



"Striving to be disciples, in the Way of Jesus, by loving, serving and healing in the Name of God"

WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sundays 8 & 10 AM
Holy Eucharist**

10 AM service on YouTube

**Wednesdays 8 AM
Healing Eucharist**

**Thursdays 11:30 AM
Centering Prayer**

**Sun., Dec. 3, 10 AM
Advent Lessons and Carols**

**Thurs., Dec. 17, 5:30 PM
Blue Christmas/Longest
Night**

**Sun., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve
10 AM Paper Bag Pageant
7 PM Choral Holy Eucharist**

**Mon., Dec. 25, Christmas
10 AM Service Only**

**Sun., Dec. 31
10 AM Christmas Lessons
and Carols
*(no 8 AM Service)***

SPECIAL EVENTS

**Sat., Dec. 9, 10 AM - 4 PM
South Yarmouth Library
Cookie Stroll**

**Sat., Dec. 16, 9:45 AM
Advent Quiet Day
St. Mary's, Barnstable**

**Sun., Dec. 17, 11:30 AM
Sacred Ground Soups &
Bread**

FROM THE RECTOR DECEMBER 2023

*The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and will save those
whose spirits are crushed. Psalm 34:18*



I enter this Advent season with heavy grief for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine. Our public life is crowded with images of destruction and suffering. Our private lives are full of prayers for peace which seem to evaporate as they leave our lips. We pray, "Come, Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace," yet watch our fellow humans rage and fight. My heart feels torn between the desire to find and bring joy to life, and the need to grieve daily.

I stumbled across an image that helped me rethink how I piece together my divided heart. On an Appreciative Inquiry Clergy Leadership website maintained by the Rev. Dr. Rob Voyle, he recalled something written by his brother-in-law Don after losing his 8 year old son.

I decided that the grief would always be there. No matter what I did, it was never going to go away. Having accepted that, I then decided I would surround and envelop that grief in love.

I then decided that I would construct a new life around that love and grief - with it being the center of my being, my strength, my integrity, my love for my family, my love for life. I would slowly build a new life in layers, a bit like laminating layers of plywood together.

I would take my time and make it strong.

I believe we all carry our grief in different ways. I really like this image of layering our grief with love to interweave the pain and joy of our experiences. We can give ourselves permission to be angry or sad, or not cope well at times, and still know that there will be layers of comfort and hope, before and after those days, which will hold us together.

If you or someone you care about is experiencing a sense of feeling overwhelmed by grief, or the news, or the cold, shortening days of winter, please invite them to our Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service. We will laminate layers of grief and love together - to strengthen our souls. Please come and join in reminding each other of the healing power of Jesus' light and life.

As we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace," may we find strength and hope in companionship at God's table. Then as the Feast of Christ's Incarnation arrives, we will stand together strengthened to receive the gifts of healing and grace that God alone can give.

Blessings to all for a safe and holy
Advent and Christmas.

**St. David's Episcopal Church, 205 Old Main
South Yarmouth, MA 02664-4529, Telephone 508-394-4222**

WARDEN'S WINDOW

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

The season of Advent is upon us filled with wonder and anticipation. The Music, the Hymns, the Scriptures all foretelling of what is to come.

How could Isaiah have known ??

My favorite season of the Liturgical calendar!!

I look forward to worshipping with you all as we wait with great expectation
God's most precious GIFT.

Debbie Hays, Warden



VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS FROM NOVEMBER 18th MEETING

- Our current budget continues in a deficit. Rev. Andi and the Vestry are studying what can be done to propose a workable budget for 2024.
- Parishioners continue to support DYECH, food pantry, TakeAway Meal and Paper Pantry programs financially and with their time. The TakeAway Meal will prepare 275 meals in the future.
- The Holiday Fair (and Grandma's Attic) was a huge success.
- Plans for the next Seniors' Lunch, scheduled for Saturday, December 16 are being finalized.
- Nominations for 2 Wardens, 3 three-year Vestry positions and 1 one-year Vestry position are being finalized.
- The Vestry extends thanks and best wishes to Elexxis Smith, Church School Director, as she moves out of state.
- Someone has offered to purchase a shed to be used by the Thrift Shop.
- We will sponsor a team for Youth Recreational Basketball. This organization serves over 300 girls and boys in the Yarmouth/Mid-Cape area.

Submitted by Janis Rennie for the Vestry

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY FAMILY

*MSGT Allen Bachand, Jr. USAF
LCPL Tyler Baker, USMC
CAPT Carolyn Bockrath, US Army
SGT Michael Bremer, USAF
QM1 Spencer Calvin
SGT Christopher Carlson, USAF
LCPL Preston W. Hatch, USMC
SGT Daron Hogan, USMC
SGT Connor Grace-Linnehan, US Army
LCPL Christopher Metner, USMC*

*SGT 1C James N. Miller, USANG
LT Erika Papenfuss, USN Nurse Corps
SGT Donovan Ramsay, USMC
PFC Andrew Scherbarth
Jonathan Spahr, USN
CAPT Noah W. Taylor, US Army
LT Kyle Treacy, USN*

*Endue them with courage and loyalty, and grant
that they may serve without reproach; through
Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*



Thank you to all who helped fill the box in the Common Room with children's socks for the ABC Baby Center in Hyannis.

We collected over 200 pairs of socks. Your generosity will help keep many little feet warm this winter.
Thank you, Jean Blake

ST. DAVID'S PRAYER LIST - Charlie Adams, Kathryn Anschutz, Richard Banks, Debra Barclay, Margaret Barros, Rebecca Bond, Dorothy Carpinteri, Joe Gora, Barbara Hall, Mark Halvorsen, Victoria Hunt, Linda Johnston, Jessica Johnston, Mackenzie Johnston, Elizabeth Keffer, Joan Kelly, Raymond, Maryann, Brian & Bellamy Korn, Steve Lohman, Sarah Maynard, Sally Michael, Alice & Jerrold Miles, Cameron Montoya, Sean Parent, Mark Riendeau; Anne Smaglia, Lenore Tagan, Bill Veazie, Barbara Waas, Sally Walker, Austin, Brittany, Greer, Little Freddie, Jared, and Rod; and all those who mourn the loss of a loved one, especially the Bates, Hastings, Hurley, Jordan, Martin-Estus and Taber families.



EBBS AND FLOWS

Deaths

Kathleen Martin-Estus
August 19, 1940 - November 12, 2023

FOOD BASKET REPORT - With one week to go, our total for November was an amazing 610 items for The Hands of Hope Food Pantry! The current WISH LIST is: Pasta; Pasta Sauce; Chef-Boyardee; SOUP; Kids' Snacks; Cereal; Mayo; Ketchup; Baked Beans; Salad Dressing; Canned Pineapple or Peaches; Brownie or Cake Mix; Cookies and Crackers; Tea; Coffee; Hamburger Helper; Stove Top Stuffing; Tuna; Spam and Canned Meats. Lots of choices! You may leave your contributions on the pew at the back of the church. Thank you everyone who enables St. David's to respond to the needs of The Food Pantry!

Elizabeth Rixham, 508-385-7450.



DYECH CARING CARDS - You are probably wondering how it could be Dec. I know I am! The turkey is eaten, and the soup made. Now it is time to move on to shopping! I can help you with the sale of cards for any store you would like. DYECH can receive cards to cover all your shopping. How easy is that...you can order from your favorite chair. Think about LLBean, Target, Amazon, Old Navy and Macy's to mention a few. We have order sheets at the DYECH table (2 sided) with stores that you can order from. Take a sheet and check off the cards you would like. Return it the following Sunday with your check to cover the cost and you will have them the next Sunday. (Don't wait until 12/24 because that won't work!) I would love you to place your order by Dec. 10 if possible as that would give us plenty of time to get them to you. A percentage of each card you buy will go to HAC for their Homeless Prevention Program. Think about it, no running around for you, the recipient can get what they want with the cards and HAC will receive a nice donation for their good work. The percentage each store gives is on the sheet with all the stores listed. You will be surprised and hopefully want to take advantage of this opportunity to help during this Christmas season. Claire Tyner, Sec., DYECH

COMMUNITY BOOK DRIVE

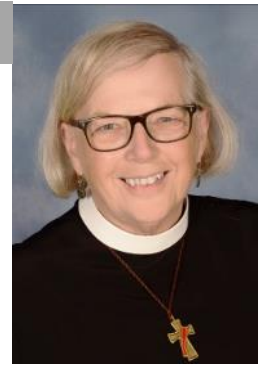
Sponsored by the MLK Action Team of the Nauset
Interfaith Association



This year's Community Book Drive is benefitting the third grade classroom libraries of the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District, home of the fastest-growing Black, Indigenous, People Of Color (BIPOC) student population on Cape Cod. Let's support our schools by donating new books featuring children from a variety of cultures and ethnicities.

Participating book vendors are: Belonging Books <http://www.belongingbookscapcod.com>, Below the Brine, Harwichport; Brewster Bookstore, Brewster; Sea Howl, Orleans; and Where the Sidewalk Ends, Chatham. Or with a donation, we can buy the books for you! Please see Becky Alden for more information.

NEWS FROM THE DEACON - *Sacred Ground Soups & Breads*



On Sun., Dec. 17, at both services, we'll celebrate folks who recently concluded the Sacred Ground journey they began in June. They're our fourth Sacred Ground Dialogue Circle. They join dozens of our parishioners who've become alums of Sacred Ground since 2020.

"Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups [called Dialogue Circles] are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity." [Sessions] focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories."

[More here: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>]

Since it was introduced by The Episcopal Church in 2019, thousands of people across our country have completed Sacred Ground. Many now engage in a variety of reparative initiatives, large and small, inspired by Sacred Ground. This series is part of Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation and justice.

Imagine journeying on a labyrinth with four inter-related quadrants:

- > Telling the Truth about our Churches and Race.
- > Proclaiming the Dream of Beloved Community.
- > Practicing Jesus's Way of Healing Love.
- > Repairing the Breach in Society & Institutions.

On the path toward reconciliation and healing, we move among the quadrants, make sharp turns, meet fellow journeyers. We double back into quadrants we visited before, discovering fresh revelations.

At the conclusion of every Sacred Ground series, folks are invited to consider what steps they as individuals feel called to take next in this vital work. At St. David's we've also gathered all Sacred Ground alums to consider where our parish might take the work.

This year Y'ALL are invited.

On Sunday, December 17, ALL parishioners - Sacred Ground alums & ALL others - are welcome for a (free) Beloved Community Lunch, 11:30am - 1:00 pm in Nelson Hall. We'll work together on Beloved Community Planning for St. David's for 2024. SIGN UP IN THE COMMON ROOM!

Announcing a WORKSHOP SERIES FOR ADVENT & EPIPHANY at St. David's

EXPLORING SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

8 Wednesdays, 11:30am-1:00pm, Dec. 6 thru Jan. 24, starting in Kimber Chapel, followed by BYO Lunch in the Common Room. SIGN UP IN THE COMMON ROOM.

GOAL: Learn about & try out ways to deepen your personal relationship with God.

- > Rev. Marilyn offers an introductory sampling to try together & use at home.
- > No advance prep required. Related materials available at each session for takeaway.
- > Each session independent of the rest. Drop-ins WELCOME for one or a few sessions.

Preliminary Schedule of Practices (adjustable upon consultation with participants.)

12/6	Ritualized Prayer: Daily Office & Hours	1/3	<i>Lectio Divina</i> : Praying with Scripture
12/13	Silent Presence, Centering Prayer	1/10	<i>Visio Divina</i> : Praying with Icons
12/20	Journeying Prayer with Labyrinths	1/17	Prayer Beads & the Anglican Rosary
12/27	Journey with Exercises of St. Ignatius	1/24	Group Spiritual Direction

Prayer Cards are in the pews and on the table at the back of the church. After filling one in, please put it in the Prayer Box on the back table. The cards are picked up regularly and the requests, which are kept confidential, are passed on to the Prayer Group members. If you would like to become a "PRAYER", please contact Elizabeth Rixham at 508-385-7450 or at rixhamb@hotmail.com. Thank You.



MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR . . .



Another calendar year is drawing to a close. Once again our choir lost a dear servant -- this time, beloved tenor Nancy Hastings. And once again, the Holy Spirit sent us a new tenor in the person of Jim Leighton. I was the envy of many colleagues at a recent organ guild chapter workshop when I said we are blessed with a strong tenor section. For a church of this size, that is rare.

As I look back on my five-and-one-half years with St. David's, we had several choir members join us briefly. Of course they all served us well. Still, we best remember the mainstays we lost. Marion Doane, Sheila Kachadoorian, Renee Lohman and Nancy Hastings went home to their Lord during that time. Allan Taylor moved south to be with family after the loss of his daughter, Grace Ellen Vigliano. A cradle Episcopalian in his nineties, I so miss talking with him about days past. Also, Steve Mulligan left the tenor section to be our tireless, intrepid technical director. He has proven adept at training others to carry out this important ministry to people at home.

All the more reason I like to include musicians who were part of the fabric of this church before I arrived, in whatever capacity works for them. I was thrilled when one of my esteemed predecessors, Maggie Ribb retired from salaried church music to be available as a substitute. She knows her sheep, and they know her. I try to plan my Sundays off around Maggie's availability, as I know all will be well in my absence.

And what a joy to have Rob and Bev Parke back with the choir. Although they are now active with St. Mary's which is close to their home, we are always glad to welcome them for certain occasions such as funerals where the choir is requested. Rob is a tall and mighty bass, while Bev is a short but powerful soprano. I think our choir always sounds good, but the added resonance is palpable when the Parkes are blending with us.

We now have thirteen people in the choir. There is always room for more. If you like to sing, please consider this an invitation. We are a fun, inclusive group. And may you all have a safe, happy and blessed Christmas and New Year.

John K. Read

St. David's Holiday Fair...AWESOME! FANTASTIC! SUPER!

Kent and I would like to THANK EVERYONE who helped with the Holiday Fair.

The baskets were filled to the brim! The food, oh my, how fast everything sold. The Episcopal Rosary Beads sold out fast, too! Good job Peter! Our craft table with all the unique gifts and knitted/crocheted items and the soup jars and hot chocolate mugs were a big hit. The apple pies, the take away soups and the chili ALL SOLD OUT! I have assembled a notebook for next year---I am ready to have another AWESOME, FANTASTIC and SUPER HOLIDAY FAIR ! Mark your calendar now----NOVEMBER 9TH, 2024 !

Robin Ward

FAITH COMMUNITIES ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK (FCEN)

Saint David's and South Yarmouth Quakers Hosting a Special Event - Join us at the Energy Café - January 7, 2024 at 11:30 AM (after the 10 am service)

Do you wonder how to cut your energy use and are you perplexed by the many incentives and rebates now available to save on equipment and your energy costs? Lyn Solomon (St Davids) and Barb Lamdin (South Yarmouth Quaker Meeting), have teamed up with Cape Cod Faith Communities Environmental Network (FCEN) for this event. Over refreshments and a light lunch you will learn about the new incentives now available for homeowners and renters, discover new technologies to help reduce your energy use and you will be able to sign up for a Home Energy Assessment. So much has changed with incentives and technology, it is recommended that you have an Energy Assessment every two years. Sign up sheet is in the Common Room or



JOIN THE LAST HEALING WALK OF THE SEASON

[Hosea's Swamp Walk Recap - Orleans Conservation Trust](#)

Thursday, December 14, 1:00-3:00m Barnstable Land Trust- Fuller Farm

<https://blt.org/fuller-farm>

Please email starkey.susan@gmail.com for directions and info on what to bring.



Advent Quiet Morning for All

Sat., Dec. 16, 9:45am-noon at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 3055 Main St., Barnstable MA, with the Rev. Cynthia Hubbard, leader.

Advent - that wonderful season of waiting and preparation, as we make ready for the birth of the Christ in our hearts. Only, so often, it is not a time of quiet reflection and preparation, so much as a time of crazy business. Our calendars are full, our to-do lists lengthy, and we wonder how we can possibly get everything done in time. We forget to sit with Mary and say with her, "Let it be, according to your Word." If this feels like your life right now, join us for an Advent Quiet Morning, as we reflect on emptying and the various ways we can empty our lives, so as to make room for the birth and the gift of love in our lives. The Companions of the Holy Cross, who include members of our St. David's parish, invite you to this Advent Quiet Morning. For more information, please contact Becky Alden.

*****SPECIAL MINISTRIES*****

The Special Ministries Report (3rd Qtr.) from the November meeting. The following organizations received funds from St. David's: Aids Support of Cape Cod, Angel Flight/NE, Cathedral of St. Paul, Cape Cod Needy Fund, Hands of Hope, PATH, Paper Pantry, Takeaway Meal, Water.org, WeCan for a total of \$1890.00. The Committee also culled organizations/recipients we have not given to for years. As always, I give thanks to the dedication of the Special Ministries committee for their continued support and hard work.

Linda Halvorsen

TOYS FOR TOTS

St David's will once again be supporting the USMC's Toys for Tots program. A collection bin is in the Common Room where you can place toys that are new and unwrapped. If you have any questions, please contact Gene Monay.



Blood Drive at St. David's - December 12, 12- 4:30 PM, Nelson Hall

The Red Cross Blood national supply has fallen by about 25% since early August. Right now, blood product support distributions to hospitals are outpacing the number of blood donations coming in. So please consider donating this month. Register for an appointment at www.RedCrossBlood.org
Thank you! Becky Alden

BREAD MAKERS WANTED



As part of the Greeters ministry we like to give out a small loaf of home made bread to guests, visitors, first timers, etc.. If you like to make small loaves of bread we would greatly appreciate your setting aside a few for this ministry. You can bake any kind of bread just do not include nuts in the recipe. Please use a disposable loaf pan as we cannot guarantee that your pans would be returned. Simply place the wrapped loaves in the freezer compartment of the refrigerator in the Common Room with a note indicating what the loaf is and that it is for the Greeters.

We will then place the loaves in bags with a welcoming message on the outside. Thank you.

Contact Richard and Kathleen Banks with any questions you might have.

THRIFT SHOP

Open Thursdays and Saturdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Please Note - there are no Annex Sales in December and January - the shop will be closed December 21 - January 4. No donations accepted when the shop is closed. Thank you.



COAT DRIVE (HATS/MITTENS/SCARVES TOO!!)

We plan to distribute coats to the attendees of the next Paper Pantry and TakeAway Meal Programs which will be held on December 20th. Starting November 18th you can place your coats on the hangers in either the Common Room or Nelson Hall. Look for the signs that say COAT DRIVE and place them there. If you have a large bagful of items please make certain that you mark the bag for the **PP/TMP COAT DRIVE**. We will also gladly accept gloves, mittens, hats and scarves. Please ensure that all items are clean and in good repair. If you have any questions please contact either Katie Bearse or Richard Banks. Peace to You and Yours, Richard Banks



TAKEAWAY MEAL/PAPER PANTRY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2023

On November 15, 2023, we held Takeaway Meal number 81. Again, there was an increase in the total of meals served and personal hygiene products distributed. We are blessed to be able to provide for the needy of Cape Cod and are thankful for the support we have received over the years from St. David's and the organizations and people of Cape Cod. We planned for 260 meals and served 273. Everything went smoothly throughout the event. Several people arrived after the 260 meals were distributed and we provided for them from the extra food items we had purchased and set aside. We served turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, corn, bread, snack pack, cookies & brownies. Fresh fruit was donated by a parishioner. While packaging the cookies and brownies on Tuesday, we discovered that we did not have enough. A trip to BJ's was necessary as their chickens were available for larger families. We will plan on 275 regular meals per month going forward.

In addition, the attendees took home bags of personal hygiene items for themselves and family members. Items distributed included 100 bars of personal soap, 60 tubes of toothpaste, 60 bottles of shampoo, 100 rolls of paper towels and 160 rolls of toilet paper. With SNAP benefits being reduced, these items will be even more important to the attendees. Donations are always welcome and can be left in the Common Room anytime. Volunteers are welcome to help assemble these bags at 12:30 on the Tuesday before the event.

The Fishermen's Alliance provided several cases of seafood stew and chowder and we distributed many containers. There was a sampling station! The Barnstable County Nutritionist was available to provide information and to help distribute the samples. Stop and Shop provided many loaves of bread which were distributed. Covid test kits were given out free of charge.

We have received financial donations from parishioners, The Cape and Islands Deanery, The United Way, The Hunger Food Network (also supports The Paper Pantry), The Episcopal City Mission, and a friend of St. David's. We received several gift cards from The Major Crisis Relief Fund to purchase food items from Stop and Shop. We recently received a grant from The Aid to The Homeless Fund and John B Tew Family Fund of The Cape Cod Foundation. The Retired Men's Club of Cape Cod and The Yarmouth Rotary also donated funds. The Family Pantry in Harwich regularly donates food items, We give special thanks to the Special Ministries Committee of St. David's for their ongoing financial support of the program.

Paper bags were generously provided by the members of St. David's. PLEASE NOTE: Donations of large brown paper bags are being accepted again! Members and friends of the parish packaged and distributed all items. An announcement about the programs was placed in The Cape Cod Times and sent to the COAs in surrounding communities. An announcement was also placed on the Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce outdoor sign.

The next meal will be on Wednesday, December 20th. We plan on serving roasted turkey breast, ham or chicken. Helpers are needed to prepare and pack food on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, starting at 9:00 AM and to distribute meals Wednesday afternoon, starting at 12:45 PM. Once again, we need COOKIES and BROWNIES (NO NUTS), preferably home baked/style. Items from the grocery store are also welcome. Please note they should be dropped by 9:00 AM Tuesday morning in either Nelson Hall or The Common Room.

We will also distribute the coats from the coat drive we ran. We hope to provide some additional Christmas joy to the attendees as well. "Thank You" again, to everyone who makes this event happen! If you have questions, please contact Richard or Kathleen Banks, Meredith Krueger or Chris Morassi.

SOUTH YARMOUTH LIBRARY COOKIE STROLL



St. David's will be a welcoming rest stop for the cookie strollers on December 9th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. There are many opportunities to participate in this event and sign up sheets will be available in the Common Room starting November 19th. We will be offering free hot beverages and selling soup and sandwiches. Opportunities include sandwich-making; Greeters; beverage servers and the like. Once again you are welcome to display your favorite creche for others to enjoy. Peace to you and yours, Richard and Kathleen Banks

Coffee with God
December 2nd
10:00 - 11:30 am

Join us in the Kimber Chapel for coffee and conversation about our spiritual journeys.



A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who had a part in making the 40 pies for this years' fair.



We could not have done it without your help!
Tammy Blackwell



"GREENING" OF THE CHURCH

Join us Saturday, Dec. 2nd at 9 AM as we prepare the Sanctuary for Advent.

"Many hands make light work"

ST. DAVID'S MEN'S GROUP MEETING



Thursday, December 14th at 6:30 p.m.

In the Common Room by the Fireplace

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

205 Old Main Street
South Yarmouth, MA 02664-4529



(508) 394-4222
office@stdavids4222.comcastbiz.net
Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:00am-1pm,
Website: www.stdavidscapecod.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



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at St. David's Episcopal So. Yarmouth