



THE WILD ONION

November 2019

GRATITUDE

APPRECIATION

THANKFULNESS

JOY

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

“In ordinary life, we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich.”
– Dietrich Bonhoeffer



CONTENTS:

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SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER:

- Holy Eucharist, 8am
- Christian Formation, 9:15am,
- Nursery & Childcare, 9:15am
- Adult Choir Rehearsal, 9:30am
- Choral Eucharist, 10:30am
- Children's Choir Rehearsal, 11:45am,
- EYC (grades 7-12), 4:30 pm

OF SPECIAL NOTE:

- Pledge Ingathering, November 3
- Service of Thanksgiving, November 26, 6:00 pm
- Healing services on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm and the third Monday at noon
- Contemplative Prayer, November 13 at 6:00 pm

WORSHIP

Consecration Sunday is November 3
All Saints' & Pledge Ingathering
8:00am & 10:30am

Please join Saint David's in celebrating the Saints of God *and* our future saint-making efforts as we collectively bring our 2020 pledge cards to God's welcoming table. With Christ at the center of our efforts, Saint David's moves into 2020 with even deeper commitments to spiritual growth, parish development and moving beyond our comfort zone of West Meade/Hillwood to reach folks searching for a place to call home as they explore God's calling in their lives.



A Service of Thanksgiving Thanksgiving Eve (EVE) Tuesday, November 26, 6:00pm

All are invited to give thanks at Saint David's Annual Service of Thanksgiving. Feel free to invite family and friends.



Contemplative Prayer

November 13

6-7 pm in the Library

Join a small, but faithful group for brief readings on prayer from mystics and writers, such as Julian of Norwich and Richard Foster. Longing to find repose in the presence of the Divine? Come learn about and then practice Contemplative Prayer in the Library (downstairs). No experience needed to encounter the Holy in the silence of your heart.

"Two kinds of gratitude: The sudden kind we feel for what we take; the larger kind we feel for what we give." – Edwin Arlington

Robinson



Lay Eucharistic Visitors are available to bring communion to parishioners who are unable to attend Sunday morning worship services. Please notify the parish office, stdavidchurch@bellsouth.net or 615-352-0293, to schedule a home communion visit.

Reminder: To facilitate participation in our worship services and other activities, the

"upper" circle drive by the Sanders Hall entrance is designed for drop-off of passengers with limited mobility and parking for drivers with limited mobility.

Planning Your Burial in the Columbarium at Saint David's Is An Act of Stewardship

By Annette Pilcher, Columbarium Committee Chair

Before I get into the stewardship of the Saint David's Columbarium, I want to give you a little history. First, columbarium comes from the Latin word "columba," which means dove. "Columbarium" was a word used exclusively to name houses in which doves or pigeons were kept, whether for communication or ritual sacrifice. The similar size and shape of columbarium niches to the niches in which each bird resides renders the word useful for its application to Christian burial sites. The theological significance of "dove" only adds to this new usage.

Second, Saint David's Columbarium came into existence by way of a long-ish process. In the 1990's Saint David's discussed the possibility of establishing a Columbarium. A very specific and generous bequest from late parishioner Susan Evans provided seed money to build one. Then in 2003, the renovation efforts enabled Saint David's the opportunity to construct the Columbarium. Prepaid reservations to be laid to rest in the Columbarium called "subscriptions" paid for the rest of the construction costs.

You can find the Columbarium located between the Nave and Sanders Hall in what I like to call the "arms of the Church." Out of 136 possible spaces, 34 are occupied, and 26 have been reserved and paid for.

Now—How does the pre-purchase of a niche in the Columbarium facilitate great stewardship? First and foremost, you resolve the decisions involving your last resting place. Your survivors do not have to make significant decisions during an extremely stressful event. If you have your burial service at Saint David's, there is no travelling from the service to a burial site elsewhere. Furthermore, you avoid costly funeral home and cemetery charges.

Second, Saint David's places cremated remains in an urn the size of a large jar rather than an entire body taking up a 3x6 plot of earth. The rectangular urns are created at the family-owned Studio S Pottery in Murfreesboro, TN. Quite simply, they are serene and beautiful, colored with an aqua glaze with white trim. If you have never seen one, let an Altar Guild member, Carol or Rev. Carolyn know and they will be happy to show you one. These urns go into a space or "niche" that fits the urn exactly.

Third, a burial service at Saint David's and committal in the Columbarium is far and away more financially affordable than a funeral home service and burial in a cemetery. The cost of a niche in the Columbarium is \$1,000.00. This includes the engraving on the granite that covers the niche.

Fourth and finally, the Columbarium is run with spiritual and fiscal responsibility. A committee of communicants, including the Rector and the Treasurer, meet annually on the Sunday after All Saints' Day to focus on the Columbarium ministry. The committee establishes an amount needed for the maintenance of the structure and then the excess

funds are transferred in accordance with the Columbarium committee's by-laws to the Endowment Fund. (The Endowment Fund grows with this contribution.) The Endowment Committee gathers annually to vote on and disburses its interest to organizations that serve those in need, such as Saint Luke's Community House or a youth mission trip.

As you make your final arrangements, please consider the Columbarium at Saint David's. In choosing to be interred in the Saint David's Columbarium your remains will be close to your spiritual home, and the legacy of your stewardship will continue to bless this community.

If you have any questions about the Columbarium, please see me, Rev. Carolyn or Carol, the parish administrator.

"At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us." – Albert Schweitzer

FORMATION

NOVEMBER SNL!

(Sunday Night Live)

By Heather Cass

Please join us at "Sunday Night Live" on Sunday, November 10 at 5:15 p.m. Pat Shea will be our special guest. Pat is the former CEO of the YMCA and will speak to her journey of advocating for all women, including herself.

REMINDER OF DATE & TIME:

Sunday, November 10 | 5:15 - 6:30 pm Sanders Hall

Light Hors D'Oeuvres and wine will be served.

Please [RSVP](#) here! I look forward to seeing you there!

FORMATION is for EVERYONE!

Blue booklets with the 2019-2020 Christian Formation offerings are available throughout the church building. Take one home.

"Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so, let us all be thankful." – Buddha

What's been happening in EYC this fall?.....

Painting--Thank goodness this is over... The youth group took three sessions to paint a variety of colors (sometimes two and three times) on the bricks of

one of the Bosco Room walls. We had outlined the brick with painters tape. Though we expected to have to go over with white or dark paint around each brick, when we removed the tape we were pleasantly surprised at how good it looks. Some of the kids got very artistic and painted images, while others stuck with abstraction and used mottled coloring to mix colors.

The idea here is that when you graduate, you get to sign a brick on your way out. It's our hope that we remember our church relationships as we send our prayers with those who leave the EYC for the next part of their faith journey.

Wild Goose Chase Scavenger Hunt--What is a "wild goose chase" but an endless search for nothing in particular, right? Well, Rev. Carolyn sent teens in two teams on a wild goose chase scavenger hunt. They went all over West Nashville with hints and assertions, loud directions, questions and assumptions that cell phones now make possible. At the end of the hunt they came back to an amazing spaghetti and meatball meal provided by Bud and Susan Wood. What is the moral of the hunt? Despite our meanderings and racing after nothing, God remains.

Care Packages--We sent six care packages to our young adults who have recently graduated from EYC. These shoe boxes were stuffed (we had to use tape to keep them shut!) with candy, Emergen-C, socks, cookies, Kleenex, hand lotion and a note from everyone who helped out. It was fun to see the realization that they too may one day soon receive such a package where ever their lives take them after high school.

3rd Annual Chili Cookoff--While the rain may have held people back from coming to the Chili Cookoff, we still had a good time. The kids judged the chilis and the winning prize went to Heather Cass. Next year we hope to have a greater showing, especially since we are giving two prizes! One for best chili and one for best cornbread!

Lock-in--Seven of us, joined by two 5th graders (Rev. Carolyn's Iris and her school friend), spent a mellow night in the church while it misted outside. We played a variety of games, ate a variety of things we found in the kitchen and stayed up entirely too late because of all the candy we ate earlier in the evening.

What's going to happen in November EYC?...

Youth Bazaar Crafts--We talked about making reusable vegetable bags with youth-made art on them, but our price point may be a bit too high. We may end up making some food stuff to sell instead.

Reverse Advent Basket For Conexion Americas--As we agreed in the early fall, we'll serve Nashville's immigrant community with our service efforts. Marilyn Leathers will be working with us to help us collect goods for [Conexion America's Welcoming](#). Be watching for posters and Sunday bulletin announcements with more details about this year's parish service project.

Progressive Dinner--On November 17 we will have a Progressive Dinner? What's that you ask? A Progressive Dinner is where you go to three or four houses to eat different courses. At each house there could be requirements for entry, tasks to accomplish or questions to consider and discuss. This is going to be a fun one, like the Wild Goose Chase Scavenger Hunt so you won't want to miss out!

Can you help out with EYC in some way?

[I can make dinner for EYC!](#)

[I can help co-lead EYC one or more Sunday evening!](#)

[I can organize an all parish fun event!](#)

Larger Diocesan EYC News...

SAVE THE DATE!

December 8, 4:00 - 7:00pm

Compline, Queso and Compassion

held at Saint George's

Please register through the Diocesan website when Rev. Carolyn sends you the link.

Winterfest at DuBose

This year's theme is: "A Thread of God in Everything"

Dec 28 - January 1, 2020

(12/28/19 drop off at 4:00pm and 1/1/20 pick up at 3:00pm)

DuBose Conference Center, Monteagle, Tennessee.

Bus runs round trip: Memphis - Jackson - Nashville - DuBose

REGISTER AT: <https://www.duboseconferencecenter.org/winterfest>

Winterfest is a Tennessee Episcopal Youth Retreat which provides a welcoming and safe space for high school students (grades 9th - 12th) to grow in their relationship with God and Christ through creative worship, service, music, love, friendship and understanding. It has served Episcopal youth across Tennessee since the 1990's, unifying youth from all over the state to live, play, talk, eat, sing and worship together as a community of faith.

This four day program includes group discussions, daily worship, praising God through dance and song, and playful skits.

Adult Formation on Sundays: A Series in Liberation Theologies

The following five books are widely available and relatively inexpensive. Copies of these books can be found in our library downstairs. However, please read them in house and leave them for the next person.

- *She Who Is: The Mystery of God in Feminist Theological Discourse*, by Elizabeth Johnson
- *Introducing Womanist Theology*, by Stephanie Mitchem
- *Coming Full Circle: Constructive Native Christian Theology*, edited by Stephen Charleston
- *A Primer in Ecotheology: Theology for a Fragile Earth*, by Celia Deane-Drummond
- *The Disabled God: Toward a Liberation Theology of Disability*, by Nancy Eiesland

A word of encouragement from the Rector...

I have heard from a number of participants in the first section of our Liberation Theologies Series how meaningful, interesting and thought-provoking they found the discussion on "Feminist Liberation Theology."

I promise, yes, I promise, that the next installment--"Womanist Liberation Theology"--will be just as stimulating and reflective. Womanist Theology refers to the spiritual experience of African American women, most especially in the American Protestant traditions. I am sad to say that before this book I knew very little about this area of Christian theology. After this book, I am only a bit more familiar, but I am better for what little I now know. I am intrigued to learn more.

I encourage anyone and everyone to attend these discussions on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. All the books are available for reading in the downstairs library, but you don't have to have read the assignment to attend the Adult Forum. You'll just get more out of it! Another promise--you can only grow from participating in these conversations. You will grow firmer and more confident that the faith you have now is the best way God leads you to connect with God's people and God's creation or you will grow more expansive, making room for other possibilities of how to connect.

As a parting word, I want to offer a great thanks to Molly Haslam who lead the first section of this series, along with Heather Cass's help. This next section is lead by Edie Wear. Molly, Heather and Edie are each wonderfully commanding in their discussion leadership, patient and eager to help us learn and very generous of their time and energy to prepare and teach us. Thank you, thank you to each of them for their bountiful spirits. Let us be equally hospitable to their efforts.

"Gratitude turns what we have into enough."

– Anonymous

SERMONS IN THE ROUND

***Round 6 with The Right Rev. Steven Charleston
"Like the Wind"***

November 12 from 6 to 8 pm
Sanders Hall

(from November through March we'll meet in Sanders Hall)

unless otherwise announced)

The Right Reverend Steven Charleston is best known for his work as bishop of Alaska (1991-1996) and Dean of Episcopal Divinity School (1999-2008). Choctaw Native American, Charleston now speaks about and writes novels and scholarly books on Native American spirituality. We will read *Coming Full Circle: Constructing Native Christian Theology* this Epiphany, a book Charleston edited alongside Professor Elaine Robinson of Saint Paul School of Theology.

Charleston describes himself as "Native American elder, author, and retired Episcopal bishop." In this sermon he offers a unique homiletic style that we will discuss.

We will hear the sermon in Sanders Hall via YouTube, though there is only one image, that of Charleston's face, on the screen.

COMMUNITY



ONION RINGS

--Oh Boy! A PARTY!

*Mary Jo and Dick Murphy
Cordially invite EVERYONE*

To a

*LUNCHEON in Sanders Hall
Celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary
and in Gratitude for Their Saint David's Family
November 17, after the 10:30 Service*

--On November 16 the Schmidt Vocal Competition, a prestigious singing competition for sophomore, junior and senior high school singers, that presents cash awards to over 150 people annually, will be held on the campus of Vanderbilt University (Blair School of Music) at the Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall. It is a one-day competition starting in the morning with a first round of singing for all contestants and finishing in the afternoon with three 20-minute master classes and a second round of singing for the finalists. The event is free to attend. **Jennifer McGuire** will serve as the piano accompanist for the vocalists and **Chester Schmidt** will be on stage to hand out the top prizes. If you want to be inspired by talented youth, come check it out!

--From **Daryl Wilkinson** and **Judy Grace**: We're back! Our trip to England and Wales was so incredible that we're thinking of going back--and we'd love company! Now that we have gotten our Welsh feet wet (literally and figuratively), we have come up with a basic group trip to Wales, after which some might want to spend time in London, tour parts of England, or head to Ireland or Scotland.

This is a rough idea of an 8-day trip we could take together:

We would go the first part of October when the weather is mild but a little misty and there are fewer tourists. After arriving in **London** on a non-stop flight we will take in some sightseeing. On the following day we will enjoy a train trip to **Pembrokeshire in Wales** and stay at the welcoming and comfortable Coach House Inn. From there we will explore the town, the **Church at Saint David's**, coastal Wales (including medieval churches, abbeys and ports), and local shops. On the return trip to London we will have the chance to sightsee at Pembroke and Carew Castles. After arriving in London we will have the option of flying home or continuing our own travels.

If you think that you would like to make this journey, please contact us. We will have more information as we work on the plans.

Daryl (daryl.wilkinson@gmail.com) or Judy (judithgrac@comcast.net)



Saint David of Wales

SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFASTS

Here we are in the middle of our fall routine, everybody's schedule is still busier and busier. Sunday morning breakfasts between the 8:00 am service and Christian Formation Classes offer people a chance to slow down, share community, and focus on the morning. Last year we experimented with one full breakfast a month and continental breakfasts the other Sundays - which didn't seem to make much difference to the chefs or the diners.

So... 2019-2020 breakfasts will be up to the hosts/chefs. Consider teaming up with another host; remember all expenses will be reimbursed. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Whatever you want to offer, just know how important the community building time between services is and that your offering refreshment during that time is greatly appreciated. If you have questions, please contact Lynda Christiansen, chri4236@bellsouth.net.

"Joy is the simplest form of gratitude." - Karl Barth

SAINT DAVID'S WOMEN WILL GATHER ON NOVEMBER 25

By Lucy Hovious

Diane Ruth has graciously offered to host our "Chat and Share" November holiday meeting at her home, 703 C Bowling Avenue, on **Monday, November 25, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm**. It will be a nice break from any frantic Thanksgiving preparations and a good time to get some great ideas for the holidays. I have a favorite holiday brunch cocktail that I am eager to share with all.

So, get your favorite stories, recipes, and traditions ready. Bring samples of the recipes (I will!) and any type of libation you would like.

Please let Diane know if you will be able to attend at diane.ruth47@gmail.com or 615-385-3713. Parking is somewhat limited so try to carpool where possible. See you then!

-CLASSIFIEDS-

--Available: Peer-led Support Group for survivors of suicide loss

6:30-8:00 pm on November 5 & 19 and December 3 & 17

Held in Community Room 1 at Hillwood Presbyterian Church

6220 Hickory Valley Road, Nashville, TN 37205

For info: Pastor Jule (hillwoodpastor@outlook.com or newmara@hotmail.com)
or call 615-352-6310

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 2 Marc Pearson
Nov. 3 Madison Hamilton Clark, Marilyn Leathers
Nov. 5 Yang He
Nov. 7 Michelle Adams, Harrison Hill
Nov. 9 Scott Gray, Sr.
Nov. 10 Sophia & Jacob Appelt
Nov. 12 Meg Kirkpatrick, Peyton Wear
Nov. 14 Claudia Patton, Joyce Miller
Nov. 17 Mary Clark Schmidt
Nov. 18 Matthew Mart
Nov. 21 Diana Gray
Nov. 23 Pat Ruth, Rachel Appelt
Nov. 24 Bill Huggins, Lex Lechleiter, Abigail Roden
Nov. 25 Marlin Sanders
Nov. 26 Evan Sanders, Caroline McNair
Nov. 27 Howard Green, Bill Ralston
Nov. 28 Michael Cass

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Nov. 7 Mary Jo & Dick Murphy
Nov. 15 G'anne Harmon & John Shatzer, Courtney & Christian Bahr
Nov. 22 Sara & Les Wilkinson

TELLING OUR STORY

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE DIOCESE

At the November 18 Vestry Meeting the Vestry will elect three delegates to represent Saint David's at the 188th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee to be held at Saint Bartholomew's, Nashville, on January 24-25, 2020. Delegates must be confirmed communicants in good standing and at least 18 years of age. Contact a Vestry member or the parish office if you are interested in being a delegate to the Diocesan Convention.

Seeking Nominations for Vestry Class of 2022

Seeking Nominations for Vestry Class of 2022: Nominations are being received for persons to run for election to the Vestry Class of 2022 at the January 2020 Annual Parish

Meeting. Candidates must be at least 16 years old, baptized, confirmed or received and in good standing in the church and must be able to attend the annual Vestry Retreat (February 21-23, 2020) along with Vestry meetings on the third Monday of each month. To nominate someone, or yourself, contact one of the following: Rahn Huber (rahnhuber@mindspring.com), Josh McGuire (josh.mcguire@vanderbilt.edu), Greg McNair (greg@mcnair1.com), Edie Wear (edie.wear@gmail.com).

“When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.”

— G.K. Chesterton

SERVICE



HEADING INTO THE HOME STRETCH - SAINT DAVID'S BEST EVER HOLIDAY BAZAAR IS NOVEMBER 23

By Derrill McRae, Holiday Bazaar Coordinator

Everyone has a place helping to create the Saint David's Best Ever Holiday Bazaar! Please come join us for fellowship and fun as we have our last Make-it Days and prepare for **The Best Ever Holiday Bazaar on November 23!**

- **November 6:** Making Yeast Rolls, church kitchen, 10:00 am-4:00 pm
- **November 7:** Making Yeast Rolls, church kitchen, 10:00 am-4:00 pm
- **November 13:** Sanders Hall crafting, 10:00 am-4:00 pm
- **November 20-22:** Setting up Sanders Hall and the Bazaar, 10:00 am-4:00 pm
- **November 23: Saint David's Best Ever Bazaar, 9:00 am-3:00 pm**

If you only have an hour or two to spare, please come join the fun.

Attention, All Flour Children!

The recently formed Bakers' Guild is calling for volunteers! If you can rise to the occasion, please join us at Saint David's Wednesday and Thursday, November 6 and 7, to bake rolls of all types for the Holiday Bazaar on November 23. Roll making brings in a lot of dough at the Bazaar, and many hands are kneaded for this project. Bring a rolling pin if you have one. We will begin at 10:00 am both days. Stay as long as you are able. *Remember that what is done by the yeast of you will bring great reward!*

There is a way for everyone to contribute to this fun community event. Premade casseroles, breads and desserts sell very well. All level of skills are welcome at Make-it

Days. Many hands will make light work setting up Sanders Hall November 20-22 and volunteers on the day of the Bazaar are crucial. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board between the Sacristy and the Kitchen. There is a way for you to be involved and have fun!

And shopping and hanging out with the community on the day of the Bazaar is the most fun of all! Contact Derrill McRae at derrill.mcrae@comcast.net with questions.

"You cannot do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it will be too late." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

COMMON GROUND NASHVILLE MEETING

Everyone invited!

6:30 to 8:30 pm, November 7, 2019, at Saint David's Episcopal Church

There will be a pot luck dinner beginning at 6:30 pm followed by a discussion of Guns in America on November 7, also at Saint David's.

Common Ground Nashville is a nonprofit whose members work to build small communities in Nashville that can talk productively about hard issues dividing the country. The group's goals are to include a microcosm of experiences and ideas, to provide a safe place to speak, be heard, and listen respectfully, and to find Common Ground.

Participants come from across Nashville and typically meet the first Thursday of every month to discuss issues that affect the communities and nation.

The ideal is to connect people with different ideas. Through civil discussion, Common Ground members hope to find areas of agreement, better understanding of other perspectives, and respect for each other despite holding opposing opinions.

All Hands on Deck! November means that it's time for **Room in the Inn** (RITI). There are a number of ways to participate in this meaningful ministry from preparing food to spending the night with the homeless men who are Saint David's guests. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the hallway near Sanders Hall. Josh McGuire leads the efforts for Saint David's folks on the second Saturday of the month November-March...first time this season is November 9...at Saint Luke's Community Center.

REVERSE ADVENT BASKETS RETURN

This year, Saint David's will participate in preparing a **Reverse Advent Basket For Conexio Americas**, serving an immigrant community with our service efforts. Marilyn Leathers will be working with us to help us collect goods for [Conexio America's Welcoming Neighbors program](#). Be watching for posters and Sunday bulletin announcements with more details about this year's parish Advent service project.

The Ministries of Saint David's, Featuring...

**The Mary and Martha of Bethany Chapter
The Daughters of the King**

By Annette Pilcher

What is the Daughters of the King (DoK)?

Saint David's chapter of the Daughter's of the King was founded in 2000 as a prayer ministry. It is a branch of the tree that was planted by Margaret J. Franklin at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in New York City on April 4, 1885. There are chapters in this diocese, all over the United States and in several foreign countries. The mission of this women's ministry is prayer, evangelism and assistance for the Rector. At present we have about 25 members at Saint David's.

What do the Daughters do?

The primary mission of the Daughters is prayer. Our chapter keeps updated prayer lists that are shared among members through e-mails, telephone calls and personal conversations. They come to us through communicants of Saint David's and the world at large. We believe that although the prayer requests are extremely confidential, sharing among ourselves is necessary for the strength and nurture of the members and the community at large.

When do the Daughters meet?

The Daughters meet in Sanders Hall at 9:00am on the first Saturday of the month (except July). The meetings are a time of sharing and re-connection and the conducting of a small amount of business. Women are welcomed as guests if they are willing to keep the prayer requests confidential.

Can men join the Daughters?

As the Episcopal Laymen of Tennessee Conference exists to provide community for and support to the men of Tennessee, the DoK exists to provide community and an opportunity for service ministries to women.

Are the Daughters "special" parishioners?

DoK members are no more pious than any other member of The Church, nor have we taken monastic vows. We have, however, made vows to follow to a "rule of life" that involves intentional time for daily prayer and service. To learn more about the DoK Rule of Prayer and Rule of Service, please visit www.doknational.org/page/RuleofLife.

How do I join the Daughters?

If you are interested in joining us, please contact one of the members. We wear unique equilateral crosses as a part of our vows and we are asked to wear them at all times. Please speak to one of us if you are interested in joining.

How do I make a prayer request?

If you have a confidential prayer request, please fill out one of the prayer cards located in the rack behind the pew and drop it in the alms basket. We will continue to pray for the person or situation until we are told to remove the name from our list.

If you have questions concerns, or need further information, please contact me or Kathy Carlson, the current president, or any member of the order.

A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR...

Dear Good People of Saint David's,

This will be a brief letter. Gratitude is a depth-full feeling, amorphous and silent as much as it is attached to things we call real: water, children, a protective roof, warm food. Much smaller still, gratitude becomes almost as thin as breath when connected to the recognition that one can be grateful at all. At this point words get in the way and make a mess of the unfolding fathomage.

So I'll offer you the gift of the poem below, gifted to me upon waking the other day, which was the first day of a new email subscription to [The Slowdown](#). I take this daily dose of poetry with coffee, 8oz of lemon water and my other poetry pill, [The Writer's Almanac](#). I hope you enjoy it as much as I do, and consider that which makes you unfold over and over again with bottomless gratitude.

Cindy Comes To Hear Me Read

by Jill McDonough

Cindy: not her real name. I met her in prison, and people in prison I give the fake names. I taught her Shakespeare, remember her frown, wide eyes, terror of getting things wrong. Her clear, arguable thesis on Desdemona's motives, Desdemona's past. The last days were hard on her, it taking visible work to see things could be worse. Imagine: I did. But now she's out! In jewelry and makeup, new clothes, haircut she chose and paid for. We hugged. We'd never hugged; it's not allowed. On the outside you can hug whoever you want. She told me she has an apartment now, a window, an ocean view. She has a car, she told me, and we both cracked up. The thought of it wild, as farfetched then as when you're a kid playing grown-up, playing any kind of house. She has a job. She drives there in traffic. Each day she sees the angry people. Sweet, silly people, mad—God bless them—at traffic. At other cars. She laughs, she told me, laughs out loud alone in her car. People around her angry as toddlers. Whole highways of traffic, everybody at the work of being free.

"Cindy Comes To Hear Me Read" by Jill McDonough, from *Here All Night*, by Jill McDonough, copyright © 2019 Alice James Books.

I'm free. The Wholly Other helps me live that way. I'm so grateful I could bust.

In peace,
Carolyn+

"Gratitude is an antidote to negative emotions, a neutralizer of envy, hostility, worry, and irritation. It is savoring; it is not taking things for granted; it is present-oriented." – Sonja Lyubomirsky