming as it did in the week of September 11. Thanks to John O'Hare and the Lion's Club, as well as our own volunteers, for making this ministry happen!.

In October, we decided against offering our own meal since it would come right after the Big E. Instead, John handed out coupons for free lunches from the Lions at the Big E. We'll be back with a meal at our regular time (the first Tuesday of the month) in November.

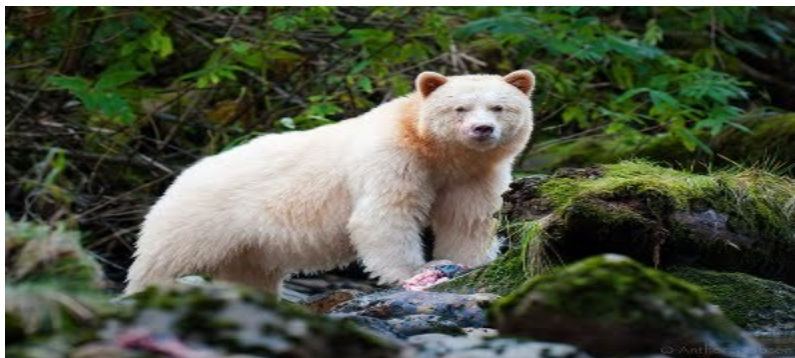
We also participated in the Town Commemoration of September 11 again this year, which included recognition of our Veterans.

Creative Care "Spirit Bear" by Pauline Mortenson

In the 1800's, the First Nations of British Columbia's central coast kept the existence of "moksgm'ol", the "spirit bear" a secret. They did not hunt the white bears and didn't want outsiders to hunt them. These white bears have a genetic change from black bears to be born with their fur in shades of pale gold and cream. Brightness in their fur is an advantage when salmon fishing. From underwater from a salmon's view, this pale gold and cream bear disappears into the bright sky. The spirit bear can fish for up to six percent more salmon than the black fur bears.

In the late 1980's, industrial logging arrived on the central coast which had previously been unable to access the area. In order to save these forests the spirit bear became a celebrity and areas where the spirit bears were most common became protected areas. The area became known as the Great Bear Rainforest.

The First Nations studied these bears along with outside scientists. They didn't tranquilize the bears to fit them with radio collars because that seemed disrespectful. But they did set up scratching posts in the forest so the winter fur could be gotten rid of by the bears. After examining the fur, the scientists discovered the gene was less common but more widely dispersed. Any black bear carried the gene. A Japanese study theorized these bear have persisted because the Ainu people left them alone. The future of the champagne colored bear with a salmon carcass on a green forest will depend on who has the power in that area but also on who chooses not to use it.



**HALLOWEEN AT ST. DAVID'S
CELEBRATING ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2021
BREAKFAST AND TRUNK "A" TREAT
BREAKFAST 9 am TO 11 am
TRUNK "A" TREAT 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 pm**

Breakfast Menu

Pancakes

Scrambled Eggs

Bacon or Sausage

Juice

Coffee

ADULTS \$6.00

CHILDREN 5 TO 11 \$3.00

CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE

**CALL CHURCH OFFICE 786-4133 FOR RESERVATION
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**IF YOU ARE GOING TO PARTICIAPTE IN THE
TRUNK "A" TREAT PLEASE SIGN UP .**

PUT ON BY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

FROM THE KITCHEN CREW

Dump Cake

1 CAN (21 OZ) CHERRY PIE FILLING
1 CAN (13 OZ) CRUSHED PINEAPPLE DRAINED
1 BOX YELLOW CAKE MIX
1 CUP MELTED BUTTER
1 CUP COCONUT
1 CUP CHOPPED NUTS
PREHEAT OVEN TO 350 DEGREES
IN GREASED , 13 X 9 INCH PAN COMBINE
INGREDIENTS IN ORDER GIVEN, SMOOTHING
OUT THE LAYERS AS THEY ARE ADDED
DO NOT MIX. BAKE IN PREHEATED OVEN
30 MINUTES UNTIL DONE. 16 SERVINGS

LAZY MAN'S PEACH COBBLER

2 CUPS BISQUICK
1/2 CUP SUGAR
2 EGGS
1 CUP MILK
1 QT (4 CUPS) (2 LG CANS) PEACHES
1/2 STICK BUTTER
SUGAR, CINNAMON
MIX BISQUICK, SUGAR, EGGS & MILK DUMP INTO
DEEP DISH. ADD PEACHES, CUT BUTTER AND SCATTER
OVR THE TOP. SPRINKLE WITH SUGAR & CINNAMON
BAKE AT 350 DEGREES , 30 TO 45 MINUTES

HALLOWEEN TREAT





ITEMS INCLUDE:

Bountiful gift baskets, new appliances,
gift cards, Sports memorabilia, crafts,
children's toys and

MUCH MUCH MORE!!!

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021

VIEWING: 12:00pm – 1:00pm

AUCTION: 1:00pm – 4:00pm



FREE admission, FREE snacks, FREE parking

WHERE: ST. DAVID'S CHURCH

699 SPRINGFIELD STREET

FEEDING HILLS, MA

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 413-786-6133



OCTOBER CALENDAR:

Services every Sunday at 8 and 10;
Bible Study every Friday at 1;
Contemplative Prayer, every Friday at 2:30;
Healing Eucharist every Friday at noon;
Men's Bible study every Monday at 7;
Vestry on Tuesday, 10/19 at 7;
Morning Prayer TWTh at 8:00;
Evening Prayers MTWF at 8:00;
Mark Conversation on 10/19 at 4:15;
OA Thursdays from 10:15-11:30;
Al-Anon Saturdays from 7:15-8:30;
Wine Tasting at Mary Moore's House, 10/9 at 1:00;
Guest preacher 10/10;
Church without walls on 10/10 in West Springfield at noon;
Creation walk 10/3 at 11:30;
Fall Clean-Up Day, 10/16 from 9-2;
Auction 10/23 from 1-4;
Halloween Breakfast and Trunk or Treat, 10/30
No veterans lunch this month

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.



Pray for all the people in our daily lives, for the community,
the Nation, and the World.

I have sold my house and will be moving the 19th and 20th of October. I will need the articles for the November Dovetale by the 15th of October. Blessings Jo

PHONE: (413) 786—6133

EMAIL: saintdavids@comcast.net

FACEBOOK PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/StDavidsFeedingHillsMA/>

HOMEPAGE: <http://www.stdavidsagawam.org/>

**St, David's Episcopal Church
699 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030**