

## Newsletter for January February 2020



Happy New Year everyone! I hope it will be a blessed one for all of us. I came across an article about calendars and dating. I had always thought that the letters A.D. that began to be used in 525 stood for “after death” referring to the death of Jesus. But actually it stands for *anno Domini* in Latin, meaning “the year of our Lord”. Although these initials have now been replaced with the more neutral and inclusive “C.E.” for “Common Era”, we can think of 2020 (and every year for that matter) as being “the year of our Lord”. What will God do in us, with us, and through us this year? I pray that whatever it may bring, the year for each of us individually and as a faith community will truly be “the year of our Lord”.

A New Year’s Prayer from the January edition of Guideposts magazine:

*May the Lord make my New Year a happy one...  
Not by shielding me from sorrow and pain, but by strengthening me to bear it if it comes.  
Not by making my path easy, but by making me sturdy enough to tread any path.  
Not by taking hardship from me, but by taking all cowardice and fear from my heart as I meet hardships.  
Not by granting me unbroken sunshine, but by keeping my face bright even in the shadows.  
Not by making my life always pleasant, but by showing me where men and His cause need me most and by making me zealous to be there and to help ...  
God, make my year a happy one.*

Peace and all good, Carolyn

### **OUTREACH**



#### **Lancaster School Partnership**

Several members helped out with the students’ annual Christmas shopping. The PTA makes available small inexpensive gifts that the children can select to give as gifts to family members. It is always loads of fun to see the excitement as each of the children by class come in. The volunteers help them make their purchases for those on their check lists.

## **Isaiah 58 Ministries**

One of our families helped out a couple whom Isaiah 58 had been working with to try to find housing by selling their trailer to the ministry at base cost. As soon as it was empty and clean, the couple moved in – grateful to finally have a home – and to have it for Christmas! The Distribution Center continues to be very busy both receiving and sorting donations, and assisting people coming in to find the clothing and household supplies they need.



## **Chips**

Thank you all for the huge pile of gifts you purchased so that incarcerated parents could have something to give their children for Christmas!

**January Outreach** – Family Promise. For a number of years St. David’s provided meals and overnight hospitality here at the church for homeless families and their children. Although our area program had to close, we continue to be very committed to serve those at risk for homeless and the homeless through Isaiah 58 and through Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire. Based in Hudson, F.P. continues to provide residence, meals, and case management services to families from the greater Salem area.

## ***Kitchen Use and Community Suppers***



### **Dates have been set for suppers and events for 2020**

- Sunday Jan 26 – Annual meeting (glorified pot luck coffee hour upstairs)
- Saturday Feb 15 – Winter doldrums pot luck supper and Yankee swap
- Saturday Mar 22 – Ham and Bean supper
- Saturday May 2 – Pasta Night
- Sunday May 17 – Afternoon Tea
- Saturday June 20 – AA cookout
- Sunday June 28 – Mass on the Grass and Parish picnic (to be confirmed)
- Saturday Oct 24 – Harvest Dinner

Some other ideas were also tossed out – a Sunday morning pancake breakfast and a chili cookoff. Looks like we won’t be going hungry this year!

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

### **Youth Group**

Our youth group is now up and running! We meet the last Sunday of the month from 4:30-6:00. In November, 11 youth attended and we made Advent wreaths. Then Santa Claus dropped in for a surprise visit and told the story of St. Nicholas. In December, we dug out bins of costumes from the attic, dressed up, and acted out the story of the birth of Jesus.



### **Adult Education**

The **Monday morning Bible study** is now taking an in-depth look at the Gospel of John. Anyone can join in at any time!



## **WORSHIP**

**Christmas Eve** – As always, we had a moving service! I'd like to thank especially the altar guild and the many hands who helped make our church beautiful; and Pam, the choir, and Kevin for their months of hard work enhancing our worship that evening!

**January 26** – Due to our annual parish meeting there will be only *one service at 9 a.m.*

## **Transitions**

**Gone to rest in God's Eternal Arms** – Joan Logan and Barbara Davis

## **FUN EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING**

### **Salem Holiday Parade**

Thanks to all those who provided cookies and hot drinks for the parade this year!



### **Mid-Winter Doldrums Pot Luck and Gift Swap**

It has become a tradition at St. David's to have a Mid-Winter Doldrums Pot Luck and Gift Swap in February. This year it will be on will be held Saturday Feb. 15. The pot-luck supper will begin at 6 p.m. and afterwards we'll have a gift swap. The gift can be anything – funny, edible, toys or games, something you won last year or got for Christmas this year and want to get rid of it. The gift can be cheap, extravagant, funny, or tacky. Anything goes! The crazier the gift, the more the laughs. Even if you don't want to participate in the gift swap – come anyway, it is loads of fun!

## **2020 Crafter's Fair**

The 2020 Craft Fair will be September 19 and 20. Several people attended other craft fairs this fall to collect crafter's business cards so that we can make sure they are invited to apply for our fair. If you did so, please get them to Lana Younker or Joanne Theriault. Speaking of which – Joanne and Lana did an amazing job stepping in after Lynn was no longer able to do this work. But they both do so much already. Please consider helping to coordinate the fair or taking on some of their responsibilities to lighten the load.



## ***STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES AND PROPERTY***

**Pledge campaign** – 43 pledges were received of which 3 were new this year. Four were lost. The total amount increased. Thank you all so much for making a pledge to support this parish's life and mission!

### **Property**

- Bob McGilvary installed a railing to assist people getting in and out of the outside door to the small coffee room
- Bob McGilvary replaced the kitchen counter in the rectory and repaired the bottom of the cabinet below the kitchen sink.
- George Younker will be replacing (again!) the thermostat in the lower hall which insists on turning on even when not programmed to do so.
- The barn was cleaned up and reorganized after the craft fair.
- Bob Habeeb and Bob McGilvary equipped the lower hall kitchen with supplies so that meals can be served family style.

## **Sustain Our Island Home**

Want to try to address climate change by reducing your carbon footprint? The Episcopal Church now has a tool to support anyone who wants to make more life-giving choices about how we inhabit the earth. The Carbon Tracker is a web based application that helps individuals, households, congregations, and even dioceses to measure your carbon footprint (through a 5-10 minute questionnaire) and take steps to shrink it and live a more sustainable life. You go to:

[www.sustainislandhome.org](http://www.sustainislandhome.org) to register. It offers choices in five main areas that range from easy to hard, and measures the carbon footprint saved (not just by you, but by our parish and our diocese!). There are also links for resources. Consider signing up and see what an impact we can make as a parish!

## **SCRIP – great way to give gifts, pay for purchases and help the church!**

Scrip is a program through which you can purchase gift cards for almost any chain store or restaurant you can think of, and a portion of your purchase will go automatically to St. David's. Order forms are in the foyer. Orders and checks can be dropped off in the wooden deposit box in the copy machine room. Gift cards can be used for gifts, but the program really pays off when people use them for their regular everyday purchases.



**St. David's Annual Parish Meeting** will be held Sunday January 26. On that day there will be one service at 9AM followed by a glorified coffee hour. Then we will reconvene to conduct the business portion of our meeting. We'll be hearing about the state of our parish, thanking those who have served, and electing and re-electing people to new positions. There is one opening for a Vestry member (in which case we'll have to figure out how to fill the work done by the parish clerk) or simply for a Clerk. There are also openings for 2 Delegates and a Safe Church Officer. Job descriptions are in the foyer. If there are more people than openings, an election will be held. Right now there are people who have expressed interest in the vestry, but we need delegates. Please let Carolyn know if you are interested in any of the above positions. Attending and voting is an important part of the life of this parish. Please plan to stay!

### **Diocesan Convention**

The Diocesan Convention in November passed resolutions relating to Diocesan budget, churches transitioning from parish status to mission status, racial reconciliation, celebrating the creation during the 2020 season of Easter, and reducing parishes' carbon footprint. The bishop also commissioned several lay leaders to serve communion (previously consecrated) to several small congregations who do not have a priest every Sunday.

### **Keep up to date with news from the diocese!**

- E-mail news is mailed out at least once a month with news and events. To sign up for this service, send an email to [officeassistant@episcopal.org](mailto:officeassistant@episcopal.org) and they'll get you signed up.
- A reminder that a national Episcopal newspaper also comes out every other month and free copies are in the foyer. Feel free to pick one up.

### ***PRAYER LIST (please let the office know of deletions and additions)***

Kim Verstraete, Diana Nelson, Cathy Passerello, Donna Conrad, Carol & Arlene Bassett, Jean Lynch, Carlene McKinnon, Elaine Schwager, Lynn Romano, Marsha Rothel, Vincent Gallucci, Katrina LeBel, Jim Saucier, David, Jeff, and Deb Clark, Morgan Decker, Norman & Mona Soucy, Rick McGibbon, Ed Brinkman, Angela Randall, Sean William, Haylee O'Toole, Beth Soule, Janice Josephine Carney, Kristina Morrison, Marilyn McIntrye, Evelyn Austin, Patrick Ryan, Jennifer Merrick, Joseph Grande, Guy Grande, Liz Naters-Gamarra, Tina Kenya, Sheila McLaughlin, Errol & Helen Duncan, Lynn Clarke, Alex and Rose Frazier, Geri O'Brian, Jessica Francis, Barbara McGovern, Elaine Clark, Calvin Smith, John Peterson, James & Patty Puckett, John Gay, Dot & Tom Johnson, Sue and Bob DeVine, Michael Worth, Micki LaBlanc, Anita Hill, Ana Diamantopoulos, Bill Hanlon, Windy Nelson, Jamie Brunco, Elaine & Chuck Stern, Rich DeVine.

Please also remember our homebound members: Fred Miner, Arlene Law, Carol Jones, Doris Deputy, Rusty Simpson.

*OFFICERS*

Sr. Warden – Barbara Sager – 617-283-6571 – Barbara.sager@comcast.net  
Jr. Warden ~ Barbara Klenner – (978) 857-0379 ~ pilot@comcast.net  
Treasurer ~ Deb Ogin ~ (603) 560-0805 ~ dogin@comcast.net  
Clerk ~ Damian Ryan ~ (603) 858-2988 ~ damianvtbear@aol.com

*VESTRY*

Irene Curtin – (978) 686-6054 ~ cpfamil@aol.com  
Marilyn Gendeloff ~ (603) 458-2916  
Sharon Taylor~ (603) 521-2595  
Liz McGilvary – (603) 321-1886\_– lmcgilvary@gmail.com

*DELEGATES*

Barbara Scanlon (603) 401-0487  
Diana Seifert ~ (603) 893-9759  
Damian Ryan – (603) 8582988

Judi Habeeb ~ (603) 401-8618 (alternate)