



SAINT DAVID'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE WILD ONION

January 2020

FOLLOW YOUR STAR



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~~CLASSIFIEDS~~

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SUNDAYS IN JANUARY AT A GLANCE

January 5

8:00am: Holy Eucharist
9:00am: Pot Luck Breakfast and Epiphany Pageant
10:30am: Choral Eucharist
11:45am-12:30pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal
4:30-6:30pm: EYC

January 19

8:00am: Holy Eucharist
9:00am: Breakfast
9:15am: Christian Formation
10:30am: Choral Eucharist
11:45am-12:30pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal
4:30-6:30pm: EYC

January 12

8:00am: Holy Eucharist
9:00am: Breakfast
9:15am: Christian Formation
10:30am: Choral Eucharist
11:45am-12:30pm:
Children's Choir Rehearsal
12:00 pm: Security Training & Luncheon
4:30-6:30pm: EYC
5:15-6:30 pm: SNL/ in Sanders Hall

January 26

8:00am: Holy Eucharist
9:00am: Breakfast
9:15am: ****ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**** in the Nave
9:15am: Children's Christian Formation
10:30 am: Choral Eucharist
11:45am-12:30pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal
4:30-6:30pm: EYC

WORSHIP

Epiphany 2020 (observed)

Sunday, January 5, 2020

8am Holy Eucharist

9am Epiphany Potluck Breakfast and Epiphany Pageant

10am Chalking the Door

10:30am Holy Eucharist

Rev. Carolyn's Sermon, "What is Your One Word?"

Epiphany is upon us! You'll want to be at Saint David's this Sunday for a variety of reasons, not least of which is... well, all the reasons are very, very compelling:

- A sermon that will equip you with a word to hold in mind, heart and spirit throughout 2020.
- homemade food from friends and family--what's not to like about that?
- an "on the spot" Epiphany pageant--no practice! Woohoo!
- "Chalking the door" for 2020--meet us in the narthex after the pageant.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR... WHY NOT?

It's fun; it's educational; and they look and sing like angels!

New members of the Children's Choir are always welcome! Rehearsals are right after church at 11:45am and end by 12:30pm. Contact Laura Duke (lauralduke@gmail.com) or Daryl Wilkinson (daryl.wilkinson@gmail.com) with questions.



Contemplative Prayer will resume on January 8, 2020

6pm, downstairs Saint David's Library

At that gathering we will begin reading *The Interior Castle* by Theresa of Avila. We hope you will join us.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors are available to bring communion to parishioners who are unable to attend Sunday morning worship services. Please notify the parish office, stdavidschurch@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.

FORMATION

EYC MEETS SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

4:30-6:30 in the Bosco Room

Grades 7 through 12 will meet for EYC to regroup with some games, plan out the rest of the year and cook dinner together. Be sure to bring a friend!

FORMATION is for EVERYONE!

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

IT'S BACK, SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE (SNL!)

January 12, 5:15 - 6:30 --by Heather Cass

The topic: A Parent, Transgender Child Journey.

Damien Conner and Candace Winters Johnson will share their journey with us. Damien's stepfather has also agreed to join the discussion. He is also trans and will be able to speak to his journey as an adult.

Damien and Candace wrote a book about their experience and will have books for sale at the event. Here is a [link](#) that provides more about Damien and Candace and the book they wrote together.

Please join us on Sunday, January 12.

SERMONS IN THE ROUND... ON HOLIDAY!

We're just taking a break at the beginning of winter, don't worry. We'll be back at our sermon dissections on February 11 in Sanders Hall. Watch the February *Wild Onion* for more information.

COMMUNITY



ONION RINGS

If you have any news to share with your Parish family, please let me know.
(caschmidt@comcast.net)**bout**

SAINT DAVID'S WOMEN TO ENJOY A CULTURAL EVENT AT THE FRIST

1:00 pm on Saturday, January 4

by Lucy Hovious

The Women of Saint David's will gather for a guided tour of the female Native American artists at the Frist Art Museum on January 4, 2020, at 1:00pm. We should be able to have everyone attend at no cost. In order to make that happen, I will need a bit of information from those planning to attend. Please let me know (lucy.hovious@comcast.net) if:

You do not need a ticket because you are member of the Frist:
You are a member and are able to have a guest come with you at no charge:
You will be attending and will need a ticket.

Remember, anyone under 18 can get in free of charge but everyone attending will need a ticket.

Also, there is a cost to park. Please carpool where possible. Another alternative is to take the bus which stops at the corner of the Frist. If you are interested in taking the bus let me know and I will be happy to get you the schedule. I occasionally take the bus there and it is very easy, efficient and fast. Hope to see lots of you there on Saturday, Jan 4.

EPIPHANY POTLUCK BREAKFAST ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 9:00am

Please bring a dish to share and your appetite as the Saint David's community shares an Epiphany Potluck breakfast. There will be a pageant for everyone as breakfast concludes.

Epiphany Pageant 2020, Sunday, January 5

We hope you will join us for a festive Epiphany Potluck Breakfast and join in our first effort at an Epiphany Pageant. Everyone is both invited and *needed* for this particular pageant, and no practice is required. Just show up!

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The Saint David's Men's Group will reconvene on January 23, 2020
in Sanders Hall at 6:00 p.m. Join us...it's great fun!

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~~CLASSIFIEDS~~

-Available: You are invited to attend meetings about Gun Sense in America hosted by Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. January 14, February 11, March 10, April 14, from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm, in Sanders Hall.

Every day, 100 Americans are killed with guns. Moms is a nonpartisan grassroots movement that does not want to take away everyone's guns. Members may be or have been gun owners. We have lots of men as members as well. Moms is fighting for public safety measures that can protect people from gun violence. We work to:

- *improve gun laws for safety
- *raise awareness about gun violence
- *educate the public about responsible gun ownership
- *mobilize grassroots supporters
- *connect and amplify the voices of survivors of gun violence

For further information, contact **Shelley Gotterer**, a Moms member and a Saint David's member,

<<https://em-ui.constantcontact.com/em-ui/em/page/em-ui/email>>
folkstories@gmail.com or 615-665-1784.

-For Sale: **Emerson Schmidt** (16) recently launched an on-line store, **Quack** (quackclothingco.com), where she sells a variety of clothing items with her original designs. A portion of her sales in the first 3 months (Dec.-Feb.) will be donated in support of *End Slavery TN* to help fight human and sex trafficking. *Go Emerson!*

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 7 Michael Thomason
Jan. 8 Emory Huggins
Jan. 10 Devin Raj
Jan. 12 Kay Sonricker
Jan. 13 Marilyn Brown, Bryce Troia, Julia Troia, Quinn Troia
Jan. 17 Kevin Green, Suzanne Rawlins
Jan. 19 Susan Wood
Jan. 20 Harrison Taylor
Jan. 21 Jennifer Leathers, Ken Niermann
Jan. 22 Chad Schmidt
Jan. 24 John Hamilton
Jan. 25 Deborah Irwin, Stella Pearson
Jan. 27 Savannah Wojnarowski
Jan. 30 John Patton, Cassidy Sullivan
Jan. 31 Maddie Rogers

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jan. 1 Julia & Gareth Aden
Jan. 6 Ann & Charles Riddle, Ed & Sally Pierce

***PARISH SECURITY TRAINING SESSION FOR USHERS
and ANYONE ELSE***

January 12, noon, lunch provided

Junior Warden, Cal Fox and the Vestry invite you to lunch and an active shooter training session. We are lucky to have Officers Andrew Maholland and Ed Rucker visit with us to teach Metro Nashville Police Department's C.R.A.S.H. course--Civilian Response to Active SHooter. The officers will be going through various tips and techniques appropriate for congregations. This meeting is intended for all age groups, but is particularly needful of Ushers and Greeters to attend. If you have any questions or reflections please email [Cal Fox](#), [Lucy Hovious](#) or [Rev. Carolyn](#).

A quick word from Rev. Carolyn about the above announcement...

I am incredibly sad that we must consider planning for an emergency such as an active shooter. However, we must. January 12's gathering will be a training for ushers, greeters and anyone else interested in learning more about how to keep our congregational gatherings safe, especially Sunday's worship services.

This training will not be a time to share opinions and reflections on gun control, hate crimes or whether Saint David's should allow guns in the building or not. However, because we must consider the commandments of our faith in tandem with the realities of our culture, the Vestry and myself will be scheduling a few conversations during which we can share opinions and weigh options.

I hope you will keep this conversation in your prayers. I encourage you to consider thoughtfully the spectrum of opinion in our congregation in addition to the devastating realities of these times and their underlying causes. Perhaps God has a calling for us in all this. Perhaps we could reach out to those feeling alienated, alone, fear-full and on the outside. Perhaps this is an opportunity to listen very, very carefully for such a calling.

Prayerfully yours,
Carolyn+

CAMP GAILOR-MAXON 2020 DATES

Pre-Camp (Mini-Maxon) (rising 1st–3rd grade with parent) - Wednesday, June 3 – Saturday, June 6, 2020

Camp I (rising 10th–12th grade) - Sunday, June 7 – Saturday, June 13, 2020

Camp II (rising 7th–9th grade) - Sunday, June 14 – Saturday, June 20, 2020

Camp III (rising 4th–6th grade) - Sunday, June 21 – Saturday, June 27, 2020

Camp Gailor-Maxon at DuBose Conference Center, Monteagle, TN, has served the Episcopal Church across Tennessee since the 1920s, bringing children and young adults together from all over the state to live, play, talk, eat, sing, and worship as a community of faith. Each camp session includes small groups, daily worship, camp songs, skits, and fellowship designed to help kids explore their faith fearlessly, to ask questions, to be themselves. More information can be found at www.duboseconferencecenter.org/cgm. Please speak to Rev. Carolyn if financial concerns might make it difficult for your child to participate in the amazing Camp Gailor-Maxon experience.

SERVING THE DIOCESE

In November the Vestry elected Julie Erwin, Bill Gish, and Susan Huggins to represent Saint David's at the 188th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee held at Saint Bartholomew's Church, 4800 Belmont Park Terrace, Nashville, TN 37215 on January 24-25, 2020. Annette Pilcher and Edie Wear were elected to serve as alternates. Thank you to all who have agreed to serve as delegates; ask them about their experience and perhaps consider putting your name in the hat to attend the 2021 Diocesan Convention.

TELLING OUR STORY

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING January 26, 9:15 in the Sanctuary

The Annual Parish Meeting is sometimes the topic of jokes, derision, or tales of rousting members from their homes to get to church to make a quorum (by the way, we need 100 voters...don't make us come find you!). Regardless of the occasional humor, the leadership takes the responsibility to the Parish quite seriously, and the Annual Parish Meeting is a time to hear/discuss how Saint David's is doing as a Parish...the details of the past year, both the expected and unexpected, as well as where we might be headed in the future. Most importantly, perhaps, we will elect 4 new Vestry members for 3-year terms.

Everyone is busy; many have more to handle than they want; some don't want anything to do with the "business" of Saint David's; yet what would we be without a Vestry?

The candidates below have put aside their misgivings about extra meetings and difficult choices and have agreed to run for election. Nominations are also accepted at the Annual Parish Meeting. Thank you to each of the following persons!

- Heather Davidson
- Molly Haslam
- Cathy Hinton
- Staci Spivak
- Vince Troia
- Dotty Tucker
- Daryl Wilkinson

A special Annual Parish Meeting *Wild Onion* will be published later this month. Please watch for it and read the Vestry candidate information and meeting details carefully so that you can come to the meeting informed and ready to participate. Hopefully everyone in the Parish will consider, at one time or another, adding their ideas, voice and judgment as Vestry members in order to nurture our church family and home that we all care about deeply.

Stewardship Campaign 2020 Update - 108 pledges and counting!

The results of the Stewardship Campaign for 2020 have been encouraging: **72%** of Saint David's parishioners have pledged their financial support to continue the mission and ministry of the church as able. And some truly great news- we have 10 new pledges and 3 pledges this year that pledged sometime ago, but not recently. In addition, 7 pledges have been turned in by persons new(ish) to Saint David's.

Also, 50 pledges have been increased from 2019 levels while only 12 pledges have decreased. 32 have remained the same. We are truly grateful for the support the pledge campaign has received from the parishioners. If you have not returned a pledge card, please do so as soon as possible or email the parish office your intent at stdavidchurch@bellsouth.net in order to assist the Finance Committee with preparing a 2020 budget to present the Vestry in January. Saint David's has much to be thankful for.

STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

By Allen Hovious

Saint David's continues to want to grow in all phases of our church life. In the past we have asked that our congregation think of people who would enjoy or who need the fellowship and support of our church community. We all know people who have fallen away from the church or who never attended. Please consider urging them to visit. This certainly includes members of your own family who will make a contribution to our church life.

From an outreach perspective, the Saint David's Growth group is in the process of updating the Saint David's website. Our goal is to make the website more user friendly to visitors while still providing a wealth of knowledge and information for the parish. If you have an interest or "big" ideas for the website please consider joining the growth group or e-mail your input to a.hovious@comcast.net. The group hopes to complete the design input by March 31 of 2010.

SERVICE



SOUPER SUNDAY XXI

It takes *training and preparation, speed, agility, strength and determination* to make it to ***Souper Sunday!*** The field of play is Sanders Hall... the date is February 2... the teams are now being determined during the post-season cook-offs. The cooks are testing their skills, the players are warming up their fingers to sign up for soup (and other goodies!). You won't get what you want by remote

control, so get out of the pews and off the couches, start cooking and signing up for all the deliciousness. Proceeds will benefit Saint David's mission. Contact Cathy Hinton or David Livingston at 615-356-8419 or cathinton@att.net to join in the fun.

All Hands on Deck!.. for Room in the Inn (RITI)

There are a number of ways to participate in this meaningful ministry from preparing food (*we always need new cooks!*) 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 at Luke's Community Center. *Next hosting opportunity is January 11.*

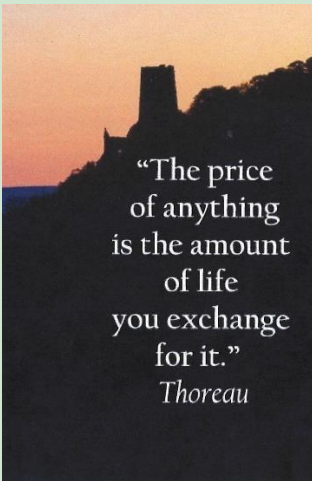


Young carolers and adults visited several parishioners and care facilities on the Third Sunday of Advent to lift spirits with their joyful caroling and to share Saint David's love.



Reverse Advent Basket donations and the nativity, Christmas Eve. Donations will be delivered to Conexión Américas' programs for immigrants in Nashville.

A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR...



Dear Good People of Saint David's,

With the recent violence at the rabbi's house in New York and at the church in Texas, there have been several [articles](#) asking religious institutions to develop security plans. I am mindful that Saint David's will have an active shooter training on Sunday, January 12. We are also planning a few opportunities to reflect on this matter together. There will certainly be a wide variety of opinions to hear, with no agenda than to listen. When these conversations come around, I hope you will attend. Your opinion matters.

Such times and conversations and security plans very much ask us to consider the following: "What is your faith worth?" "For what are you willing to die?"

Then these questions getting us asking other questions:

"Am I ready to die?"

"If I died today or tomorrow, will I have lived the best I could?"

NEWSFLASH! You are going to die. I'm going to die. We are, each of us, going to die.

Not exactly the message you wanted to receive at the start of 2020? Maybe that is why I'm writing about it. In the last four months I have realized that if I do not think about my death I am not *living* consciously.

If you *do indeed* consider your death--perhaps you are doing that right now--what path do your reflections take? Do they take you to a fearful place? Or do you find yourself in a state of gratitude about how you are living your life? Do your thoughts about death remind you about what you would like to do or what you need to get done? Or do these thoughts affirm dreams fulfilled?

Thinking about our death can offer us a way of living abundantly.

Now, lest you think me overly morose or even macabre, you need to know that Saint David's is the reason I am thinking and writing this way. After walking with some of our beloveds who have

claimed their victory over the last three years and then being present with those they leave behind, I told the Vestry I needed some formation around dying, death and grieving. I got what I asked for.

After doing some research on thanatology and grief counseling, I chose to attend a program with the Conscious Dying Institute. This past fall I learned so much about physical aspects of the body's dying process as well as caring modalities to attend to those who are dying and their families and friends. The dominant message or "take away" that I gleaned was surprising: thinking about dying well is an act of living well.

We live in a death phobic culture, one where dying is shuttered away and grief is done privately (if at all). If grief goes on "too long," it can even garner shame and negative judgment from others: "It's been a year, isn't she over it yet?" There is little opportunity to die well, let alone grieve in the way that would let us heal and grow from our losses. This needs to change.

This needs to change because if we do not die well, if we do not allow grief to help us grow more and more into our best selves, then we are also not living well. What do we know of our humanity if we never look at our demise? What do we know of love if we never reflect on loss? There is so much living in our dying; why would we turn away an opportunity to be more alive?

Thinking about our death can offer us a way of living abundantly.

One of the tools I took away with me is called The Best Three Months (B3M). Basically, you consider your current life as if you had only three months to live. A person enters this process prepared to spend some quality time to reflecting on questions regarding the state of their spiritual health and identity, the well-being of their relationships, how they wish to be remembered, what circumstances they would like to be in as they decline physically and how they would like their body cared for after it dies. If you wanted to go through this process you would have a vision for each of these five domains (spiritual, relational, life review, physical care and after death body care). The point of this exercise is to draw out practical, achievable action steps that will lead to the fulfillment of each vision. The rest is up to the person to act on these steps or not.

B3M is deep, meaningful work that we should all be doing at various times in our life: graduating from college, at the birth of a child, retirement, old age or any time in between. This is the kind of thing that can help you hold a mirror up to yourself as you ask, "How well am I living?"

I had to do this myself as part of the training. How did I receive it? It was a kick in the pants, I'll tell you. While I do not believe I have squandered my days, my B3M process showed me I had not been savoring them. What might *you* encounter if you engaged this exercise? Perhaps this might be a Lenten challenge?

I offer this process to you good people because Jesus showed us paths we could take if we want to be more and more alive. B3M is a satchel to take with us down those paths. If you are interested in learning more about this process or about talking about your death, please know I'm open to it. I promise I won't think you are the slightest bit weird, twisted, gloomy, morbid or melodramatic. These are adjectives our death phobic culture assigns to those who consider their life consciously. They have no place in this process.

As a parting thought, consider this: Without a rather gruesome death at the center of our faith story—the nailing and piercing of Jesus's body to a Roman cross—we would have no resurrected life to hold up as a means of hope, evidence of God's unconditional, overflowing love for God's human creations. Without Good Friday, there is no Easter. Without death, there is no life—our faith is *all* about death and life. Jesus thought about his death. He talked a lot about it, especially in the Gospel of John. If Jesus did it, why wouldn't we?

In peace, Carolyn+