



St. David's Episcopal Church

MAY DOVETALE 2024

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.

PENTECOST:

The season of Easter ends, and Pentecost begins on Sunday, May 19. Pentecost is not nearly so well known as Easter, but it, too, is one of the most important holy days in the Christian calendar.

Pentecost was originally a Jewish holy day celebrating the giving of the law on Mount Sinai. A few weeks after the first Easter, Jesus' followers gathered to celebrate the Jewish Pentecost. Suddenly the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they began to praise God in different languages. As the Acts of the Apostles tells the story (chapter 2), devout Jews from every nation heard the apostles praising God, each in their own language. People were amazed, Peter preached, and thousands of people joined the new movement.

As a result, Pentecost has become a major Christian holy day. If Christmas is the celebration of Christ's birth, Pentecost is the birthday of the Church.

I am always sad to say goodbye to the Easter season. But Pentecost is an inspiring (and inspiring!!) day. I hope you will join us for worship on one of the holiest days of the year!

But like Easter, the season of Pentecost extends well beyond the day itself. Indeed, Pentecost is by far the longest season of the Church year. It lasts from May 19 all the way through November 30! The season is so long, it is nicknamed "Ordinary Time" since it is what we mostly experience in the Church year.

During the six months of Ordinary Time, we remember that Christ's story keeps going, past his death and resurrection, past his ascension, past the coming of the Holy Spirit, right up until today and continuing on into the future. Christ's story is our story. Or, better, we are the current chapter of Christ's eternal story, which never ends but comes to full fruition in the kingdom of God.

My prayer for us all is that we will catch the Spirit this Pentecost and do our part this season to keep the story going!!

In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Fr. Harvey

VACATION: by Fr. Harvey

I'll be on vacation from Monday, May 20 through Wednesday, June 5. Deacon Terry will livestream our sessions of Friday Morning Prayer, and Fr. Domenic will lead Sunday services.

Our normal Friday events (Healing Eucharist, Bible Study, and Contemplative Prayer) are cancelled for those two weeks.

I'm hoping Deacon Terry and Fr. Domenic will also be available in the event of a pastoral emergency. I'll confirm that and make sure everyone knows well before my departure..

MORNING PRAYER:

Our livestreamed Morning Prayer schedule has been in a bit of flux. As I write this article, Morning Prayer is livestreamed every Monday by Rev. Mia of Saint Mark's, Thursday by Rev. Jim from Saint Andrew's, and on Fridays by me or Deacon Terry. But I believe we will soon be back to every weekday, and perhaps even Saturdays. Stay tuned!

Please 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 the Easter season, which lasts until May 19. Then we'll put out forms for Pentecost to go through the Summer.

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!

CAREGIVERS:

This ministry aims to meet needs from soups to getting manicures done and rides to appointments. Call Susan (519-7854) if you need anything. The members are Norma Turcotte, Paul Fontaine, Anne Cascio, Carol Fabrycki and Susan Amabile.

TUESDAY CONVERSATIONS: by Fr. Harvey

As I write this, our group has finished the book we were reading and are in just about to start a book by Julian of Norwich. That makes this an excellent time to join us! We meet on Tuesdays at 4:15, normally both in person and on zoom for maximum convenience. Please join us when we begin Julian on June 11. We'd love to have you!

THE CHOSEN: by Fr. Harvey

The Chosen is an ongoing series telling the story of Jesus and his disciples available for free on YouTube. We planned to finish season one at our last watch party but were stymied by technical difficulties. But they seem to be fixed, so we'll resume soon, probably June 11 at 6:00. Please join us to watch an episode and then have a brief conversation about it.

GROUNDS AND GARDENS:

We have a heroic lawn crew and gardeners, who have kept us looking good for many years! But some of our crews are ready to retire. And we continue to expand our Good News Vegetable and Fruit Garden. As a result, we are looking for more help.

If you are interested in tending a flower plot or helping with the vegetable garden, please let me know, and I'll put you in contact with the right person. Thanks!

SPRING CLEANING:

Thanks to the hard work of a lot of people, we keep Saint David's looking good! But it being Spring, it's time for some deep Spring Cleaning. We'll gather on Saturday, May 11 to work inside the building and (weather permitting) on our grounds. We'll start around 9:00 and wrap up by 1:00 at the latest, although people do not need to stay the whole time. Lunch will be provided.

To help us get ready, we always put out a list of tasks to be done. If you have ideas about tasks, please add them to the list, even if you can't join us on the 11th.

I end with thanks, once again and always(!) to Junior Warden Bob Rendrick for his leadership!

FRIDAY EVENTS: by Fr. Harvey

On Fridays we have a Healing Eucharist at noon, Bible Study at 1:00, and Contemplative Prayer at 2:30.

All three are in person, but you can also join the Bible Study and Contemplative Prayer by Zoom. All three will meet every Friday in May, except the 24th and the 31st.

In the Bible Study, we are about finished with Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. I am proposing that we next tackle some of the Psalms, but that will depend on what others think. Please join us!

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP: by Linda Seabury

Dear St David's Book Club Women,

It was wonderful to see all 12 of you (12 disciples) at our last meeting, Sunday, April 14. Thank you for your lovely card. Your thoughts and love were so much appreciated.

Thank you, Gretchen, for sharing your anniversary cake with us. Hope you and Jerry had a lovely day.

We are reading "When We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate. If you haven't already asked me to order you a book, please let me know, and I will be glad to order a book for you.

Our next book club meeting is Sunday, May 19. All St David's women are invited to come to our book club meetings. Even if you haven't read the suggested book, please come for some fellowship and a chance to know, and support each other.

Blessings,
Linda

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

April was a big month for us! I will start with our regulars. We had another successful Veterans Lunch on the 2nd (with unusually tasty Ruebens!) and the largest group we have had in a while for Church without Walls. We continued our Prison Bible Study two weeks in the month, with other Churches covering the other weeks.

In addition, we participated in a River Clean-up (4/27) and the CROP Hunger Walk (4/28), the latter both by walking and by opening our building up as a bathroom/rest stop on the way.

We also contributed our Good Friday offering to support the Episcopal presence in the Holy Land and the proceeds from the Complaint Challenge to support CISA's Senior Farm Shares Program. We had a good crowd for our Pasta Community Dinner.

The Agawam Mayor was with us on April 18th to present Agawam residents with the plans for the new high school.

Our May Church without Walls date is the 5th; our May Veterans Lunch will be on Tuesday May 7; and we'll be at the Women's Correctional Center of Chicopee on May 6 and 27. Thanks to everyone who made all that outreach possible!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

ALL OUR MAY BIRTHDAY FRIENDS.

5/9 Virginia Ventulett

5/15 Paul Fontaine

5/28 Bob Glista

5/30 Scott Seabury

5/30 A Heavenly Happy Birthday Mary Dutton you are so missed.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:

If you or someone you know in the parish is not receiving a birthday card, please fill out a birthday greetings form found on the back table in the narthex, and deposit it in the Birthday Registry Box. Same for anniversaries! Thanks to Pat Wolos for her work sending birthday greetings on behalf of all of us!

Book Sale

The Book Sale has been postponed. We're holding onto the books we have already collected, and will have the sale in the near future. Possibly at the Flea Market on the Lawn in August. Thanks

WAYS TO INTEREST FUTURE CHURCH MEMBERS: BY JO

Traci Iwanowskii (Jo's daughter) High Tea for Breast Cancer (Newspaper) (open to the public) Speakers on Breast Cancer and Women's Rights. All proceeds to go to Breast Cancer.

Our Church picnic will be Sunday, June 23. Please join us after Church other day for some fun and fellowship. Invite a friend. *Maybe* we can have some entertainment. We will see....

We need more public exposure. Think about this and Let's talk about it.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

In May we'll offer Sunday School during the 10:00 on the first three Sundays of the month (5/5, 12, and 19). On the 26th, we invite children to stay in the service and get a feel for what the adults do. Looking ahead, we'll wrap up Sunday School for the summer on June 16. In the meantime, we invite children to help with the Mother's Day Brunch (5/5) and/or the Father's Day Ice Cream Social (6/16).

Soon after the end of the program year for Sunday School, we hope to have a conversation about the future of our Children's Ministry. We are interested in learning more from our families about what would best suit their needs. Be on the lookout for an invitation to that conversation. And in the meantime, please feel free to share your thoughts with Deacon Terry.

Saint David's Calendar, by Fr. Harvey

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

SPOTLIGHT ON MINISTRIES:

COFFEE HOUR by Mary Moore

Talk about giving Time and Talent! The four sets of people who take turns hosting coffee hour each week are truly incredible.

Thanks to them, ours is not your typical doughnut holes and cup of joe coffee hour. Every Sunday we get treated to a sumptuous smorgasbord of homemade baked goods provided by the Freeman, Chris Loy, the Wolos, and the Lauzon families. They get help from regulars Mary Fleury, Valerie Clapp, and Lin Paquette. Diane Seaver, Pat Reece, Ellen Scott, and Ellen Rendrick also pitch in whenever there is the need. One look at the table tells you that a lot of time, effort, and love went into the food preparation. The variety and the quality are par excellence.

The cost of the prepared food is covered by the families who alternate hosting and serving us. The exception to this is the price of the cheddar cheese & crackers and the coffee & creamer. (So please throw some money into the jar on the last table if you enjoy having these last few items.) The Coffee Hour Bank also provides the cake for special occasions such as the bishop's visit or the Annual Meeting.

If you are interested in getting involved in this ministry, please talk to Dina Joubert. Many hands make light work!

CREATION CARE CORNER: by Jim Shields

Next time you see a butterfly, look closer at these features:

1. male butterflies have scent scales on their forewings, which attract females.
2. their feet help them taste plants and are a critical tool in identifying the correct host plants to lay eggs on.
3. both forewings and hindwings are covered in thousands of tiny scales.
4. despite looking like a tongue, a butterfly's proboscis is a tube to draw nectar from flowers.
5. like hummingbirds, butterflies fly in a figure-eight pattern.
6. each multifunctional antenna picks up chemical scents, senses wind directions and sound vibrations, and even helps with balance.
7. Butterfly eyes see ultraviolet light, something humans can't detect. Their specialized compound eyes have up to 17,000 mini lenses. This allows them to see almost 360 degrees around them.
8. certain species, such as the painted lady, sport eyespots on their wings to scare off potential predators.

CENTENNIAL PLANS and FUNRAISING FOR COST

Have met with both services. Great response from both.

8:00

Ted Zern was very informative on what History should be about. Memorial plaques to honor founders & Deceased members such as O'Hare's etc. (talk to Harvey)

Jean Carpenter, John and Lynn Litchfield also with Church History. Dinner outside Church---Inviting prior priests & dignitaries, past members of the church.

Great suggestions regarding kick off and ending.

10:00

Kick off at 2024 December Dinner

Music on the Lawn Sue A. Fundraiser

Children involved – Kim suggestion. (Beginning and end)

Investigating Trivia Night – Chris Loy fundraiser

Organizing Golf Tournament Chris Loy Fundraiser

Donation Box Fund Raiser (Ellen Rendrick)

E.B.'s 2 Wednesday give Back in the future (Raffles by Sue & Kim.) Fund Raiser First give back will be November 2nd.

Community Support

50's night in customs Fundraiser

Have prior Priests give sermons 4 different Sundays. (Fr. Harvey)

Picture boards Carol, Norma & Sue

Flea Market on the Green Fundraiser

Bury Time Capsule

Sue O'Hare will be helping with inventions and contacts.

There will be more meetings and EVERYONE is welcome to come that is interested. Come with suggestions, comments and offers of help.

DEVELOPMENT: by Jo Joubert

I am extremely proud and grateful for the wonderful members of St. David's Church. EVERY event or project I have gotten involved in for St. David's - everyone I ask for assistance from have been so great. Many times I haven't had to ask for help and they just pop up and volunteer. St. David's is more of a family than just a Church. I can't wait to report on the Spring Fling that is happening on May 4th. Thank you to ALL that are making this happen.

With that said:+

Helene Robbins our awesome Treasurer is sort of laid up after having foot surgery. If anyone would like to send off a note of encouragement please do: Helene Robbins, 38 Hazelwood Avenue, Longmeadow, MA 01106

Virginia Ventulett is in need of an basic exercise bike for her mother. IF anyone happens to have one that is not being used please see Virginia. Thank you.

I saw this on FB and I just love it.... The First ever cordless phone was created by God.

He named it Prayer

It NEVER loses its signal.

You NEVER have to recharge it and can use it ANYWHERE.

AMEN

Creation Care Kids' Corner by Mary Moore

By May, many trees have leafed out fully. That means you will be able to hear a lot of different birds, but you may not be able to see them. So you may have to rely on the bird's distinct song in order to tell what kind of bird is up in the tree. Here are some of the sounds to listen for -

Type bird What its song sounds like *

Eastern wood peewee "pee-a-wee"

Black-capped chickadee "chick-a-dee-dee-dee"

Tufted titmouse "Peter-Peter-Peter"

Carolina wren "tea kettle-tea kettle-tea kettle"

American robin "cheer up, cheerily, cheerio, cheerily"

Yellow warbler "sweet-sweet-sweet-I'm-so-sweet"

Eastern towhee "drink-your-teeeeeeeeeee"

White throated sparrow "poor Sam Peabody-Peabody-Peabody"

Red-winged blackbird "konk-la-ree"

You will have to use your imagination a little bit because the birdsongs don't sound exactly like this, but pretty close.

Activity: See how many birds you can identify just from their song. If you want to learn more about a bird and see what it looks like, you can look for a book at your library or go online.

* from Naturally Curious by Mary Holland, Trafalgar Square Books, North Pomfret, Vermont, 2010, p.82

CARRIE'S AWARD, BY FR. HARVEY

At most colleges, faculty members start as assistant professors. If they are successful, they then become associate professors. Teachers of particular merit may be promoted to full professor.

Only a few members of the faculty are awarded "name chairs." Not long ago, Carrie joined their ranks. She is now the Sylvia Dlugasch Bauman Professor of American Studies. The award came with a raise, but mostly it's an honor, which recognizes her outstanding merit and contributions to Smith College.

As a recent recipient of a name chair, Carrie gave an important lecture a couple of weeks ago, which is what brought my parents to town. Carrie is a modest person, but this is a big deal!

CONGRATULATIONS CARRIE FROM FR. HARVEY'S CHURCH FAMILY.

NEW TENANT, by Fr. Harvey

The Maranatha Church is now renting the Sunday School Room from us on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. If you see someone you don't know on Sunday morning heading down that hallway, give them a friendly greeting and tell them you are glad they are here. They seem like good people, and I'd love to get to know them better.

COMMUNITY DINNERS: by Bob and Jo

ROAST PORK DINNER May 6th.

LAST DINNER UNTIL FALL. THANK YOU ALL FOR THE GREAT SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

THANK YOU TO CHIEF BOB AND CREW.

There are so many to thank:

First and Foremost Brother Bob—always there shopping, organizing, repairing the dishwasher, has to lay on floor to light the oven, cooking and always saying I DO—I will or I can. Ellen you have trained him well.

Fr. Harvey, always up for a good dessert. Has to change gloves frequently but he always at the head of the serving table with a warm plate in hand for his people. Serving with a smile and love for all.

Marcel your dedication to the dish washing duty is remarkable. Your Mom taught you well.

Denise you crack a great whip. Keep everyone going.

Dixie (DaisyDoo) serves the salad with a smile.

Val if we don't give her a job she finds one. No sitting down for her.

Linda her attitude is "Just give me some gloves. I am down for whatever"

Jim WHAT can we say about Jim. He just loves to greet and talk while serving the meat. Oh yes and does it with a smile.

Dina she just loves to handle the "lettuce" (\$\$\$) the more the better. And everyone better sign the back of the ticket.

Beverly is the "Sweet" gal. Is always on hand to make sure everyone get a goodie.

Sandy is always on ready with her apron and looking for \$.01 bargains to save us a few bucks.

Our new member Chris—well now can you imagine anyone thank us for asking her to help out. No leaving her out. Served and with a smile.

Kim, This Lady thrives on making baskets for door prizes. Kim sometimes wins one she made and re-donates.

Kenny always shows up to help clean up the mess we have already created.

Dan, well now he is always up for a bit of humor to keep everyone laughing and always is available to help Bob watch the ovens.

VIRGINIA is our "pick-up" gal. Pick up strictly on food you understand. She packs up all the meals that are to go and makes sure everyone gets it on time. AND We can ALWAYS count on her for a delicious dessert.

Lenny never know he is around but know he has been there. He moves chairs, sets up tables, sets up chafing dishes serves when needed.

Mary F., Diane, Paul, Norma, Sue O, Sue A, Abby, Michelle, Carol, Ellen S, all so willing to help.

Jo well she has got it easy I make flyers and tickets and sometimes is soupy.

I am sure I have probably forgot someone and I do apologize.

Love you ALL.

**BTW there is no I in team and St. David's has a heck of a TEAM!
In fact it is ALL team.**

MAY 2024 CALENDAR

Our Weekly Events

Sunday: Services at 8:00 and 10:00

Sunday School at 10:00 (except 5/26)

Monday: Men's Bible study at 7:00

Friday: Healing Eucharist at 12:00 (except 5/24, 31)

Bible Study at 1:00 (in person and Zoom) (except 5/24, 31)

Contemplative Prayer at 2:30 (in person and Zoom) (except 5/24, 31)

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

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

Our Special Events

Saturday, May 4: Spring Fling

Sunday, May 5: Mother's Day Brunch at 11:30

Sunday, May 5: Church without Walls at 12:00 at the Parish Cupboard

Monday, May 6: Community Supper at 6:00

Monday, May 6: Prison Bible Study at the WCCC at 7:00

Tuesday, May 7: Veterans Lunch at 11:30

Saturday, May 11: Spring Work Day from 9:00-1:00

Wednesday, May 15: Vestry at 7:00

Sunday, May 19: Women's Book Group at 11:15

Monday, May 27: Prison Bible Study at the WCCC at 7:00

Regular Rentals

Sundays from 9:45-2:00: Maranatha Church

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

Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00: Maranatha Church

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

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

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

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PROPERTY ISSUES, by Fr. Harvey

As you may recall, two of our neighbors built onto our land. I am happy to report that the issue with one of them is resolved. He purchased an easement (a right of use) to the property he built on. He is paying monthly, and should be paid up this summer, at which point the deal will be official.

Unfortunately we have not been able to make a deal with the other neighbor. Unless things change, we will file a lawsuit against him in early June. This is not how we hoped things would unfold, but he has given us no choice. If you have questions about either situation, feel free to talk to me or Senior Warden Bev Lawson. Bev has been heroic in moving things forward!



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