Saint David's Episcopal Church Gales Ferry, Connecticut



2019 Annual Report

January 26, 2020

Saint David's Episcopal Church 284 Stoddards Wharf Road Gales Ferry, CT 06335 Ph 860.464.6516/Fax 860.464.6446 www.saintdavidsgf.org

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MISSION STATEMENT

"To know Christ and make Him known"

Saint David's is a warm and caring parish, welcoming diversity in age, gender and background. We nurture the development of our children and youth, and we serve the people of southeastern Connecticut.

We are a parish of all ages and stages of Christian development, traveling together on a spiritual journey. We offer many opportunities to foster a deeper relationship with God through Jesus Christ and to share that knowledge and love with all people. We are an inclusive congregation in the mainstream of Episcopal tradition. Our Christ-centered faith is reflected in inspirational liturgy, sacramental events, prayer and joyful music. We have a firm commitment to provide Christian education and growth opportunities for all.

Outreach is vital to our parish. We proclaim our faith through deeds of love by the generous commitment of our time, energy, gifts, prayer and financial support to make Christ known within our church, community, country and the world, as we become the people God has called us to be.

VISION STATEMENTS

- All parishioners see the work of the church as their own work.
- We continue to attract growth and active participation by young families and youth.
- We provide education that offers exciting and fulfilling opportunities for all ages.
- Our music program is rich and diverse, complementing our worship.
- Our facilities will support current and projected ministries.

AGENDA: ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 26, 2019

- 1. Call to Order Mark Santucci, Interim Rector
- 2. Invocation
- 3. Presentation and adoption of the Rolls of the Members and Electors
- 4. Approval of Minutes of the last Annual meeting of February 10, 2019
- 5. Reports
 - a. Report of the Interim Rector
 - b. Senior Warden
 - c. Junior Warden
 - d. Treasurer
 - i. Review of 2019
 - ii. Presentation of the 2020 Spending Plan
 - e. Christian Formation
 - f. Other Ministries
- 6. Presentation of Slate of Nominees (see page 9)
 - a. Introduction of Nominees
- 7. Election of Wardens, Treasurer, Clerk, Vestrypersons
- 8. Election of Delegates to ECCT Convention
- 9. Election of Nominating Committee
- 10. Old Business
- 11. New Business properly brought before the meeting
- 12. Benediction
- 13. Adjournment

VOTING MEMBERS FOR 2020 ANNUAL MEETING

Aiken, Richard Aiken, J. Leslie Anderson, Joseph Anderson, Patricia

Bacon, Carol
Bagge, George
Bagge, Linzee
Ball, Janice
Baumann, Amy
Bohannan, William
Bohannan, Lillian
Brown, Raymond
Bunch, Michael
Burdick, Pauline
Burr, Anna Mae
Cady, James
Campbell, Julie
Campbell, Nicole

Campbell, Allison Campbell, Mikey Campbell, Samuel Carey, Charles Carey, Mary Crowley, Naomi Curcio, Christine

Davis, Joyce Day, Edward Day, Myra Dierman, Allan Dierman, Linda

Dierman, Marie Dow, Ann Fallon, Diane Fallon, Hap Ferdon, Valerie Ferdon, Olivia Fialkosky, Ed

Fialkosky, Pat

Flanagan, Mark Flanagan, Diana Flanagan, Natalie Flanagan, Julie Forbes, Steve Forbes, Susie Foster, Kit

Foster, Jill Gilbert, Jeanne Gilbert, Craig Gray, Pam

Gurnee, Sonya Gurnee, Robert Hall, Raymond Harding, Kent

Gurnee, George

Harding, Mackie Hermann, Jon

Hermann, Jared Hochdorfer, Joe Hochdorfer, Teri Jones, Raymond Kirkpatrick, William

Kotecki, Bill Kotecki, Meghan Landolt, Peter Lang, Patrick Lang, Cara

Lang, Anne Randall Leone, Jacqueline Lillie, Linda

Lillie, III William Llewellyn, Emmy Llewellyn, Matt Lyon, John Martelle, Clif

Martelle, Robin McIntyre, Bruce McIntyre, Polly McKelvey, Dennis McKelvey, Susan McLane, Michael McLane, Cynthia

Miller, Constance Moretti, Julie

Muskus, Claire Najarian, Pamela Nogacek, Kenneth

Nogacek, Melissa Nogacek, Sarah Nolan, Thomas Norberg, Paula Norris, Timothy

Norris, Valerie Olsen, Ruth Olson, Jeannette

Peck-Llewellyn, Mimi

Peck-Llewellyn, Poole, Owen Poole, Bethany Randall, Nancy Ripley, Keith Ripley, Anne Sachs, Henry Sachs, Mary Schober, Albert Schober, Maren Schultz, Peter

Schultz, Kathie Sedlack, Thomas Sedlack, Cathie Shepherd, Edward

Shepherd, Kathy Shukis, Chris Shukis, Kimberly

Shukis, Ian Shukis, Kelsey Shukis, Sara St. Laurent, Diane Stadnicki, Christine Stadnicki, Scott Stadnicki, Jennifer Stadnicki, Andrew Stryker, David Stryker, Sharon Thompson, Lora Thompson, David Wakim, John Wakim, Martha Weller, Elizabeth White, Jack White, Eve Wishart, Diane Ysewyn, Douglas Ysewyn, Karen Ysewyn, Maureen Ziolko, Jessica Ziolko, John

ST. DAVID'S ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Annual Meeting February 10, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 10:42 a.m. with prayer

Mark provided the Invocation

Presentation of Roll of Voting Members and Adoption

Motion to accept minutes from the 2017 annual meeting was made by Pat Anderson. Alan Dierman seconded. All in favor motion passes.

Report of the Interim Rector: Mark acknowledged that he is in the 20th month of his 3-month tenure. He applauds us for our willingness to try new things and to keep moving forward. He indicates we are all thankful for the work of the transition team and their hard work as well as the vestry. Our Outreach program has been revamped and the work of the Love, Serve and Grow committees will continue in 2019. He recognizes the work of the major programs and how everyone contributes to make worship as wonderful as it is at St. David's.

He particularly thanks Pete Landolt for his work with the transition team and the teams work on the parish profile. He recognizes the vestry and officers and especially Anna Mae for her service on the vestry.

Thank you to Christie Stadnicki for organizing the acolyte training on 2/9.

Mark encourages all to try out the alter guild and flower guild – it's great fun and the work is much appreciated.

The adult group should meet faithfully without benefit of clergy – they all do great work within themselves.

Mark also mentioned that Bill Day and Al Schober are here more than he is – during the vestry retreat Al Schober was working in the library on a light and there were 8 people around to help him. He applauds all for supporting each other when needed.

To Scott and Alan – for our great goods in the kitchen – thank you.

He adds that he is blessed with a great staff – they are dedicated and bring joy to their work.

Diane is a treasure – all applaud.

Thank you to Maria who got dumped into the job and to Tiffany who was here for most of the year.

When he came here 20 months ago – he did not expect to fall in love, but he did. At first, he fell in love with the short the commute. But then he loved the way we made him feel welcomed. And that it was not 'us and him'. And we even laugh at his jokes. He loves his

ministry among us and to just be here is rewarding. He loves our willingness to 'try things on' and to keep doing things that are working and with great consistency. It's what he wants to be doing.

Sr Warden Report: Ken Nogacek spoke and highlighted work the vestry completed in 2018. He indicates this is the best vestry and appreciates how well we work together as a group. He appreciates the opportunity to serve as Sr Warden and if we will have him again is willing to serve again in 2019.

He discussed the Love Serve and Grow committee goals and achievements in 2018. The family game and movie nights will continue in 2019. The Love team will be hosting an event regarding addition in 2019 and the serve group will be the point of contact for outreach projects.

St. David's is much more than the Priest – in – Charge or Rector – it is all the parish members and as long as we continue to know that, we will continue to grow as a church.

Jr. Warden Report: Kirk Kirkpatrick refers to the pages in the annual report that contains the information provided from him as Jr. Warden. He his electing to pass the torch on and this is his last official act, but he will continue as a member of the vestry. Being the Jr. Warden has been a life changing experience. He became very good a delegating work – he does not have the skills for everything needed and appreciates all the work provided by Bill Day and Al Schober. He also thanks us all for our support over the years and looks forward to a couple more years on the vestry. And he can't thank Mark enough for the spirituality he brings not only to him but to the whole parish.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Forbes notes the page where his report appears in the annual report. He indicates the bills are paid and we're a little bit ahead but that is not the key. It is what God is providing to us – not the \$'s and cents. He notes that the Vestry has approved an unbalanced budget and he believes there is enough wiggle room in the budget. We have been putting aside the difference of what we would pay a full-time priest versus what we are permitted to pay Mark. Those are the fund that sit in a separate account for future Rector. Right now, we have \$75,000 in that account and we continue to fund that to the tune of \$3,300 a month even with the unbalanced budget.

Accolades to Bill Day – he put the report together and Steve just had to review and give the OK. He also supports St. James. Maria also helps by keeping the bills paid and current. Just early this year we started to collect money for the Coast Guard, and we have contributed \$1,010 and will give the check to Craig Gilbert to provide the Coast Guard to support enlisted that were hurt during the furlough.

Christian Formation Report: Diane St. Laurent – we have wonderful children. They will do anything I ask – well mostly. Just put them in a costume and they will do anything. For the Christmas Play, the angel wanted to stretch a wire so she could fly into the play. Today

they did Valentines to send to a nursing home. As she said to them, they were doing God's work. And even though they do not know the person getting the Valentine she assured them it would make that person happy.

Vacation Bible School for 2019 planning is in the works please come to help – you do not have to dress in costume.

Mark asks that everyone read through the remaining reports contained in the Annual Report.

Mark introduces the nominees presented for election.

Senior Ward: Ken Nogacek Junior Warden: Ed Fialkosky Treasurer: Steve Forbes

Clerk: Christine Curcio Vestryperson 3-year term: Pat Anderson Vestryperson 3-year term: Jill Foster

Vestryperson 3-year term: Teri Hochdorfer

Vestryperson to fill 1-year term: Mary Carey Vestryperson to fill 1-year term: Craig Gilbert

Vestryperson to fill 2-year term: Kirk Kirkpatrick Vestryperson to fill 2-year term: Linda Dierman

Representative to the Episcopal Church of CT, 3-year term: Jill Foster

Mike McLane moves that the clerk cast one ballot for all nominees Susie Forbes seconds. All in favor Motion passes.

Nominating Committee – Sr Warden by default. Marks calls for 2 volunteers from the floor. Pat Fialkosky and Jeanette Olson volunteer.

Old Business: Marks asks if there is any Old business none heard.

New Business: Mark asks if there is any new business – none mentioned.

As such he requests a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment: Pat Anderson motions to adjourn. Scott Stadnicki seconds. All in favor meeting adjourns at 11:13 a.m. with Benediction.

ADMINISTRATION

Senior Warden's Report

Again, it is a pleasure and honor to be able to thank all of the members of St. David's for trusting me with being the Senior Warden this past year. It is a privilege to be able to serve St. David's in this capacity.

We began the year with a scheduled retreat in mid-February. We had a half day retreat where we learned more about each other as well as worked on refining our goals for St. David's.

In keeping with our Mission/Vision Statements of Loving Unconditionally, Serving Faithfully and Growing Spiritually. We continued to refine our goals centered around these during the year. We divide the Vestry according the Vision statements and each year try to form a goal for each aspect of those statements.

The Grow team sponsored a number of events during the year. We had Movie nights, a family Game night as well as attempted to have a Parents Day near the holidays to allow parents to be able to shop without the children. While this event was not as well attended as we would have liked, we feel it can be improved and will be better in the future. We as the Grow Team learn from each event we sponsor.

The Serve team worked on consolidating the outreach aspect of St. David's so that the Vestry has more oversight of that ministry. It also allows people to know where to go when they have ideas or concerns about outreach aspects of St. David's.

The Love team sponsored an even in May of 2019 for information on alcoholism as well as addiction. It continues to look for projects for the coming year.

The search process was one major item that occupied the Vestry during the last year. It continues to be a priority for us. We continue to work with the Transition team on the search process.

We remain steadfast in our search and realize that it is not in our hands but in God's. And that the proper candidate will come to us in the appropriate time. While patience can be difficult, we are blessed to have Mark as our Priest in Charge for this time. Many other parishes in Connecticut are not so lucky. I ask that you continue to keep St. David's and our transition in your prayers.

I feel very blessed to have one of the best groups of people to work with that I have ever been involved with at St. David's. As a group it is a privilege to work with such a dedicated group.

This past year we did lose Mary Carey as a member of the Vestry. I truly appreciated Mary's service over the last number of years. The nomination committee worked and

accepted candidates. Four candidate names were referred to the Vestry for consideration. We ultimately after a number of votes welcomed Jeanette Olson to fill the remainder of Mary's term.

I would like to thank those members who are completing the last year of their Vestry terms. Scott Stadnicki, Craig Gilbert, and Jeanette Olson. Thank you for your time and dedication to St. David's.

I have learned over the last number of years I have been Senior Warden that St. David's is not about who the Rector is or even who is in the positions of leadership. It is about the people of St. David's. We continue to grow in many ways. While we look forward to a new Rector, we want that person to come in and grow with us and work with us as a team as we move to the future and learn how St. David's may utilize its talents to fulfill the mission God has for us.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve St. David's in the capacity of Senior Warden. Faithfully submitted, Ken Nogacek

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nomination Committee consist of the Senior Warden, according to By-laws, as well as 2 members of the congregation elected at the annual meeting.

This past year that consisted of myself, Jeanette Olson and Pat Fialkosky.

We had an opportunity to meet in June of this year to accept nominations for a vestry position that opened with the resignation of Mary Carey.

We had 4 people that were nominated and recommended to the Vestry. The Vestry voted for Jeanette Olson to complete the remainder of the year for Mary Carey.

We have been soliciting nominations for Vestry for 3 people for 3-year terms. Also, for the officers of the Vestry.

We are pleased to nominate the following 4 members, 3 to be elected at the annual meeting, for 3-year terms for the Vestry:

Ed Fialkosky Hap Fallon Jeanette Olson Kent Harding

The Following are nominated for one-year Officer positions:

Senior Warden- Ken Nogacek Junior Warden- Scott Stadnicki Clerk- Chris Curcio Treasurer- Steve Forbes

Faithfully submitted, Ken Nogacek, Senior Warden

FINANCE MINISTRY

Treasurer's Report for Calendar Year 2019

Financially, 2019 has been a solid year. All 2019 obligations, salaries, and bills were paid on time. Maria Nott is doing a super job as Parish Coordinator and Bookkeeper and has been an invaluable support to the Treasurer. Income exceeded expenses by \$1,120 for the year, Pledges were \$5.605 ahead of budget, but plate was \$3,717 behind budget. Pledge levels remain a point of focus for 2020.

A fund was established to support the calling and relocation of our future priest and \$108,630 has been placed in savings to fund this effort and will continue to be added to in 2020 as we are able. This fund is a result of the difference between Rev. Santucci's salary and that of a fulltime rector, minus unexpected requirements. This is a real blessing to our congregation's future, and for this we are eternally grateful to Rev. Santucci. Outreach expenditures were less than desirable and remain a primary goal for the Vestry and the congregation.

Expense category summaries for calendar year 2019 are presented in the following line items:

<u>Christian Formation</u> was over budget \$851. This account was clearly under budgeted for 2019. This has been corrected for 2020. The primary expense not supported by the 2019 budget was Vacation Bible School which is very popular with the children and considered money well spent by the vestry.

Worship was over budget \$848. This is primarily due to the under budgeting in two accounts for music and worship supplies.

<u>Outreach and Mission</u> was over budget \$2,983. Outreach Pass-Through and Rector's Discretionary were donations from parishioners, and not allocated by the vestry, and accounted for most of the budget difference.

<u>Parish Life</u> was over budget \$2,600. All areas were over budget except Fellowship/Receptions. We upgraded the copier with a newer model, and the Parish Coordinator's computer wore out and required replacement.

Pastoral Care was essentially on budget, with expenses \$20 under budget.

Wider Church was under budget \$1. This is the Diocese Pledge and reflects monthly round off differences between the Diocese and our books.

<u>Facilities and Grounds</u> was over budget \$7,991. This is due to gas furnace and A/C unit maintenance, a harsh winter and heating costs (oil/electric), large amounts of rain and lawn maintenance costs, and a very hot summer and associated A/C costs (electric). These expenses do not include the sanctuary roof replacement and Parish Hall steeple

refurbishment which were paid for by insurance, funds donated by parishioners and funds in Capital Projects fund.

Payroll was under budget \$20,393. This difference is because we have not been able to call a new priest by the end of spring, eliminating the associated costs.

2020: The 2020 budget plans for a new full-time rector, supports our existing staff, incorporating the Diocese-mandated salary growth due to cost of living, and meets our Diocesan commitment. Two of the three loan payments for the new addition to the church are being deferred for one quarter this year. These loan payments are included in our operating budget to support quarterly payment of these non-interest-bearing loans. The following budget for Parish Ministries is in the narrative Budget format and has been approved by the Vestry. Points of interest are:

- 1. The budget is balanced.
- 2. The basis of the income and expenses listed is: performance of the accounts in 2019, and known changes such as contracts negotiated with Anderson Oil and Eagle Landscaping for snow plowing, and Diocese related expenses.
- 3. The budgeted pledge amount is based on commitments received.
- 4. This budget assumes a full time Rector arriving in late May 2020 with five years' experience and a family. Funding to support costs necessary to support relocation if necessary are available in savings.
- 5. To conform with the Diocese's COLA guidelines, The Rev. Santucci receives his merit salary with the Diocese--mandated COLA increase, and the existing staff will receive a 2.1% pay increase.
- 6. Outreach is budgeted at \$1,000.
- 7. The ECCT Assessment is budgeted at \$25,602 which is 10% of our 2018 Operating Income.

Saint David's Account Balances as of December 31, 2019 are as follows:

Putnam Checking - \$69,506 Putnam Savings - \$161,893 (Restricted Funds- \$108,630 Rector Savings) Capital Campaign Loans from parishioners \$45,000

The following pages are the CY 2019 Budgeted and Actual Receipts and Expenses, the CY 2020 Budget, and the Restricted Fund CY 2019 Fund Balances.

Respectfully Submitted Steve Forbes, Treasurer Bill Day, Assistant Treasurer

		CY 2019 BUDGET	CY 2019 ACTUALS	CY 2020 BUDGET
01-4070	Ash Wednesday Envelope	\$163	\$165	\$170
01-4080	Christmas/Thanks Envelope	\$1,200	\$1,499	\$1,200
02-4510	Discretionary Fund	\$250	\$150	\$250
01-4521	Vacation Bible School	\$0	\$250	\$250
02-5935-002	Soup Kitchen	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-4060	Easter Envelope	\$300	\$463	\$500
02-4501	Good Friday	\$100	\$127	\$150
01-4090	Initial Offerings	\$115	\$209	\$250
01-4120	Interest	\$14	\$83	\$80
01-4130	Miscellaneous Income	\$1	\$24	\$50
02-4505	Outreach Income	\$1,000	\$2,275	\$2,500
02-4505-003	St Vincent Xmas	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-4035	Plate	\$13,000	\$9,283	\$10,000
01-4035-001	Plate Restricted	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-4030	Pledges	\$226,280	\$231,885	\$229,105
01-4031	Pledges last year	\$125	\$5,065	\$500
01-4032	Pledges for Next Year	\$0	\$600	\$0
01-4050	Special Offerings	\$50	\$0	\$0
01-4110	Use of Building	\$4,300	\$6,765	\$7,000
03-4602	Bldg. Fund Receipts	\$8,500	\$4,900	\$5,000
03-4603	Bldg. Fund Int.	\$12	\$75	\$75
25-5025	Rector Savings Exp.	\$6,544	\$0	\$19,834

TOTALS \$261,954 \$263,817 \$276,914

VARIANCE -\$7,819 -\$1,120 \$0

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		CY 2019 BUDGET	CY 2019 ACTUALS	CY 2020 BUDGET
CHRISTIAN FO	DRMATION (EXPENSES)			
01-5510	Church School	\$600	\$906.76	\$850
01-5520	Library	\$0	\$0.00	\$0
01-5521	Vacation Bible School	\$0	\$544.55	\$250
01-5514	Youth Group	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5540	Adult Education	\$0	\$0	\$0
	SUB TOTAL	\$600	\$1,451	\$1,100
WORSHIP (EX	PENSES)			
01-5450	Worship Supplies	\$1,000	\$1,628	\$1,302
01-5460	Choir Activities/Supplies	\$450	\$795	\$623
01-5465	Hand Bell Activities/Supplies	\$180	\$99	\$100
01-5470	Organ/Piano Tune	\$1,000	\$1,056	\$1,000
01-5405	Organist Cont. Education	\$100	\$0	\$150
	SUB TOTAL	\$2,730	\$3,578	\$3,175
OUTREACH &	MISSION (EXPENSES)			
02-5925	Outreach Pass-through	\$0	\$1,487	\$1,500
02-5935	Outreach	\$1,000	\$2,296	\$1,000
02-5935-002	Soup Kitchen	\$0	\$0	\$0
02-5930	Other Outreach Projects	\$0	\$0	\$0
02-5945	Rector's Discretionary	\$0	\$200	\$150
02-5950	Southeast Region	\$0	\$0	\$0
02-5940	Seminary Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
	SUB TOTAL	\$1,000	\$3,983	\$2,650
PARISH LIFE ((EXPENSES)			
	Office Supplies	\$700	\$1,247	\$1,000
01-5350	Postage & Mailing	\$100	\$237	\$250
01-5360	Copier	\$3,000	\$3,790	\$3,929
01-5840	Fellowship/Receptions	\$250	-\$92	\$250
01-5870	Parish Support	\$800	\$430	\$500
01-5880	Communications	\$250	\$1,000	\$300
01-5890	Info Technical Support	\$1,040	\$2,127	\$1,500
	SUB TOTAL	\$6,140	\$8,740	\$7,729

ST DAVID'S CY 2020 BUDGET EXPENSES

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21 DAVIL	J S CY ZUZU BUDGET EXP	ENSES		\$0
		CY 2019 BUDGET	CY 2019 ACTUALS	CY 2020 BUDGET
PASTORAL	CARE (EXPENSES)			
01-5240	Reimbursed Expenses (Auto)	\$1,400	\$1,411	\$1,450
01-5810	Stewardship	\$250	\$270	\$270
01-5820	Audits	\$1,400	\$1,350	\$1,350
01 0020	SUB TOTAL	\$3,050	\$3,030	\$3,070
	30D TOTAL	ψ0,000	ψ0,000	ΨΟ,ΟΤΟ
WIDER CHU	JRCH (EXPENSES)			
01-5910-				
001	Diocesan Pledge	\$27,925	\$27,924	\$25,602
	SUB TOTAL	\$27,925	\$27,924	\$25,602
FACILITIES 01-5701	& GROUNDS (EXPENSES) Trash Removal	1092	\$1,092	1100
01-5705	Snow Removal	2560	\$3,200	\$3,200
01-5710	Lawn Mowing	\$3,000	\$2,355	\$3,000
01-5715	Safety Inspections	\$1,900	\$2,303	\$2,600
01-5720	Heating	\$7,000	\$7,962	\$8,000
01-5725	Electricity	\$9,000	\$10,373	\$10,469
01-5730	Telephone	\$2,100	\$2,173	\$2,191
01-5735	Water	\$1,500	\$1,612	\$1,633
01-5740	Natural Gas	\$2,400	\$1,596	\$1,576
01-5745	Maintenance & Repair	\$1,300	\$2,482	\$1,500
01-5750	Ground Maintenance	\$200	\$849	\$450
01-5755	Building Supplies	\$300	\$246	\$300
01-5760	Property Liability Insurance	\$8,854	\$9,102	\$10,451
01-5765	Capital Reserve	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5775	Capital Maintenance	\$0	\$3,850	\$0
01-5780	Cleaning Service	\$7,260	\$7,260	\$7,260
03-	<u> </u>	·	, , -	
2520/1/2	Parishioner Loans	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
	SUB TOTAL	\$53,466	\$61,457	\$63,730

21 DAVII	J S CY ZUZU BUDGET EXP	CINOCO		\$0
		CY 2019 BUDGET	CY 2019 ACTUALS	CY 2020 BUDGET
PAYROLL ((EXPENSES)			
		RECTOR		
01-5210-				
001	Rector's Salary	\$42,847	\$44,363	\$48,056
01-5210-				
002	Rector's Salary - Housing	\$7,500	\$0	\$1,731
01-5220	Rector's FICA	\$2,067	\$0	\$3,912
01-5210-				
002	Rector's Housing/Utilities	\$0	\$0	\$4,615
01-5232	Clergy Insurance	\$8,368	\$0	\$10,418
01-5235	Clergy Pension	\$4,053	\$0	\$7,669
01-5236	Future Rector Savings	\$29,700	\$33,000	\$13,200
01-5237	Continuing Education	\$1,800	\$0	\$1,850
01-5440	Supply Clergy	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$1,250
	PARIS	H COORDINATOR	_	
01-5310	Parish Coordinator	\$20,800	\$20,560	\$21,237
01-5321	Parish Coordinator Pension	\$1,560	\$1,448	\$1,582
	ALL			
01-5380	Payroll Taxes	\$5,125	\$5,280	\$5,367
01-5810	Putnam Bank Fees	\$0	\$15	\$20
	MUSIC			
01-5410	Organist Salary	\$22,017	\$22,017	\$22,479
01-5415	Dir of Bells/Junior Choirs	\$10,740	\$10,507	\$10,966
01-5420	Substitute Music Staff	\$775	\$675	\$775
	CHRISTIAN FOR		·	·
01-5506	Dir Christian Formation	\$10,857	\$10,858	\$11,086
	Dir Christian Formation	. , -	. , -	, ,
01-5508	Pension	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5512	Nursery Attendant	\$3,469	\$2,812	\$3,647
	SUB TOTAL	\$172,927	\$152,534	\$169,858
	TOTALS	\$267,839	\$262,697	\$276,914

ST DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2019 FUND BALANCES

			CALENDAR YEAR				
	1/1/2019	Adjustments	Liabilities	Deposits	Withdrawls	Transfers	12/31/2019
Fund Description							
Building Fund - 03	\$13,028.91	\$ -	\$0.00	\$4,974.68	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$ 13,003.59
Altar Flowers - 4	\$1,366.30	\$ -	\$0.00	\$2,222.00	\$1,502.47	\$0.00	\$2,085.83
Sanctolite - 5	\$1,391.25	\$ -	\$0.00	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,571.25
Memorial Fund - 6	\$12,946.38	\$ -	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,846.38
Memorial Garden - 7	\$1,371.17	\$ -	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,371.17
Nursery - 8	\$368.21	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$368.21
Organ Fund - 9	\$1,600.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
Capital Projects - 10	\$16,263.11	\$ -	\$0.00	\$18,486.50	\$35,094.00	\$0.00	(\$344.39)
Outreach Project - 11	\$3,277.06	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,277.06
Outreach Project Travel- 11-002	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Furnishings - 12	\$1,532.17	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$49.99	\$1,482.18
Computer Fund - 13	\$85.05	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$85.05
Telephone Upgrade - 14	\$13.93	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13.93
Bazaar - 15	\$112.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$112.00
YPF - 17-000 General	\$9,995.56	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,995.56
YPF - 17-001 Parental Escrow	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
YPF - 17-002 Church Escrow	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tag Sale - 18	\$136.95	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$136.95
Capital Reserve - 19	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Godly Play - 20	\$11.49	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11.49
Thespians - 21	\$245.92	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$245.92
Sound System - 22	\$50.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Bells - 23	\$599.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$151.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Christian Formation - 24	\$3,431.92	\$ -	\$0.00	\$725.00	\$832.95	\$0.00	\$3,323.97
Rector - 25	\$75,628.80	\$ -	\$0.00	\$33,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$108,628.80
Various - 40	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Various(AED) - 40-001	\$43.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$43.00
TOTAL	\$143,498.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60,839.18	\$43,629.42	\$49.99	\$160,657.95

WORSHIP

Lay Readers Activities

A total of 28 different people took part in various aspects of the lay readers' function: reading Scripture, leading the reading of the Psalms, and/or leading the Prayers of Intercession at the Sunday services. On one Sunday morning in the absence of an available priest, a Morning Prayer service was conducted by a lay reader. They also lead Evening Prayer services during Lent.

This number was augmented by many of the youth and college students of the parish reading Scripture, leading intercessions and preaching during special services.

There were 17 Lay Eucharistic Ministers who administered the Chalice and two persons, Leslie Aiken and Pete Hall are licensed as a Lay Eucharistic Visitors, allowing them to administer Communion from the consecrated elements to the homebound and those in nursing homes or hospitals. On any given Sunday morning as many as nine different lay persons took part in assisting in the conduct of services at Saint David's Church. All parishioners are encouraged to offer their services as readers.

LAY READERS ROSTER 2019

Leslie Aiken **Iill Foster** Ken Nogacek Kit Foster Tom Nolan Pat Anderson

Linzee Coleman-Bagge Craig Gilbert Mimi Peck-Llewellyn

Pauline Burdick Pete Hall Al Schober

Anna Mae Burr **Kent Harding** Diane St. Laurent Mary Carev Matt Hermann Christie Stadnicki Bill Day Pete Landolt Dave Stryker Alan Dierman Iacki Leone **Eve White** Susie Forbes Polly McIntyre **Ieannine Weeks**

Claire Muskus

R. S. (Pete) Hall, Jr.

Altar Guild

Altar Guild Report for 2019

For those of you who are unsure of what the Altar Guild does, it is a ministry of preparing the Altar and Sanctuary for all services and it is a 'behind the scenes' effort which brings great satisfaction. Members are divided into groups which rotate each week; they meet either on a Friday or Saturday to set up for the Sunday services and clean up after the 8 am or 10:15 am Sunday services.

2019 brought some changes to the Altar Guild. We said goodbye to our fearless leader Valerie Norris. A huge Thank you to Valerie for your many years of leadership and faithful service. We miss you very much. To help cover all that Valerie did we have split up duties

with Lisa Nogacek taking on the responsibility of restocking the various items used weekly such as wafers, wine and oil to name a few; Cindy McLane had the white stole cleaned and repaired; Chris Curcio is doing the annual schedule and all the team members are eager to help out anywhere needed. Also, this year we were thrilled to welcome Maureen Ysewyn and Kirk Kirkpatrick to our ministry; both are fast becoming valuable members! And there is always room for more! If you are interested in knowing more about the Altar Guild Ministry, please reach out to anyone on the team.

Because our numbers have dwindled over the past few years it was necessary to change from four to three groups rotating every three weeks in 2018 and that schedule has worked and continued in 2019. Thankfully the whole Altar Guild group willingly and graciously steps up and supports each other when needed. None of us is alone. And if membership grows because of your interest we can increase the number of teams – more hands make for lighter work.

We welcome couples, singles and families of all ages. If you feel called to serve, please contact us, we will welcome you with open arms. On the job training, which is an ongoing process, will be provided!

Yours in Christ,
The Altar Guild Team
Cindy McLane, Mike McLane, Pat Fialkosky, Ed Fialkosky, Pauline Burdick, Pat Anderson,
Polly McIntyre, Teri Hochdorfer, Lisa Nogacek, Chris Curcio, Maureen Ysewyn and Kirk
Kirkpatrick
January 2020

Counter's

The job of the counters is to take the collections for each week and special events, organize the contributions into appropriate categories. Create the reports that the financial secretary can then use to keep track of pledges and other incomes. We also make the deposit to the bank on a weekly basis.

Each week there are assigned two individuals for this task. I would like to thank the following for their contributions to this ministry: George Bagge, Nancy Randall, Dennis McKelvey, Meghan Kotecki, and Sarah Nogacek and Pat Fialkoski.

Nancy Randall has stepped down as of the new year. I would like to thank her for all her faithful years of devotion to this ministry.

We are in desperate need more members of our committee. If you feel a calling to be part of our committee, please contact me.

Faithfully submitted, Ken Nogacek

Greeters

The Greeters ministry is the first line of welcoming for visitors and newcomers to church. We greet them at the door, help them feel comfortable here and introduce them to church parishioners. Our goal is to ensure that all visitors are welcome at Saint David's and to provide information to the Rector for follow-up communication.

We are always in need of more Greeters for this important ministry. The commitment is to greet at one Sunday service every few weeks. This takes only about 30 minutes of your time and gives you the opportunity to meet newcomers to the parish. If you are interested in becoming a Greeter, contact any of our current greeting team: Leslie Aiken, Steve Forbes, Susie Forbes, Pete Hall, Kirk Kirkpatrick, Pete Landolt, Leslie Leone, Ken Nogacek or Dave Stryker.

Pete Landolt

Organist/Choir Director

As the organist, I play for all worship services at St. David's, select the hymns for each service, work with the rector to select service music appropriate for the season, and am available to play for weddings and funerals.

As the senior choir director, I try my best to run a productive choir rehearsal on Thursday evenings at 7:00. We have a very social group of singers with concerns and ideas to share. When I am able to gain control, we are often preparing a variety of different hymns for worship. We also have a number of members willing to chant the psalm each Sunday.

We are blessed with a number of parishioners willing to provide special music for worship. I would like to thank Lisa Nogacek, Jenny Stadnicki, Sebastian Martelle, Chris Curcio, Marty Legg, Marilyn McNaughton and Rachel Legg. We welcome parishioners to share their musical talents with the congregation. I look forward to working with you whenever you are ready.

While Robin Martelle is on medical leave, I am also working with JuBELLee and the youth bell choir. We have weekly rehearsals and play for worship each month and for special services.

Some musical highlights for me from 2019 would be playing for the children's Good Friday Service, The Tenebrae Service on Good Friday with strings, bells and choir, Easter Sunday Service with trumpet, bells and rousing choir, The Service of Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve both with strings and choir. It was especially nice to see so many visitors from the community at these services.

Vacation Bible School is a true test of my energy and endurance, and I love every minute of it. By the end of the week, the children know a wealth of new songs and sing them with gusto!!

In His Service, Jane Nolan

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Director of Youth Christian Formation Annual Report One of my favorite poems goes as follows:

> First things first. Last things last. Hours pass slowly. Years pass fast.

That has certainly happened for Christian Formation in 2019. We have a very active Sunday School program. Godly Play class is available to those in preschool through second grade. Bible Stories are taught each week with plenty of time for wondering and exploration. I especially enjoy watching the children design and act out their own puppet shows.

The Rising UP class is using a curriculum entitled *Weaving God's Promises*. Bible stories are taught here also and includes information about why Episcopalians do what we do. The youth look at *The Book of Common Prayer* and how it relates to the Bible. The Rising UP class also has a Service Sunday each month when they work with adults to prepare Shepherd's pies used to feed the needy in New London.

Both Godly Play and the Rising UP class use a book from the Ann Arnold Memorial Library to enrich their learning.

The YES+ class is using a curriculum entitled *My Faith-My Life*. The youth in this class are age 12 and older. These students are taking a deeper look at what it means to be a Christian in the world right now. They have helped serve those Shepherd's pies in New London.

The students in these classes are very active members of Saint David's. You might see them as greeters, acolytes and ushers. Of course, there are those high-fives at the end of the service, too.

In 2019, our youth often "Do the little things" as Saint David said. They color pictures and write letters to those members who are ill or unable to attend services. They decorate cards for residents of Groton Regency. They collect socks, mittens and soup.

There were many special occasions involving our youth including All Saints' Day, Children's Sabbath, Palm Sunday (or as it will now be remembered, Pom-Pom Sunday), Easter service and the egg hunt, Saint David's Day and especially the pageant on Christmas Eve. Our youth have many talents and they are always willing to share.

On the last day of regular Sunday School, our youth each get a book to encourage them to find God in their summer reading. Thanks again to the generosity of Ann Arnold.

Summer brings Summer Sunday School and our participation in the ecumenical Vacation Bible School. I still hear the youth singing about Jonah and another favorite that ends with the words; "And if the devil doesn't like it, he can sit on a tack."

The Christian Formation program works because of all its volunteers. We have almost as many volunteers as we do youth. I personally want to thank our teachers and helpers and every person who has said "Sure, I can help with that," or "I'd like to make this donation."

It was a busy year that passed fast. Thanks Evelyn, Dylan, Gabe, Grayson, Kellan, Wesley, Michaela, Karissa, Ryan, Jessica, Reid, Clark, Sebastian, Mariah, Travis, Bella, Scarlett, and all guests. I look forward to another great year in 2020.

Respectfully submitted, Diane St. Laurent

Siobhan Cady Nursery

Our Nursery is available on Sunday mornings from 9:15 through 10:15 service, with two nursery attendants to watch St. David's youngest parishioners, children up to age 3.

Karen Albot and I have met the safe church requirements and provide the care in the nursery every Sunday.

We took the summer off as nursery usage remains low and summer often has no little ones to watch.

During past year we have one regular in the nursery. We'd like to have more little ones, so please spread the word that we have plenty of room to provide care and fun for St. David's youngest parishioners. Feel free to stop by on Sunday's to meet the Nursery Attendants.

Respectively Submitted Leslie Leone

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group

Wednesday morning Bible Study is held jointly with members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Gales Ferry. We meet in the conference room of St. Luke's Church Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 a.m. and we are thankful for this opportunity to get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ at St. Luke's who attend this Bible study. The study is led by either Pastor Danny or his assistant Pastor Sarah. We study scriptures from the church Lectionary, and we have some great discussions. Attending from St. David's Church are Linda Kutia, Flo Sheffield, Eve White, Joyce Davis and Maren Schober. The bible study is attended by both men and women and new members are always welcome. Average attendance at the Bible study is about 7 and this includes members of both churches.

The second Wed. of the month members of this bible study meet for lunch following Bible study. We meet at the Groton Townhouse Restaurant for food and friendship. New members are more than welcome to join us in this wonderful midweek spiritual life opportunity.

Maren Schober

Wednesday Night Bible Study

The Wednesday night Bible Study meets every Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 8:30 in the Library except during the five-week Lenten Study and the six weeks of Bibles & Burgers in the summer. Our agenda is to study parts of the Bible that are chosen by the group. During

2018 we have been studying early books of the Old Testament and how they lead us to the life of Jesus. Thanks to Bill Day for providing excellent facilitation of the weekly studies.

If you are interested in studying scripture in an informal, friendly and lively atmosphere, come to the church library on Wednesday evenings. Anyone is invited to attend. You do not need to be a biblical scholar!

If you have any questions about Bible Study meetings, topics or schedules, contact the church office, Pete Landolt, Bill Day.

Pete Landolt

PASTORAL CARE

St. David's Prayer Chain

St. David's Church is blessed with a wonderful ministry of prayer. The St. David's Prayer Chain is a prayer ministry available to all church members. Through the phone tree is passed prayer requests for ourselves, families and friends. These prayer requests are prayed every day with frequent updates during the year to keep the requests current. If you have a special prayer request for yourself or someone you love, just call Maren Schober, 860-848-7066 to start it off through the phone tree. We have seen many answers to our prayers, and we know that God will always do what is best in each situation and in His perfect timing. Praise be to God for His wonderful love and care of us and all those we pray for! Members of the phone tree are Maren Schober, Steve Forbes, Anne and Keith Ripley, Flo Sheffield, Jacqueline Leone, Leslie Aiken, Mary Carey, Chris Curcio, and Mimi Llewellyn. For more information please call Maren Schober, 860-848-7066. Please call me if you would like to serve as a caller on the prayer tree or if you wish to pass along a prayer request.

Prayer Team 2019

The 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month members of the St. David's prayer team offer personal prayer during Communion at both worship services in the back of the church. We are simply a group of men and women who offer ourselves to God in this way to pray for the needs of our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ at St. David's. This ministry is truly a blessing to all involved. We invite any of you who would like to learn more about this ministry to come to our monthly meetings at St. David's. We are reading and discussing the healings of Jesus as found in the gospels. We also have a prayer time in which we pray for the names of those on the prayer sticks and for our own needs. New members are always welcome. Current members of the St. David's Prayer Team include Leslie Aiken, Ruth Olsen, Mary Carey, Hap Fallon, Diane Fallon and Maren Schober.

For more information call Maren Schober, 860-848-7066

PARISH LIFE

Bridge Fellowship

The St. David's Bridge Fellowship meets regularly in homes for bridge, friendship and dessert! Do you like to play bridge? Then this group is for you!

We always welcome new members of any bridge playing ability and singles are welcome as

well as couples.

Our current membership includes: Mike and Cindy McLane, Al and Maren Schober, Paul and Jeannine Weeks, Joe and Pat Anderson, Anna Mae Burr and Bill and Myra Day. If you have questions or would like to join our group or try us out, please call Maren Schober, 860-848-7066.

Women's Group

Tues. A.M. Irregulars! Sounds like a funny name for a church group, but it works for us since we meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. We do take a break during December and July and August, but the rest of the year you can find us in the library, enjoying a short service from the Prayer Book, breakfast and a lively discussion revolving around the book we have chosen to read.

We meet at 7:30 A.M. and two people host the breakfast which usually consists of eggs, fruit and bread or muffins, coffee and tea. We have a schedule for the spring and fall, so everyone knows when it is their turn to host!

We welcome all ladies of the parish and we would love to have you join us. We have wonderful faith-based books, which we take our time reading, and make our discussions meaningful.

Contact Cindy Mclane for more information.

Wednesday Morning Men's Discussion Group

Every Wednesday morning (with a few holiday exceptions) a number of the parish non-ordained "elders" (and a few not so old) gather at 8 a.m. We attend the shortest service in the Book of Common Prayer (starting on page 137) and then adjourn to the library where, over coffee and "goodies" we solve the problems of the parish, the diocese, the nation and the world. We adjourn by 9 a.m. with all problems are solved until the following week.

We welcome all male members of the St. David's family. We have even had a few non-parish attendees, which always adds to the fellowship. So, if you want the real inside "scoop" on almost anything, please join us for a session to see how you like it.

Contact Pete Hall or Mike McLane for the password to get into the library on that morning.

GOD'S MISSION THROUGH SAINT DAVID'S

Thames River Family Program

A large collection box just outside the doors of our parish hall is used for donations being made to the Thames River Family Program in Norwich. The Thames River Family Program in Norwich offers a transitional facility for the homeless families who work on goals for self-efficiency, independence from public assistance, and control over their lives. This program specifically serves young parents who are between the ages of 18 and 24 years old. The list of their needs includes personal care items, bedding for twin beds, household items for setting up apartments and clothing in good condition. Al Schober kindly uses his Subaru to transport the contents of the big box to the Family Program Building. Thank you, Al, for your many car trips delivering to the Program and thank you members of St. David's for your many contributions!

Maren Schober

Ledyard Food Pantry

Thank you, members of St. David's Church for your very generous giving of food and basic need contributions to the Ledyard Food Pantry! Located at Ledyard Center the food pantry serves residents of Ledyard who are in financial need. The specific needs are listed in the church bulletins during the year and the collection boxes at St. David's for the Pantry are filled by you each week. Ray, Sandy and Meaghan Brown give generously of their time in transporting the collection items to the food pantry and we are so thankful to them. We have received thank you notes from the directors of the Food Pantry to show their appreciation. The need is out there, and the need is real. Thank you one and all for helping your neighbors in this way!

The total number of bags of donations in 2019 delivered to the Ledyard Food Pantry was about 80. This is a huge contribution from members of St. David's. Thank you so very very much!

Once a month the food collection boxes are blessed at the altar by Mark Santucci. Thank you, Mark, for this wonderful blessing on the project. This coming year we will continue to collect nonperishable food items, as well as baking supplies, laundry supplies, cleaning supplies, bathroom supplies, feminine products and general personal care items. And.....thank You, God, for blessing us so much that we can be a blessing to others.

Maren Schober, chairperson

FACIILTY AND GROUNDS

Junior Warden's Report

We take this is opportunity to acquaint everyone with Saint David's facility. The sanctuary seats approximately 250 parishioners at any one time; it is adjoined by the Sacristy which stores all of the elements, wines, and other holy objects that are used for all religious services. Additionally, there is a library, several offices, a music room, multiple classrooms, storage rooms, and a Parish hall with a modern state of the art commercial grade kitchen. The main steeple is accessible through the frontal area of the sanctuary via ladders and a ventilation louver door.

This facility is powered by seven **natural gas** heating/AC units, one **oil fired** furnace, fans, and a sprinkler system. The air conditioning units only cool the new portion of the church and Parish Hall. The oil furnace and two gas heaters/AC units are located in the basement. Five of the gas heating/AC units are located on the main floor. Duct work with accompanying fans and electrical wiring is run inside the walls and throughout the attics. These units are periodically inspected by the fire Marshall, food inspector, insurance carrier and contractors that we engage to test our electrical, sprinkler, water pressure, and alarm systems.

During 2019, we replaced the entire roof over the Sanctuary, repaired the small steeple/roof over the Parish Hall, and leaks in several windows to include: the Dove Stain glass window over the Altar. We also replaced the oil furnace, detached hot water heater, and all necessary piping and valves. Importantly, we had to ensure that the water supply, pressure and temperature of hot water for the kitchen dishwasher are in compliance. Because of the ongoing problem with the heating system in the legacy portion of the church, the sanctuary oil furnace, air induction system, and point, was reengineered, replaced and repositioned. Total Gross cost for these repairs approximate \$42,000. That amount was partially offset by an Insurance reimbursement of \$12,000, and a donation of \$2,400, from two separate parishioners, reducing the NET cost to \$27,600. Funding for these items was appropriated from both our operating and reserve accounts. In January 2020 we will be applying for a grant from the Diocese to help offset the cost of the roof and Steeple repairs that were not covered by our insurance. Amount, yet to be determined.

Additionally, we contract for: lawn mowing, snow plowing, trash removal, and cleaning services. These annual costs approximate \$15,000.00.

The most significant item that has been designated for replacement is the main exterior front door. The Fire Marshall, for safety reasons, requested replacement. The twin doors and accompanying hardware, was estimated to cost. \$30,000.

One of our team members appraised the situation and made appropriate modifications & repairs. This enabled us to postpone the eventual replacement.

In September 2019 a new committee, "Friends of the Garden", was initiated.

Thanks to the many volunteers it was an outstanding success. Bringing their own tools, many worked both individually and also as part of a Team effort on our first designated event. This volunteer effort will continue both by scheduled events and by individuals willing to take responsibility for an assigned section on an ongoing basis. We thank the Lillies, who for many years donated their company's time and plantings to maintain the gardens surrounding the church.

What/who keeps all of these ongoing repairs and maintenance an outstanding success? A small team of dedicated volunteers: Bill Day, Al Schober and Steve Forbes, collectively provide advice, service and untold hours of **hard labor**. Working with contractors, and building inspectors, they review the contracts, oversee the work, and attend the many inspections that are required.

TO THE TEAM!!! GOD BLESS, AND MANY THANKS.

Ed Fialkosky. Jr. Warden

WIDER CHURCH

Delegate Report of the 235th Annual Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church of Connecticut [ECCT] for 2020 Annual Parish Meeting: St. David's Episcopal Church, Gales Ferry Connecticut

Once a year, delegates and members the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, gather together into one place for prayer, listening, learning, and conducting the business of our Diocese, which comprises the whole state of Connecticut. The ECCT is in Province I (New England) of The Episcopal Church of the USA (ECUSA or TEC). We are a member of the Anglican Communion.

All are welcome to our Annual Convention, and, for this, each faith community in the diocese sends at least one of each clergy and laity delegates. St. David's elects at our Annual Parish Meeting two lay delegates (for three-year terms) and two lay alternate delegates (for one-year terms; one of whom is the serving Senior Warden). These lay delegates with all clergy of our Diocese form the voting delegation who together mutually and democratically listen, discern, try on, reflect, and decide how to embrace the opportunity and participate in Joining Jesus in the Missional Age. It is a lively exchange of ideas, experiences, faith, fervor, and spiritual adrenaline.

We gathered in Convention in Hartford on 26-27 October 2019 and the sole person attending from St. David's EC was lay delegate Jill Foster. This year became fully paperless and so for a deep dip into Convention details, links are provided here plus your delegate's participant observations.

The Convention agenda includes times to meet informally with other attendees, and so I was really pleased to talk with members of our fellow Southeastern Region faith communities: St

James' New London, and St James' Poquetanuck, Christ Episcopal Norwich, and Grace Yantic, who with us form the "Upper Thames Four" plus St John's Niantic, St Mark's Mystic, Calvary Stonington, and several above, below, and afar who have interest in simply hanging out with "St. David's - Us" in worship, mission, and church suppers! Youth, young adult, music, flowers, pilgrimage, partnered pews, preachers from campuses, adult spiritual growth, mutual trips: these were enthusiastically explored along with "How are you doing?" and "Let's plan/ pray/ play" partner in person. Companionship in Christ is welcomed among us.

https://youtu.be/_AvnD5al0Vc The Bishop's Address (the Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas) during this 235th Annual Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut had stirring even startling data and encouragement. Two ideas posed by Bishop Ian in his address are: "God will have the Church God needs to be about God's mission" and "Do we want to be that Church? I pray that we do."

Café World Discussions: these are six proposed topics, and delegates attend only one so that the two-hour immersion in listening, discerning, trying on, reflecting, deciding, and perhaps recycling through these steps some more may really take place. It's intense and truly purposeful. For full insight to this year's Café World see the topic questions with resulting discussion report pdfs available online at the ECCT website

Questions and Reports https://www.episcopalct.org/events/annual-convention/2019/submitted-questions/

My attempt to participate in more than one Cafe World came to speedy realization that it couldn't be done on my own. I'm disappointed St. David's only fielded one delegate this year and thus handicapped our participation. The Convention is intentionally focused and so I chose as a relevant topic for this St. David's Grow group member: How can our smaller congregations -- especially those with half-time clergy or less -- best grow in their capacity to make disciples? Musical chair type rotation through the group tables meant we met with most of those there and had time for rich discussion of ideas as well as opportunity to meet new and renew old contacts. I was pleased to catch up with Yantic Grace and Poquetanuck St. James people and hear views about their shared parish partnership of a shared priest and positive outcomes. Willingness to Be Bold, Fear Not, try on new ideas, identify and maintain what works (and doesn't need fixing), balance spiritual wellbeing, feed spirits mutually and individually, join with episcopal partners around us whether we know them already or not, make opportunities to share discipleship and apostleship, keep our budgets trim and vibrant, worship and pray together, build camaraderie mission opportunities, communicate needs and celebrate God's Love openly and generously in our region were clear indicators of the grace and energy in the mix. These are action sessions moving through debate and listening, and so we are challenged to plan next steps and act on these through consensus. From these are derived resolutions significant to understanding our engagement in God's desire for us via ECCT membership

Links to these reports of key ideas, findings, and next steps the six Café World groups realised for the **six questions** are found at "submitted questions" link above and are based on these Questions:

 What do the people of ECCT need to understand the importance of building meaningful relationships across differences so we can live more fully not only into our Season of Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation, but beyond? <u>World Cafe Report: Racial Healing and</u> <u>Justice [PDF]</u>

- Given the urgency and impact of climate change, how can we educatemand inspire the people of ECCT to protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creation? World Cafe Report: Climate Change [PDF]
- How can our smaller congregations -- especially those with half-time clergy or less -- best grow in their capacity to make disciples? World Cafe Report: Forming Disciples [PDF]
- How can we get as good at addressing the causes of injustice as we are at responding to the effects of injustice? World Cafe Report: Addressing the Causes of Injustice [PDF]
- How do we as parishes and as witnesses at baptism support our children and youth as they
 grow in the full stature of Christ, when Sunday School is no longer a viable option? <u>World</u>
 <u>Cafe Report: Forming Children and Youth [PDF]</u>
- How can the church best respond to the growing trend for young adults to seek some other spiritual alternatives? <u>World Cafe Report: Young Adults [PDF]</u>

https://www.episcopalct.org/e parishv.ents/annual-convention/2019/resolutions-and-reports/

The business of Convention is conducted at table groups in Convention of the Whole: Resolutions and Mission reports are provided, and open discussion, debate, and votes lead to adoption or not of resolutions. Of these, approving the innovations that expand our understanding of God's inclusion, our mutual and specific needs, identified resources, and ministries among us across the ECCT to engage in God's Mission; plus salaries and benefices of budget and elected personnel – all are key to the coming year's Mission in Connecticut and beyond. Each parish is assessed to contribute to this mutual mission. St David's is "In Good Standing", having ably met our assessment and demonstrated continuing good management of resources. This gives us voice in the ECCT and enables participation in supports to our parish, as well as engagement of our parish in decisions for itself. No parishes and faith communities in the Episcopal Church own their church properties per se – by TEC and ECCT Constitution and Canon Law, the properties and mission are held in trust by the parish to the diocese -- the work of the annual Convention with its resolutions and reports are critical to how well we maintain this covenant relationship to each other and carry out our mutual mission in that of God.

100 years of Christ Church Cathedral - Hartford On Saturday evening, I was privileged to attend the glorious Choral Evensong and supper celebration of the hundredth anniversary of our diocesan cathedral. Guests from Aberdeen UK marked our Scottish Episcopal heritage with canny good humour and clarity. Myra Day's commissioned banner hanging prominently in the chancel beautifully depicted the centenary emblem, the musical offerings were a lovely gathering of many sacred styles and diversities that wonderfully reflected the cathedral's presence in the city and praises to God.

Sunday's Diocesan Worship and Eucharist was inspirational and, with choirs and liturgists from across the diocese plus "We've Come This Far by Faith" Address by retired Rt. Rev. Bishop Barbara Harris to all Episcopalians of Connecticut and friends, we were welcomed to celebrate God's love among us in the Episcopal Church of Connecticut. Especially Glad thanks go to Myra and Bill Day for their Worship Wagon safe and comfortable carriage of those of us who attended from St. David's . https://www.episcopalct.org/events/annual-convention/2019/worship-live-stream/

The 236th Annual Diocesan Convention will be held in Stamford, CT on Oct 9-10, 2020 Subscribe Email E-News Episcopal Church in Connecticut < https://episcopalct.org>

January Newsletter "Southeast Region Bridge" https://conta.cc/2MChzW5 Missionary Rev. Rachel Thomas
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Faithfully submitted, Jill Foster, a St. David's diocesan lay delegate – January 2020