

Saint David's Episcopal Church

Gales Ferry, Connecticut



2020 Annual Report

January 31, 2021

Saint David's
Episcopal Church
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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 STATEMENT

- 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 31, 2021

1. Call to Order –The Rev. Jana Branson, 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 January 26, 2020
5. Reports
 - a. Report of the The Rev. Jana Branson, Rector
 - b. Senior Warden
 - c. Junior Warden
 - d. Treasurer
 - i. Review of 2020
 - ii. Presentation of the 2021 Spending Plan
 - e. Christian Formation
 - f. Other Ministries
6. Presentation of Slate of Nominees
 - 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 ANNUAL MEETING

Aiken, Richard	Foster, Kit	Olsen, Ruth
Aiken, J. Leslie	Foster, Jill	Olson, Jeannette
Anderson, Joseph	Gilbert, Jeanne	Peck-Llewellyn, Mimi
Anderson, Patricia	Gilbert, Craig	Ripley, Keith
Bagge, George	Gurnee, George	Ripley, Anne
Bagge, Linzee	Gurnee, Sonya	Schober, Albert
Ball, Janice	Gurnee, Robert	Schober, Maren
Baumann, Amy	Hall, Raymond	Shepherd, Edward
Bohannon, William	Harding, Kent	Shepherd, Kathy
Bohannon, Lillian	Harding, Mackie	Shukis, Chris
Branson, Eric	Hochdorfer, Joe	Shukis, Kimberly
Burdick, Pauline	Hochdorfer, Teri	Shukis, Ian
Burr, Anna Mae	Joiner, Maureen	Shukis, Kelsey
Cady, James	Jones, Raymond	Shukis, Sara
Campbell, Julie	Kirkpatrick, William	St. Laurent, Diane
Campbell, Nicole	Landolt, Peter	Stadnicki, Christine
Campbell, Allison	Lang, Patrick	Stadnicki, Scott
Campbell, Mikey	Lang, Cara	Stadnicki, Jennifer
Campbell, Samuel	Lang, Anne Randall	Stadnicki, Andrew
Campbell, Robert	Lathrop, Dorothy	Stryker, David
Carey, Charles	Leone, Jacqueline	Stryker, Sharon
Carey, Mary	Llewellyn, Emmy	Wakim, John
Cosenza, Janet	Llewellyn, Matt	Wakim, Martha (Anne)
Crowley, Naomi	Lyon, John	White, Jack
Curcio, Christine	Martelle, Clif	White, Eve
Davis, Joyce	Martelle, Robin	Ziolko, Jessica
Day, Edward	McIntyre, Bruce	Ziolko, John
Day, Myra	McIntyre, Polly	
Dierman, Allan	McKelvey, Dennis	
Dierman, Linda	McKelvey, Susan	
Dierman, Marie	McLane, Michael	
Dow, Ann	McLane, Cynthia	
Fallon, Diane	Miller, Constance	
Fallon, Hap	Muskus, Claire	
Fialkosky, Ed	Nogacek, Kenneth	
Fialkosky, Pat	Nogacek, Melissa	
Flanagan, Mark	Nogacek, Sarah	
Flanagan, Diana	Nogacek, Meghan	
Forbes, Steve	Nolan, Thomas	
Forbes, Susie	Norberg, Paula	

ST. DAVID'S ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES 2020

St David's Episcopal Church Annual Meeting Minutes January 26, 2020

Meeting opened at 10:30 a.m. with call and response of Psalm 27 and prayer led by Mark Santucci, Interim Rector.

Motion from Kent Harding to accept the role of members, Ken Nogacek seconded. All in favor, motion passes.

Mark indicates that he will move his report to the last item in the agenda so that he has the last the word. Al Schober Motions Susie Forbes seconds to accept the minutes from the February 10, 2019 annual meeting as presented. All in favor motion passes.

Rev. Mark introduces all officers and vestry members and invites Sr Warden Ken Nogacek to give his report.

Ken Nogacek, Sr Warden comments on how well the vestry worked together and thanks Mary Carey for the number of years she has served on vestry. The vestry accepted Mary's resignation mid-year 2019. He invites all present to please thank her for her time. Other members leaving the vestry are Jeannette Olson who was voted to fill the remainder of Mary's 3rd year term. Scott Stadnicki and Craig Gilbert are also leaving having completed their three-year terms. Also, Ed Fialkosky will be resigning as Jr Warden. Thank you all for your time and service.

An update on the Rector transition, this weekend, we had a candidate in for an interview and we have another candidate that is scheduled for interview. We will be able to report further on the transition once the Vestry has had an opportunity to meet and discuss each candidate further. Ken Nogacek adds that he believes we will have a permanent full time Rector this year (2020). Thank you, Rev. Mark, for your service and support. (all present applaud).

In addition, Ken indicates that we are down to just 4 counters of the financial donations each Sunday and that the Vestry has stepped up to support that ministry.

Rev. Mark introduces Jr. Warden Ed Fialkosky and invites him to present his report. Ed introduces Al Schober, Bill Day and Steve Forbes as members of the building committee who have helped to keep the heat on, the roof repaired, the front door repaired and many other building and grounds odds and ends. Ed state that it has been a pleasure to serve and thanks everyone again.

Treasurer Steve Forbes is called forward to provide his report. Steve opens by saying that it is unfortunate that Bill Day is not here – he is a great assistant – we are a good team and work well together. He helps me keep the Debits and Credit straight. Thank you, Bill (all applaud).

Steve refers everyone to page 12 of the annual report and explains the columns on the CY 2020 Income Budget. He points out various items one of which are the pledges which show a strong financial health of St. David's. The 52 Pledges received are not the same pledges but more than last year.

Outreach – we sent \$412 to the Coast Guard to support them during the shut-down last year. Val Norris

sold off all her paintings before moving back to England, which proceeds she donated to Outreach which was used for Prison Ministry, St Vincent de Paul Christmas Party and the Homeless Hospitality Center. Also thank you to Dennis McKelvey for his support of the Christmas Feast (all applaud). Jill Foster reports that we contributed to the CROP walk which region wide exceeded \$18,000. Steve asks that everyone read Ed Fialkosky's Jr. Warden's report that shows all that has been done to keep the facility running.

Finally, on the last page, we were able to keep a positive cash flow. Unfortunately, we were not able to hire a new Rector in 2019 however we were able to put aside \$34,000 towards the relocation and hiring of a new Rector. Today there is \$108,000 in that account. God is in charge of when the next Rector is hired (all applaud).

Rev. Mark returns to a call and response.

Rev. Mark asks Diane St. Laurent, Director of Christian Education if she would like to add anything to her written report. She stands and announces that she just checked in on all the kids (who are watching a movie in the other room) and they are all still alive.

Anne Ripley asks who the different leaders are in the Christian Formation school and Rev. Mark refers her to Diane.

Rev. Mark refers to the page with the nominations and asks that the officers please stand. He asks that the nominations for Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Clerk be cast as one ballot. Pat Anderson motions that one ballot be cast for all executive officer nominees. Kirk Kirkpatrick seconds. All in favor, motion passes. For a matter of record, for one-year Officer positions, the nominees are Senior Warden- Ken Nogacek, Junior Warden- Scott Stadnicki, Clerk- Chris Curcio and Treasurer- Steve Forbes.

Rev. Mark announces the nominees for Vestry, all stand as they are introduced. Ballots are distributed. All vote. Ken Nogacek, Steve Forbes and Chris Curcio count the votes. The vote results in the following new vestry members to serve a three-year term: Hap Fallon, Jeanette Olson and Ed Fialkosky. Ken Nogacek is nominated as Alternate Delegate to Convention. All in Favor. Motion passes.

Rev Mark reads again Psalm 27 as a call and response. He begins his report by stating that this year, he is in his 32nd month of his two-year assignment. He believes this is the second longest tenure. Susie Forbes adds that we are so glad he is here. Rev. Mark comments that not once in the 32 months has anyone ever said, "no, we can't do that" or "that's not the way it's done". And he says thank you for that. He also thanks us for our Steadfastness, commitment to one another and to St David's and most especially to our Lord. And going forward with confidence to whatever is next. He adds that we have refused to be frustrated by the transition process and that God will reveal what God will reveal when he chooses to reveal it. We are listening not only for who will be called for Rector but where we are being called. We tried on some new things – the last few months we have held a healing service in conjunction with St James Poquetanuck. Jane Nolan, Music Director, put on the best Good Friday service we have ever done and we're going to do that again. Some things have worked great and others just eh. We have made significant strides to our stewardship program and we are very pleased that the program has been advanced and the response to it has been advanced. There is plenty of money in the parish to do what we need. The bad news is it's in your pocket and not ours. We have great program for the kids – it warms his heart to see the kids at the soup kitchen. He indicates he remembers the things he did when he was a kid growing up. We had a great VBS this year. He is thrilled with our worship which takes a great deal of people to make that happen and mentions all the ministries involved. Thank you for all of that. He points out that

the Flower Guild and Altar Guild have gone through changes and members have stepped up to fill in the gaps and thank you for that. He also thanks the officers and vestry. Ken Nogacek and Ed Fialkosky and Chris Curcio and Steve Forbes - we come together to form an executive committee and all members of the vestry who work together. As Ken stated, it's a joy to work with this Vestry - which has not always been his experience at other parishes. Particular thanks to Mary Carey and Craig Gilbert for their service on Vestry and to Ed Fialkosky and Jeannette Olson and Hap Fallon who will be joining us.

Rev. Mark continues to thank all those involved in the service and indicates its important because so many of you are working to make it all happen.

Susie Forbes interjects with a thank you for Father Mark who has stuck with us (all applaud).

To Al Schober and Bill Day who are here more than I am – they are always here to make sure things go as they should go. To the people manning the kitchen.

And to my staff – I am deeply blessed with a wonderful wonderful staff. I could not begin to all the things I do without the hard work of the staff. He introduces Jane Nolan, Robin Martelle, Diane St. Laurent. And Maria Nott, Parish Coordinator who is not here. (All applaud and cheer.)

Last year he quoted his favorite theologian.....“Don't worry about what the world needs, go out and do what makes you come alive...

Working with you makes me come alive. And working together makes us all come alive. It's the way the Spirit works. I just want to say thank you for being willing to try new things. We are given as a light to the world that all the world may be transformed. It's not about arriving it's about being on the way. He reminds us of the story about the little boy who is asked 'who are the saints' and remembering the stained-glass windows he indicates the saints are the people the light shines through. (All applaud Rev. Mark for his report and in thanks for his leadership and service.)

Mark asks if there is any new or old business. None heard he asks for a motion to adjourn. Ken Nogacek motions to adjourn Jeanette Olson seconds. All in favor, meeting adjourns at 11:27.

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. (this item was missed in the agenda)

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 Report

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

2020 has indeed been an interesting year!!

The Vestry started the year, as we have many of the past years, with The Search Process. The end of 2019 saw us interview candidates via Skype/Facetime in November and December. After the new year we met and discussed our way forward. We had one candidate stand out above the others we had met with and we decided to bring that candidate in for a final interview. As we all know we chose that candidate to be the new Rector. We were very happy to announce that we had chosen the Reverend Jana Branson to be our new rector. She would begin her duties almost 10 years to the day from the time Reverend Baker retired. We were also fortunate enough that Reverend Mark Santucci was happy to continue in his role as PIC until Reverend Jana could begin her role as rector.

I thank Mark for his 3 years of time he devoted to St. David's. His leadership and spiritual presence helped us to maintain our focus on finding the right person to fit with St. David's. Again, THANK YOU Mark for your time and dedication.

In mid-February many members of our vestry joined with other vestrys from the south east region ECCT for a one day retreat at the Incarnation Center, Deep River CT. This day was filled with many activities related to how to engage members of the parish in the church, as well as how we may utilize and share talents between parishes. Many of us left the retreat with renewed vigor in ways in which we not only as vestry but also as individuals may get involved.

Then March rolled around and the nation and world were hit with a pandemic. COVID-19. We had our March vestry meeting and consensus was to continue services that was March 14th. We had in person service on March 15 and the rest is they say history, as it was recommended, we not have in person services to help prevent the spread of COVID.

We have been conducting services via Live Streaming on Facebook since then. Again, I thank Mark. He had an idea of how we could make a live stream of our service work. He enlisted the help of numerous members of the parish to make it happen. Especially I thank Tom Nolan for his knowledge and assistance in this area. I am sure I am missing other members who worked behind the scenes to make those first live stream events happen and to help refine the process. I do thank everyone that was involved in helping to

make our Sunday live events happen.

As a vestry, we began to do our meetings via Zoom. We have continued to do this with our monthly meetings.

As a parish we were able to give Mark a sendoff on his last day with a drive-by farewell. We then welcomed Jana into our parish family. While she has not yet had a live service with the entirety of our members, she has met many members who have stopped over and done properly social distanced introductions. I look forward to that day when we can give Jana a true St. David's "Welcome Home". I thank Linda Dierman, Meghan Nogacek and Kirk Kirkpatrick, who are completing their terms on the vestry. Thank you for your valuable input, and dedication to the work that you have contributed to your time on the vestry.

I look forward to a time in the not-so-distant future when we can meet in person again. In the meantime, thank you for your support on the live stream and continued support of St. David's.

Faithfully submitted,

Ken Nogacek, Senior Warden.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

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

This past year one item we did manage to forget prior to adjourning the annual meeting was to select members for a nominating committee.

Due to the COVID outbreak we were not able to convene a parish wide meeting. Therefore, in leu of this I conferred with the rector and solicited names for Vestry nomination. The Rector also expressed an interest in maintaining the present executive board to aid in stability during the time of COVID.

Reverend Jana spoke with all members of the executive committee and we all agreed to continue on at least one more year.

The following are nominated for one year officer positions:

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

The following are nominated for three-year vestry positions:

Kent Harding
Jackie Leone
Mimi Peck-Llewellyn

Faithfully submitted,

Ken Nogacek, Senior Warden

FINANCE MINISTRY

Treasurer's Report for Calendar Year 2020

Financially, 2020 has been a year of challenges requiring flexibility and attentive management. All 2020 obligations, salaries, and bills were paid on time, and Rev Branson and family were successfully moved to Connecticut from California. Income exceeded expenses by 17,967 for the year. This is due to the Federal Government granting us a Payroll Protection Loan of \$24,000, and parishioners doing an excellent job supporting the parish fiscally. Pledges were essentially on budget, but plate was about \$1,000 behind budget, for which we are grateful considering our circumstances.

Expense category summaries for calendar year 2020 are presented in the following line items:

Christian Formation was over budget \$233. This account is essentially on budget and the money was well spent for the education of our youth.

Worship was under budget \$765. This is primarily due to the reduced expenses in the music department due to a reduction in the activity at services.

Outreach and Mission was under budget \$737. Outreach Pass-Through and Rector's Discretionary are both donations from parishioners not normally allocated by the vestry. These funds accounted for most of the budget difference. The parish is encouraged to support these line items.

Parish Life was over budget \$2,636. This cost growth is associated with the IT support that was required to keep the office and church's network on-line.

Pastoral Care was essentially on budget, except for un-budgeted expenses to support the transition committee. This expense was most welcome and worth every penny.

Wider Church was under budget \$6. This is the Diocese Pledge and reflects monthly round off differences between the Diocese and our books.

Facilities and Grounds was under budget \$6,177. This expense category is usually always over budget but 2020 has been anything but usual. The cost of oil has significantly decreased and building utilization has also decreased electrical and heating costs.

Payroll was under budget \$18,267. This category was significantly below budget due to three factors. Nurse Attendants have not been required since March, Maria moved on to a new full-time job in October and our new Parish Coordinator, Madeline Wilson, is coming aboard with the new year, and Robin has had to restrict her participation at Saint David's music program for health reasons until the fall of 2021, God willing.

2021: The 2021 budget supports a full-time rector, our existing staff, incorporates the Diocese-mandated salary growth due to cost of living, and meets our Diocesan commitment. The three outstanding loans for the new addition to the church could be paid off with assets in savings, but is being deferred until the Fall of 2021 to ensure all factors have been considered. 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 2020, 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 and reasonable expectations;
4. The budget supports the Diocese's 1.68 % COLA guidelines for clergy and employees;
5. The Diocese is advertising at 10% increase in insurance costs this year;

6. Outreach is budgeted at \$1,700, but needs to be increased as opportunity presents itself; and
7. The ECCT Assessment is budgeted at \$25,629, which is 10% of our 2019 Operating Income.

Saint David's Account Balances as of December 31, 2020 are as follows:

Putnam Checking - \$99,409

Putnam Savings - \$161,607 (Restricted Funds- \$84,793 Rector Savings)

Capital Campaign Loans from parishioners \$35,000

The following pages are the CY 2020 Budgeted and Actual Receipts and Expenses, the CY 2021 Budget, and the Restricted Fund CY 2020 Fund Balances.

Respectfully Submitted
Steve Forbes, Treasurer
Bill Day, Assistant Treasurer

ST DAVID'S CY 2021 INCOME BUDGET

\$0

		CY 2020 BUDGET	CY 2020 ACTUALS	CY 2021 BUDGET
01-4070	Ash Wednesday Envelope	\$170	\$226	\$225
01-4080	Christmas/Thanks Envelope	\$1,200	\$425	\$1,200
02-4510	Discretionary Fund	\$250	\$0	\$250
01-4301	Vacation Bible School	\$250	\$80	\$100
02-5935-002	Soup Kitchen	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-4060	Easter Envelope	\$500	\$366	\$500
02-4501	Good Friday	\$150	\$146	\$200
01-4090	Initial Offerings	\$250	\$103	\$150
01-4120	Interest	\$80	\$92	\$100
01-4130	Miscellaneous Income	\$50	\$24,408	\$50
02-4505	Outreach Income	\$2,500	\$791	\$500
02-4505-003	St Vincent Xmas	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-4035	Plate	\$10,000	\$8,898	\$10,000
01-4035-001	Plate Restricted	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
01-4030	Pledges	\$229,105	\$229,021	\$229,105
01-4031	Pledges last year	\$500	\$0	\$0
01-4032	Pledges for Next Year	\$0	\$10,600	\$0
01-4050	Special Offerings	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-4110	Use of Building	\$7,000	\$1,085	\$3,000
03-4602	Bldg. Fund Receipts	\$5,000	\$3,300	\$3,000
03-4603	Bldg. Fund Int	\$75	\$79	\$80
25-5025	Rector Savings Exp	\$18,242	\$0	\$31,559
TOTALS		\$275,322	\$279,620	\$285,019
VARIANCE		\$5,549	\$15,444	\$0

ST DAVID'S CY 2021 BUDGET EXPENSES

\$0

		CY 2020 BUDGET	CY 2020 ACTUALS	CY 2021 BUDGET
CHRISTIAN FORMATION (EXPENSES)				
01-5510	Church School	\$850	\$1,105.74	\$800
01-5520	Library	\$0	\$0.00	\$0
01-5521	Vacation Bible School	\$250	\$228	\$300
01-5514	Youth Group	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5540	Adult Education	\$0	\$0	\$0
SUB TOTAL		\$1,100	\$1,333	\$1,100
WORSHIP (EXPENSES)				
01-5450	Worship Supplies	\$1,302	\$1,223	\$1,200
01-5460	Choir Activities/Supplies	\$623	\$357	\$500
01-5465	Hand Bell Activities/Supplies	\$100	\$58	\$100
01-5470	Organ/Piano Tune	\$1,000	\$772	\$1,000
01-5405	Organist Cont. Educ	\$150	\$0	\$150
SUB TOTAL		\$3,175	\$2,410	\$2,950
OUTREACH & MISSION (EXPENSES)				
02-5925	Outreach Pass-through	\$1,500	\$230	\$1,500
02-5935	Outreach	\$1,000	\$1,683	\$1,000
02-5935- 002	Soup Kitchen	\$0	\$0	\$0
02-5930	Other Outreach Projects	\$0	\$0	\$0
02-5945	Rector's Discretionary	\$150	\$0	\$0
02-5950	Southeast Region	\$0	\$0	\$0
02-5940	Seminary Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
SUB TOTAL		\$2,650	\$1,913	\$2,500
PARISH LIFE (EXPENSES)				
01-5330	Office Supplies	\$1,000	\$963	\$1,000
01-5350	Postage & Mailing	\$250	\$341	\$350
01-5360	Copier	\$3,929	\$4,165	\$4,000
01-5801	Bank Fees		\$5	
01-5840	Fellowship/Receptions	\$250	\$21	\$250
01-5870	Parish Support	\$500	\$275	\$500
01-5880	Communications	\$300	\$212	\$300
01-5890	Info Technical Support	\$1,500	\$4,382	\$3,500
SUB TOTAL		\$7,729	\$10,365	\$9,900

\$0

ST DAVID'S CY 2021 BUDGET EXPENSES

		CY 2020 BUDGET	CY 2020 ACTUALS	CY 2021 BUDGET
PASTORAL CARE (EXPENSES)				
01-5240	Reimbursed Expenses (Auto)	\$1,450	\$525	\$150
01-5810	Stewardship	\$270	\$467	\$400
01-5820	Audits	\$1,350	\$1,350	\$1,350
01-5860	Transition Committee	\$0	\$1,334	\$0
SUB TOTAL		\$3,070	\$3,677	\$1,900
WIDER CHURCH (EXPENSES)				
01-5910-001	Diocesan Pledge	\$25,602	\$25,596	\$25,629
SUB TOTAL		\$25,602	\$25,596	\$25,629
FACILITIES & GROUNDS (EXPENSES)				
01-5701	Trash Removal	1100	\$1,092	1100
01-5705	Snow Removal	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$3,200
01-5710	Lawn Mowing	\$3,000	\$2,425	\$3,000
01-5715	Safety Inspections	\$2,600	\$1,889	\$2,000
01-5720	Heating	\$8,000	\$4,742	\$4,500
01-5725	Electricity	\$10,469	\$7,762	\$8,500
01-5730	Telephone	\$2,191	\$2,150	\$2,448
01-5735	Water	\$1,633	\$2,422	\$1,440
01-5740	Natural Gas	\$1,576	\$1,426	\$1,500
01-5745	Maintenance & Repair	\$1,500	\$1,311	\$1,500
01-5750	Ground Maintenance	\$450	\$162	\$200
01-5755	Building Supplies	\$300	\$182	\$300
01-5760	Property Liability Insurance	\$10,451	\$10,356	\$12,018
01-5765	Capital Reserve	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5775	Capital Maintenance	\$0	\$1,779	\$0
01-5780	Cleaning Service	\$7,260	\$6,655	\$7,260
03-2520/1/2	Parishioner Loans	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$12,500
SUB TOTAL		\$63,730	\$57,553	\$61,466

ST DAVID'S CY 2021 BUDGET EXPENSES

\$0

		CY 2020 BUDGET	CY 2020 ACTUALS	CY 2021 BUDGET
PAYROLL (EXPENSES)				
		RECTOR		
01-5210-001	Rector's Salary	\$48,507	\$23,898	\$26,965
01-5210-002	Rector's Salary - Housing	\$1,731	\$30,000	\$30,000
01-5220	Rector's FICA	\$3,912	\$4,752	\$8,329
01-5210-002	Rector's Housing/Utilities	\$4,615	\$14,583	\$25,420
01-5232	Clergy Insurance	\$10,418	\$30	\$360
01-5235	Clergy Pension	\$7,669	\$9,316	\$16,329
01-5236	Future Rector Savings	\$13,200	\$2,640	\$0
01-5237	Continuing Education	\$1,850	\$0	\$1,850
	Rector Sabbatical		\$0	\$1,497
01-5440	Supply Clergy	\$1,250	\$292	\$1,250
		PARISH COORDINATOR		
01-5310	Parish Coordinator	\$21,237	\$17,572	\$20,800
01-5321	Parish Coordinator Pension	\$1,582	\$1,156	\$0
ALL				
01-5380	Payroll Taxes	\$4,967	\$4,580	\$4,903
01-5810	Putnam Bank Fees	\$20		\$78
MUSIC				
01-5410	Organist Salary	\$22,479	\$22,479	\$22,857
01-5415	Dir of Bells/Junior Choirs	\$5,483	\$3,945	\$5,017
01-5420	Substitute Music Staff	\$775	\$2,040	\$775
CHRISTIAN FORMATION				
01-5506	Dir Christian Formation	\$14,967	\$11,001	\$11,272
01-5508	Dir Christian Formation Pension	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5512	Nursery Attendant	\$3,606	\$1,716	\$1,872
SUB TOTAL		\$168,267	\$150,000	\$179,574
EXPENSE TOTALS		\$275,323	\$252,846	\$285,019

ST DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2020 FUND BALANCES

	9/30/2020	Q4 Adjustments	Q4 Liabilities	Q4 Deposits	Q4 Withdrawals	Q4 Transfers	12/31/2020
Fund Description							
Building Fund - 03	\$8,880.86			\$ 620.09	\$ 3,125.00		\$6,375.95
Altar Flowers - 4	\$1,754.49			\$ 75.00	\$ 632.40		\$1,197.09
Sanctolite - 5	\$1,576.25						\$1,576.25
Memorial Fund - 6	\$13,946.38			\$ 863.00	\$ 835.80		\$13,973.58
Memorial Garden - 7	\$1,371.17				\$ 190.00		\$1,181.17
Nursery - 8	\$368.21						\$368.21
Organ Fund - 9	\$1,600.00						\$1,600.00
Capital Projects - 10	\$0.61			\$ 2,108.22			\$2,108.83
Outreach Project - 11	\$2,277.06						\$2,277.06
Outreach Project Travel- 11-002	\$0.00						\$0.00
Furnishings - 12	\$1,482.18						\$1,482.18
Computer Fund - 13	\$85.05						\$85.05
Telephone Upgrade - 14	\$13.93						\$13.93
Bazaar - 15	\$112.00						\$112.00
YPF - 17-000 General	\$9,995.56						\$9,995.56
YPF - 17-001 Parental Escrow	\$0.00						\$0.00
YPF - 17-002 Church Escrow	\$0.00			\$ 870.89			\$870.89
Tag Sale -18	\$136.95						\$136.95
Capital Reserve - 19	\$29,050.00						\$29,050.00
Godly Play - 20	\$11.49						\$11.49
Thespians - 21	\$245.92						\$245.92
Sound System - 22	\$50.00						\$50.00
Bells - 23	\$450.00						\$450.00
Christian Formation - 24	\$3,323.97				\$ 368.25		\$2,955.72
Rector - 25	\$84,793.47						\$84,793.47
Various - 40	\$0.00						\$0.00
Various(AED) - 40-001	\$43.00						\$43.00
TOTAL	\$161,568.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,537.20	\$5,151.45	\$0.00	\$160,954.30

WORSHIP

Lay Readers Activities

A total of 27 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 Sunday mornings in the absence of an available priest, Morning Prayer services are conducted by a lay reader. They also, in non-pandemic years, lead Evening Prayer services during Lent.

This number can be augmented by many of the youth and college students of the parish reading Scripture, leading intercessions and preaching during special services. Others have stepped up to read during Facebook 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 2020

Leslie Aiken	Jill Foster	Ken Nogacek
Pat Anderson	Kit Foster	Tom Nolan
Linzee Coleman-Bagge	Craig Gilbert	Mimi Peck-Llewellyn
Pauline Burdick	Pete Hall	Al Schober
Anna Mae Burr	Kent Harding	Diane St. Laurent
Bill Day	Matt Hermann	Christie Stadnicki
Alan Dierman	Pete Landolt	Dave Stryker
Susie Forbes	Jacki Leone	Eve White
	Polly McIntyre	Jeannine Weeks
	Claire Muskus	

R. S. (Pete) Hall, Jr.

Altar Guild

For those who are unsure of what the Altar Guild does, it is a ministry of preparing the Altar and Sanctuary for all services. It is a 'behind the scenes' effort which brings great satisfaction. Bad pay but the rewards are heavenly. *(and we learn to use words like "chasuble", "ciborium," "paten," and "pall."* *Be among the first to impress and mystify your friends).* Members are divided into groups whose duties rotate weekly, Groups meet either on a Friday or Saturday to set up for the Sunday services and clean up after the 10 am Sunday service. Special services, like Christmas, may use more than one group.

2020 brought some changes to the Altar Guild. Having said goodbye to our fearless leader Valerie Norris. Lisa Nogacek maintains the responsibility of restocking the various items used weekly, such as wafers, wine and oil to name a few; cleaning of vestments is done commercially on an as-needed basis. Chris Curcio does the annual duty schedule. All the team members are eager to help out anywhere needed. Maureen Ysewyn and Kirk Kirkpatrick completed their first full year with our ministry.

There is always room for more members. Some groups share social times together like lunch or dinner out. COVID has made a shamble of this tradition but, hopefully 2021 will permit resumption of this practice if desired!

If you are interested in knowing more about the Altar Guild Ministry, please reach out to Lisa Nogacek or Mike & Cindy McLane. Because of dwindling numbers over the past few years, it was necessary to change from four to three groups rotating every three weeks in 2020. That schedule has worked and continued into 2021. Thankfully the whole Altar Guild group willingly and graciously steps up and supports each other when needed. None of us is alone. Zoom services have reduced, greatly, the Sunday service preparations but we hope, in 2021 we can resume, and support two Sunday services, later in the coming year.

If membership grows because of your interest, we can increase the number of teams – more hands make for lighter work and less frequent tours of duty. 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, an ongoing process, will be provided! We are an equal-opportunity ministry - men, women, married or single are all welcome!

Yours in Christ, The Altar Guild Team

Flower Guild

Flowers play a quiet but important role in all of our services. The greens of Advent, the festive reds and poinsettias at Christmas, the bright spring blooms and lilies at Easter, even the dark absence of flowers during Lent . . . all enhance the meaning of our worship. It is the Flower Guild's job to transparently make this all happen.

Since the Flower Guild does most of its work behind the scenes, this year's pandemic has not made our work much different. Social distancing during flower arranging is generally not much of a problem. The biggest problem for us, however, is that in recent years we have lost many key team members and the few of us left can no longer do in-house arranging every week.

Fortunately, we have been able to purchase outside arrangements from our friends at Stop and Shop. But even this adds extra program expense and new logistics problems in getting arrangements to Church.

We are looking for new members to join our Flower Guild. You will be surprised that it is a lot of fun and not that hard . . . flowers are beautiful no matter how you put them together. Linzee Bagge and Polly McIntyre are great teachers and will be happy to teach you everything you need to know. If you can't join our team, we hope that you will support our program by dedicating one week's arrangement in honor of your special birthday or anniversary. You can do this with a quick call to the church office. Our flowers on the average cost us about \$50.00 a week but any contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you and come join us.
Joe Anderson

Counters Report 2021

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.

Normally, there would be 2 people assigned to count each week. This is how it was during the first two and half months of 2020. I would like to thank the following individuals for their help with this ministry. Pat Fialkosky, Dennis McKelvey, George Bagge, Meghan Nogacek, Sarah Nogacek.

Since our shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the counting duties have fallen upon our Treasurer Steve Forbes and Financial Secretary Kent Harding. I would thank them for taking this duty on in this time.

Once the church is open and we are back up and running in a somewhat normal capacity, I would love to see others help in this ministry.

Faithfully submitted,

Ken Nogacek

Greeters

The Greeters ministry is the first line of welcoming for guests and newcomers to Saint David's. Our goal is to ensure that all visitors are welcomed, and to provide information to them about the parish, and information about them to the Rector.

Greeters at the 8:00 AM service function as both greeters and ushers, and two people are assigned for duty each Sunday. Greeters at the 10:15 AM service augment the role of the ushers as well as greet. Recently one greeter is assigned for duty each Sunday. Greeters for special services are ad hoc assigned.

If you have any question about participating in this vital role in the Parish, please contact any of our greeters for information. Our roster includes: Leslie Aiken, Steve Forbes, Susie Forbes, Pete Hall, Kirk Kirkpatrick, Pete Landolt, Leslie Leone, Ken Nogacek and Dave Stryker. Please come and join us; it's an easy job and also a great way to meet new friends.

Pete Landolt

Organist/Choir Director/Handbell Director

St. David's has worked tirelessly to keep our worship offering as "normal" as anything can be during the period of COVID 19. We began live streaming our worship service last March thanks to Fr Mark Santucci and Tom Nolan. They both devoted endless hours researching how we could make this happen and what equipment would be necessary. Then they had to learn how to use all the equipment to achieve the best results and how to make it available to the most people in the most user-friendly way. No small feat. Kudos to both of them!

My task was to make the service as "usual" as possible. That of course, means having music. Hymns were a must, special music would be nice, and anthems are always appreciated. So, how could that happen in the middle of a pandemic, with isolation, social distancing and physical distancing? There was no way we could have a choir, either singing or playing handbells. Fr Mark and Tom were absolutely vital for this venture, and next would be me, because I could play the organ or piano for hymns. Ken Nogacek offered to do the readings each week and Lisa Nogacek, Sarah Nogacek and James Cady were willing to rehearse every week and sing, while social distancing, for worship every Sunday, and for additional events like Maundy Thursday, Good Friday Tenebrae, Service of Lessons and Carols, and Christmas. I then decided to borrow some bells from Shoreline Ringers to use so Sarah and James could play handbell duets while social distancing without sharing bells. Again, more rehearsals and time devoted by participants.

Before Covid, we had youth handbells rehearsing and playing for worship. Now, with social distancing, that would no longer be possible. I have now divided the kids up into families and rehearse solos, duets, trios and quartets to help keep the kids connected to St. David's and in worship on some Sundays. It means a few more rehearsals every week, but we are all enjoying getting together and playing handbells, and we certainly hope you enjoy the results when you hear them in worship.

In June we said "Goodbye" to Fr Mark and welcomed Rev Jana Branson to St. David's. Fr Mark provided a very welcoming and smooth transition for Rev Jana and her feet hit the ground running. She never missed a beat as she continued to live stream and add her own touch to our worship service. She is frustrated by not having people in the sanctuary every Sunday, but gradually gets to know our congregation through meeting them on the phone and when they come to visit. We are so grateful to have her.

In His Service, Jane Nolan

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Christian Formation -Annual Report-January 2021

This report must begin with a big THANKS to Clark, Reid, Kellan, Grayson, Erin, Karissa, Jessica, Ryan, Robert, Gabe, Bella, Scarlett, Dylan, Evelyn, Wesley, and Sebastian. All of us at Saint David's are blessed to have you in our lives.

This report could be divided into two parts. January 2020-March 2020, and March 2020 through December 2020.

January 2020 through March 2020, we were busy with studying Epiphany, Saint David's Day, and then Lent. Bill Day, Polly McIntyre, Kit Foster, Ken Nogacek, Chris Curcio, Jill Foster, and I prepared weekly Sunday School lessons. I also worked with Jane Nolan to plan musical activities and anthems for our youth. I am grateful for all their help and dedication.

And then it all changed. Covid came and the church building was empty. But the Holy Spirit was not bothered by Covid.

At the beginning of the "Lockdown", my biggest goal was to keep our youth feeling connected to the church. They received faith related projects through snail mail and even some just-for-fun gifts to let them know that God was with them and that their church family loved them as well.

When the "lockdown" rules were eased, we got together outside. We painted rocks, planted bulbs, and conducted my first parking lot Vacation Bible School. We ran our first drive-by school supplies for Stanton Elementary School in Norwich. Later we celebrated Easter in September where it was kazoos instead of trumpets. Reverend Jana jumped right into these masked and social distancing activities. Plus, we ate a lot of pizza.

In September, we began our adventure of Zoom Sunday School. It has been a learning curve for me and more than a few prayers to feel more Zoom confident. With some technical advice from my grandchildren, I have been able to conduct classes. I admit to still being amazed that it all works. The church bought each of our youth their own copy of *The Book of Common Prayer*. We explored it together and now use one of the Daily Devotionals in each Zoom meeting. The students sometimes eat breakfast with their BCP on the table, ready to use.

We shared some music over Zoom with Robin Martelle helping sing some Christmas carols. I also conducted some intergenerational Zoom lessons.

Now the older youth are doing a unit on Anti-Racism while I have a separate meeting with the younger ones singing songs while learning about God. Hopefully, we will be able to share these with the congregation one day.

A special thanks to Pastor Marilyn McNaughton who attends Zoom Sunday School each week. Her input is unbelievably valuable.

I look forward to returning to in-person Sunday School, but until that day, I will continue to do my best to remind our youth how important they are to the Lord and to Saint David's.

Respectfully submitted, Diane St. Laurent

Siobhan Cady Nursery

We have not been able to have in-person worship since the Covid-19 restrictions came into place. When we return to in-person worship we will need to hire an attendant, as our previous attendant has resigned, and begin anew. I am so looking forward to that time.

Submitted by The Rev. Jana Branson

PASTORAL CARE

Annual Report Prayer Team 2020

At the start of 2020, the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, members of the St. David's prayer team offered 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 was truly a blessing to all involved. New members are always welcome. Current members of the St. David's Prayer Team include Leslie Aiken, Hap Fallon, Diane Fallon, Marilyn Mc Naughton and Maren Schober.

Before continuing this ministry, we look forward to meeting with Rev. Jana Branson and sharing ideas on how to proceed.

Our last committee meeting was held Sunday Feb. 23, 2020 at which time we read and discussed one of the gospel healings by Jesus, and also updated the names on the prayer sticks.

Attending the meeting were Diane and Hap Fallon, Marilyn McNaughton and Maren Schober.

Maren Schober, Chairperson.

Angel Call List

Pastoral Care in 2020 became a challenge because of the Covid19 pandemic. New ways of supporting the parish have evolved and been implemented. The goal remains to provide spiritual, mental and physical support of all in spreading the gospel and doing God's mission.

Transitioning to online services has been an amazing success and the parish is deeply indebted to Rev. Santucci for his efforts in getting things going, Rev. Branson in furthering its development, and all those who have worked so hard to support Sunday worship every week. The Nolans, the Nogaceks, Diane St. Laurent, James Cady, and Eric Branson are mainstays in our Sunday worship services. We are very appreciative of their work and ministry.

To support the arrival of Rev. Branson and to aid the parish community during this time of physical separation, an updated Directory was created. The goal was to provide current contact information for all and was developed using the church's existing software and hardware. Many thanks to the Days, Forbes, Nolans, Pete Landolt and Mike McLane in its production.

After the start of the pandemic in early 2020, Rev. Santucci and Maria Nott organized the Angel Team where any member or person needing support, such as transportation, groceries, or are isolated in their living circumstances, are contacted weekly by the Parish Coordinator or an Office Angel. The Angels are contacted to support the identified needs. We are grateful for the participation of the Anderson, Day, Forbes, and Schober families, Kent Harding, and Tom Nolan in their support of this effort.

Respectfully submitted by the Pastoral Care Team

PARISH LIFE

Bridge Fellowship

The St. David's Bridge Fellowship meets in the homes of its members once a month for bridge and fellowship and dessert! We have not met in the year 2020 due to the rapid spread of the Covid-19 virus. This is a regrettable situation for all of us that we hope will change at some point.

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.

Maren Schober, Chairperson

Men's Discussion Group (Used to be Wednesdays, now Thursday)

A number of the parish non-ordained "elders" (and a few not so old) gather at 9 a.m. on Thursdays via a Zoom meeting (actually we meet starting about 8:45). Contact Kent Harding (gkentharding@gmail.com) for Zoom credentials to sign in.

We hold the shortest service in the Book of Common Prayer (starting on page 137) and then adjourn to online discussion over coffee and "goodies." We solve the problems of the parish, the diocese, the nation and the world. We adjourn about 10 a.m. when all problems are solved until the following week. We welcome all male members of the St. David's family. We have at least one former St. David's member (Buzz Cue) attendee, 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. When pandemic rules permit, we may resume in-person meetings at the church. All participating at that time will be informed of such a change.

Women's Group

Zoom has created a whole new format for Women's Group! We are no longer the Tuesday Morning Irregulars, for we now meet on Mondays at 9 A.M. Zoom only allows us to bring our own coffee or tea and a delicious little muffin, which we can enjoy during the meeting, so we do not have a breakfast host schedule. We do however, meet every Monday. On the first and third Mondays we discuss a book which usually has a spiritual theme to it. Right now, we are discussing "Inwardly Digest", which is a book about The Book of Common Prayer and very interesting. On the second and fourth Mondays, we discuss the

page of the day, or close to it, from the "Upper Room". This is a pamphlet found in the gathering space on the credenza and they are free.

Ann Cady has the Zoom account and she opens the meetings for us. Ann's e-mail is revmrskd@aol.com. If you e-mail Ann, she will e-mail you the credentials to join the meeting.

We would love to have you join us!

Cindy McLane

GOD'S MISSION THROUGH SAINT DAVID'S

CROP WALK is part of St. David's annual outreach. 25% of funds raised go to our local Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Bank and the Church World Service applies the rest to disaster and development action in the USA and globally.

Jill Foster reported a successful in-person Gales Ferry -- Ledyard CROP Hunger Walk and thanks our Team of many donors and 8 walkers from St David's, Linzee and George Bagge, Steve & Susie Forbes, Kit & Jill Foster and Rev. Jana & Eric Branson, for raising \$1,565 so far.

St. David's Episcopal Team with our neighboring ecumenical churches and others -- St. Luke's, Lutheran, Ledyard Congregational, United Methodist Gales Ferry, St. James' Episcopal, Preston, and Grace Episcopal, Yantic, join annually to help combat hunger and poverty -- together we raised \$12,595 as of November 12, 2020.

OUTREACH REPORT – CROP Hunger Walk

So glad we went ahead with the 2020 CROP Walk!

Special thanks to our 2020 Saint David's CROP Workers, and Walkers in the Gales Ferry/Ledyard CROP Hunger Walk. We sent \$1,495 of the \$14,750+ that the Walk raised to Church World Service. Thanks to Frank Denton and our local churches' representatives for making this happen! We were able to make a difference around the world as well as bring over \$3,000 to the Gemma E Moran Food Bank in New London.

Read on for the impact this St. David's outreach has made:

Dear Jill [St. David's Episcopal TEAM CROP HUNGER WALK 2020]

I hope you and your family had a wonderful Christmas! As this year comes to an end, it's almost second-nature to think about your life over the last 12 months, the goals you set, and the ones that went unfulfilled. There's no doubt that 2020 has been tough, and it can be so easy to think you haven't done much.

But, you have accomplished far more than you realize! When it mattered most, YOU stepped up and were a ray of light in the darkness.

When two dams in Michigan failed, causing massive flooding and damaging many homes, businesses and schools, you were there to pick up the pieces... Because of loyal and compassionate supporters like you, 900 CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets were immediately sent out, helping to ease the burden those communities felt while trying to rebuild.

Not only that, but when many said we were "in this together," supporters like you truly showed

togetherness and compassion. Because of you, nearly 40 thousand hygiene kits and over 21 thousand blankets were given to communities of people around the world, because you stepped up to be a ray of light in the darkness.

THANK YOU! YOU are the common denominator. I am so blessed to have you as part of the CWS community!

As we inch toward a new year, you can be encouraged, knowing that in a time when the world was rife with turmoil and tragedies, you helped create stronger resilient communities; and with your help, the progress we've made will endure and advance despite the many challenges of 2020.

I believe you stepped up because your compassionate heart is crucial for such a time as this. You recognized that together we can help others get back on their feet after a disaster and build long-term solutions that will break the cycle of poverty.

Thank you, for being who you are. My hope for the new year is that you will continue to be a ray of light to those surrounded by darkness.

Sincerely,

John McCullough President and CEO, CWS

Submitted in faith, Jill Foster

Christmas Party at St. Vincent de Paul's

This annual event is one of the events that is supported by many members of the congregations in various ways. Pat Anderson, Rev. Jana and I met to make adjustments for how we could continue this tradition after I consulted with the staff at St. Vincent de Paul's to find out what restrictions they had. Leslie Leone, as usual, did all the paperwork so that the families could remain anonymous. Scott Stadnicki came up with a way for us to choose a tag and to keep track of them. All the tags were taken and all the presents were bought and distributed to the designated families.

We were not able to hold our usual prep party but Steve and Susie Forbes came to church and organized all the presents in order. Pat Anderson prepared all the family bags which had a few extra things in them this year because there was no in-person party. The faithful crew from Sprigs and Twigs picked up and delivered the presents to St. Vincent de Paul's on Thursday, December 10, 2020. As usual Chris Curcio, our well-organized Santa's helper, and her team were there to greet the truck and unload it into the parking lot.

It was a dark and chilly evening. Bill Day, our Santa, and Myra Day, as Mrs. Claus arrived. He played Christmas music on his car's sound system which made it a much more festive occasion. Everyone arrived early to pick up presents. Joe Anderson helped deliver the bikes to the homes. As usual, the families were very appreciative.

There were some usual last-minute issues. Chris and team were "Good Samaritans" to a woman who fell in the parking lot, one of the unplanned events. In an hour's time, we were done and went home to appreciate our warm and safe homes.

Thanks for being the Church even when we can't meet in person.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Adams

Thames River Family Program

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

FACILITY AND GROUNDS

Junior Warden's Report

It has been an honor and privilege for me to serve St. David's as Junior Warden for the past year. I would like to thank everyone for trusting me with overseeing the health of our beautiful church.

We entered 2020 with no immediate capital projects required for the building or grounds. Although we recognized there are some major items in the backlog such as replacement of the front doors into the church and fixing issues in the parking lot, we decided to hold off until we called our new Rector.

Although we have not been able to worship on site for most of the year due to COVID, there is a dedicated group of people keeping the building clean and operational. I would especially like to thank Bill Day, Al Schober, and Steve Forbes for their dedication and expertise on all things mechanical and building related. Their dedication to St. David's is amazing.

We started the process of upgrading the WIFI throughout the building. We contracted out the installation of 13 drop points to install WIFI extenders throughout the building. To date we have installed satellites in the parish hall, music room, sanctuary, and the rector's office. We will gradually be purchasing and installing the rest over the next year.

COVID hit us in March and we decided to do remote services, which started on March 22nd. Special thanks to Tom Nolan for all his hard work with coordinating the streaming of our Sunday services.

The church was opened to few outside groups during the year for events. Each was required to submit a COVID safety plan, were only allowed a small number of participants, and they were not allowed use of the kitchen.

During the summer, Chris Day approached us with a request to fulfill a community service requirement for his Boy Scout Eagle Scout project. His project involved weeding and spreading new woodchips in the playground area; power washing and leveling the statue in the grove; and repairing, cleaning, and mulching around the picnic tables in the grove area. Chris did a great job and we are thankful for all the work he did on that project.

Faithfully Submitted,
Scott Stadnicki
Junior Warden

The Beautification of Saint David's Grounds:

In the Spring of 2020, a loose knit group of volunteers gathered to formulate an ongoing plan to improve and maintain Saint David's grounds. The first work party started by clearing substantial overgrowth, underbrush, invasive vines and weeds, all brought on by years of neglect.

Once the work started, a comprehensive plan was developed. Trees were trimmed, dead limbs removed, and their canopies raised for visibility and safety. Heavy overgrowth around the building and the parking lot was either removed or trimmed back. Trees and Shrubs took on a more appealing look. The Memorial Garden, due to its special significance, was given an abundance of love and attention. The approach from

Rt.214 was given significant attention because of the importance of curb appeal. Except for the field/woods to the far North side, the continuing, "**Beautification of Saint David's Grounds**", is well underway. Many pictures were taken and an **album of progress** can be found on our web-site. Our next event will take place, weather permitting, circa April 1st. 2021. **Interested in participating? Let me know.**

Many thanks to all participants, especially to the small cadre of volunteers who met weekly, rain, shine, cold, or heat, who gave generously of their time. All participants listed in alphabetical order, by last name: **Day, Bill. Fialkosky, Ed & Pat, Forbes, Steve & Susie, Foster, Kit & Jill. Harding, Kent. Joiner, Maureen & Brian. McLane, Mike & Cindy. Weeks, Paul & Jeanine. Ysewyn, Clark, Reid, Kellan & Grayson.**

Respectfully submitted. Ed Fialkosky, Group Leader.

Memorial Garden Report

The Memorial Garden restoration is underway. The teak bench was cleaned and treated, and all brick-ways have been thoroughly cleaned. The birds are certainly pleased to have the birdbath placed squarely on a firm foundation. The hedges are nicely trimmed. The center roundel has been substantially replanted with roses and lavenders, and hundreds of spring crocuses set around the garden -- a parishioner gift.

Youth have added more spring bulbs around the church property thanks to another parishioner's donation. "Welcome Happy Spring!"

Faithfully,
Jill Foster

WIDER CHURCH

Annual ECCT Diocesan Convention October 14-18

Jill Foster, one of our Diocesan Delegates, hopes we have had time to read the daily reports on the ECCT website which describe the discussions and decisive actions made during the five-day virtual Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut this October. [www. Ecctconvention.org](http://www.Ecctconvention.org)

The first three days were given to open forum discussions on three specific issues in Connecticut selected by your delegates from those submitted from across our diocese. We met in World Café roundtables to explore in depth understanding of and positive Christian actions to address: Wealth Inequality; Pandemic Changes; and Parish-level Education in Systemic Racism, white supremacy and anti-black bias.

The world café discussions were open to delegates and non-delegates alike and were enriched by a variety of views and proposals for action from an assortment of St. David's parishioners joining with many, many other fellow ECCT members, rising to more than 700 Zoomers enthusiastically listening and exchanging, praying and discerning. We were tasked to form action groups to continue the work of these issues and as was the convention, the Action groups are open to any members of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, and most specifically with the support of each other in our Southeast Region, CT Diocese, and local neighborhood to address the issues from and within our parish level throughout this 2020-2021 twelve months. Linda Dierman, our second lay delegate to Convention, added that the cafés were wonderful. It gave all the opportunity to see how others were working through the pandemic and racism. She adds that she felt the best discussion at the world cafe was imagining what church would look like outside our building... if we used our building for other purposes and took our weekly church services on the road. There were so many great ideas brought forth.

Group follow-through meetings were set for November and December and have begun to meet. Jill Foster reports that she is now participating in one action group for each of the three issues. There are facilitators who coordinate time and Zoom link for meetings and notify participants by email. The groups continue to be open to everyone. These contacts are listed on the ECCT Convention website.

Jill Foster participated in the first of two on November 14: "What can ECCT and its members do to address the issue of wealth inequality, including: Developing a common language to assure that everyone is talking about the same thing; Understanding how it distorts the political decision making of our governments, Understanding how wealth inequality intersects with other issues as racism, classism, etc.; Understanding what is our role in politics as a church; and Understanding how our Christian faith provides a standard for our participation in public life."

The November 19 Action group will meet to begin to define "Which of the pandemic changes we have already made will we KEEP and thereby encourage a continuing culture of discovery in parishes?". [Update + post meeting report -- The goal is to become well-informed and better equipped to communicate God's love in action without delay in community. There was an array of both outreach and worship activities shared within this group as we are learning appropriate ways to make both temporary and sustained changes that grow our faith and serve our neighbors within and beyond COVID-19. Such pursuits as: Sharing resources among several parishes, as Episcopalians and with ecumenical neighbors are desired. Several members reported how they are achieving safe Parish resource drop off-and pickup places inside the building, accessible on a schedule; livestream worship with participants taking turns to read,

intercess, make music, on Sundays and regularly during the week; the digital divide of haves and have nots, and how the lack of interaction on one-way livestream and non-interactive Facebook websites, is neglecting some of our regular and previously active members, the need for website development to reflect daily, weekly activities and opportunities to serve in outreach and inreach, grow in faith. And access to sacred time and space within the church sanctuary for prayer and contemplation arranged for specific days, with parishioner COVID ushers.]

Today, November 11, Jill will also participate in the third group which, along with each Parish, is commissioned by the affirmation of our Convention Resolution to address: “How can parishes educate themselves about the reality of systemic racism, white supremacy and anti-Black bias, and feel compelled to take action as followers of Jesus?” Several opportunities have already taken place since this was first instituted at last year’s Convention Resolution with a goodly number of St. David’s people participating. This year we are committed to follow-through with specific parish-level as well as cooperative action within and beyond our walls. There is an established Racial Justice, Healing, and Reconciliation Ministry Network in the ECCT Jill has recently joined, having participated with many St. David’s people this in several activities throughout the year, one such being this summer and fall with the Southeastern Region ECCT group, exploring our history of racial oppression in southern New England, “Conspiracy” book and local studies; another, the Southeastern Connecticut Cultural Coalition conference “Diversity Equity Inclusion and Anti-Racism” which presented issues of policy and practices in housing and employment, cultural pursuits, and organizational leadership that understand what becoming anti-racist means.

In this Annual ECCT Convention, we resolved to undertake work within our parish to address our understanding and action for Racial anti-bias. The Southeastern Region and diocese of the ECCT will work to support this and encourages our parish use of the many resources available, to which we can contribute, use, participate in, and act upon as part of our Baptismal Covenant and Episcopal faith. It is now up to us to plan how will meet this opportunity this year and account for our activities to the ECCT.