

# **Saint David's Episcopal Church**

**Gales Ferry, Connecticut**



# **ST. DAVID'S**

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GALES FERRY**

## **2022 Annual Report**

February 5, 2023

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## MISSION STATEMENT

### **MISSION: TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE HIM KNOWN**

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

We are a parish of all ages and stages of Christian development, traveling together on a spiritual journey, offering 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 in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut's Southeast Region. Our Christ-centered faith is reflected in inspirational liturgy, sacraments, 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 that God calls us to be.

## VISION STATEMENT

### **VISION STATEMENTS AND GOALS**

#### **LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY**

Just as Jesus did, we welcome you no matter who you are, or where you came from. Jesus loved you regardless of your circumstances. We at Saint David's try to follow Jesus in his teachings about loving unconditionally. We will welcome you with open arms into our worship community.

#### **SERVE FAITHFULLY**

We give of our time and talents, as God has given to us. We hope to set an example of serving faithfully, not only in our worship community, but in the local, state, national and worldwide communities.

#### **GROW SPIRITUALLY**

We are committed to spiritual growth, and offer an abundance of formation opportunities for adults, youth and children. Rooted in the Holy Spirit, we provide a strong foundation, centered in our belief in God and the glory of the risen Christ.

## AGENDA: ANNUAL MEETING – FEBRUARY 5, 2023

1. Call to Order – 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 February 6, 2022
5. Reports
  - a. Report of the Interim Rector
  - b. Senior Warden
  - c. Junior Warden
  - d. Treasurer
    - i. Review of 2022
    - ii. Presentation of the 2023 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 - FEBRUARY 6, 2022

### MEMBER LIST 2022-2023

Adams, Dcn Ellen	Cady, James	Davis, Joyce
Aiken, Richard	Campbell, Julie	Day, Edward
Aiken, J. Leslie	Campbell, Robert	Day, Myra
Anderson, Joseph	Carey, Charles	Dierman, Allan
Anderson, Patricia	Carey, Mary	Dierman, Linda
Atlixqueno, Alayna	Carlin, Mary Anne	Dierman, Marie
Beebe, Dale Ann	Carr, Lisa	Dow, Ann
Bohannan, Bo	Carr, George Jr	Enders, Rita
Bohannan, Lil	Cloud, Amy	Enders, Robert
Branson, Eric	Cosenza, Janet	Fallon, Diane
Briggs, Dorothy	Crowley, Naomi	Fallon, Hap
Bristol, George	Cue, (Buzz)	Fialkosky, Ed
Burdick, Pauline	Cue, Louise	Fialkosky, Pat
Burr, Anna Mae	Curcio, Christine	Flowers, Victoria

Forbes, Steve  
Forbes, Susie  
Foster, Kit  
Foster, Jill  
Good, Joan  
Graf, Karen  
Graf, Fred  
Grondahl, Steven  
Gurnee, George  
Gurnee, Sonya  
Gurnee, Robert  
Hall, Raymond  
Harding, Kent  
Harding, Mackie  
Hochdorfer, Joe  
Hochdorfer, Teri  
Joiner, Maureen  
Joiner, Brian  
Jones, Raymond  
Kirkpatrick, William  
Ladd, Sarah  
Landolt, Peter  
Lathrop, Dorothy  
Legg, Marty  
Leone, Jacqueline  
Leone, Leslie  
Lyon, John

Marelli, Susan  
Martelle, Clif  
Martelle, Robin  
Martelle, Sebastian  
McIntyre, Bruce  
McIntyre, Polly  
McKelvey, Dennis  
McKelvey, Susan  
McLane, Michael  
McLane, Cynthia  
McNaughton, Marilyn  
Miller, Constance  
Murphy, Nicole  
Muskus, Claire  
Nogacek, Kenneth  
Nogacek, Melissa  
Nogacek, Meghan  
Nolan, Thomas  
Nolan, Jane  
Norberg, Paula  
Olsen, Ruth  
Olson, Jeannette  
Peck-Llewellyn, Mimi  
Ramos, Elizabeth  
Ramos, Bayron  
Reifeiss, Barbara  
Reifeiss, Fred

Ripley, Keith  
Ripley, Anne  
Schober, Albert  
Schober, Maren  
Sheffield, Flo  
Shepherd, Edward  
Shepherd, Kathy  
Shukis, Chris  
Shukis, Kimberly  
St. Laurent, Diane  
Stadnicki, Christine  
Stadnicki, Scott  
Stadnicki, Jennifer  
Stadnicki, Andrew  
Stryker, David  
Stryker, Sharon  
Urello, Pat  
Urello, Pam  
Wakim, John  
Wakim, Anne  
Weeks, Jeannine  
Weeks, Paul  
White, Jack  
White, Eve  
Ysewyn, Clark  
Ziolko, Jessica  
Ziolko, John

## ST. DAVID'S ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES 2022

St David's Episcopal Church  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
February 6, 2022

Rev. Jana confirms a quorum of 25 or more members present.  
Rev. Jana opened the meeting at 12:06 p.m. via Zoom with a prayer

Presentation and adoption of the Rolls of the Members and Electors. Rev Jana asks if all have had a chance to review the roll of Member and Electors. She asks Mary Anne Carlin if they would like to be added to the Members list and they respond favorably. Rev. Jana also adds Jane Nolan's name to the list. With Mary Anne Carlin and Jane Nolan added, Ken Nogacek motions to adopt the Rolls of the Members and Electors as so amended, Mike McLane seconds, none opposed, no abstentions, motion carries.

Approval of Minutes of the last Annual meeting of January 31, 2021 Pat Anderson motions to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2021 annual meeting as presented. Mike McLane seconds. Hearing none opposed and no abstentions, motion carries.

## Reports

Rev Jana Branson provides a brief verbal report. First, she points out that there are several reports included in the annual report and indicates she would like each person who provided a report to add a few additional thoughts during this meeting.

This past year has been about her settling in, dealing with COVID-19, getting Sunday school back up and running which Diane St. Laurent's, Robin Martelle's and Jane Nolan's support. All of them have provided wonderful support. COVID rates have had an impact on in-person attendance, however we are up to approximately 25% in-person attendance. It has been a balancing act and she has done the best possible in keeping a good balance of in person and online streaming.

During 2021, she held two study groups. One group was a study on mysticism. Each study group had an attendance of about 12 or 13 people. Another discussion group she had planned to hold got postponed as did the mid-week healing service due to the increase in COVID rates. She is hopeful to have them both started in May 2022. They will most likely be held on Wednesday morning which she realized is difficult for some. She would like to receive feedback if those you work days would like to come. She would also like to conduct an outdoor Saturday evening service in the grove. Also, in 2021, the logo was updated by James Cady. We are still in the process of doing all the branding, choosing the fonts for example. Barbara White and James Cady are helping in that process. Barbara is a professional who works to improve organizations online recognition and was hired to assist us with St David's branding. We also updated the mission and vision statements to more fit current times. We were able to hold the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas party outdoors and the Christmas Feast was held via take-out. There were a lot of meals going out which is included in the report.

We are moving toward a capital campaign in 2022 to get air conditioning in our sanctuary. Huge thanks to Jacqueline Leone, she has done a great deal of research on air conditioning units for the sanctuary. We are also in the process of seeking bids on parking lot paving repairs. Once we have both projects ready to go, we will begin a capital campaign.

Of course, the year ended with my installation which meant so much. Thank you all for attending. It was so wonderful to have family and friends from California. It just felt wonderful and thank you to everyone involved with organizing the amazing banquet held after the installation ceremony.

Kent Harding points out that on her report she is listed as the interim Rector. Rev Jana noticed that last night and will have the corrected.

## Reports

Rev. Jana indicates that all the reports have been emailed to the parish and she invites all who made a report to speak starting with Ken Nogacek, Sr. Warden.

Ken Nogacek, Sr Warden It's an honor and privilege to be St. David's Sr. Warden as he has been for the past 7 years. He would like to see more people step up into leadership roles and asks everyone to pray on that. Ken mentions there are a few opportunities: Stewardship drive, Vestry, preparing the church for returning to in-person. Also, Dennis McKelvey needs more support at the Christmas Feast. As we move forward, Ken asks that anyone who would like to talk to him about how to support St. David's, please reach out to him or anyone on Vestry.

Scott Stadnicki, Jr Warden reports that 2021 was his 2nd year as Jr Warden. It has definitely been an honor. Special thanks to Bill Day for all his support and help over the years. Al Schober also offers his engineering and mechanical expertise which is greatly appreciated. Also thank you to Steve Forbes for all his support. Scott echo's Ken's call for people to help support. Especially in the

streaming of services. Both Scott and Tom Nolan have been making sure one of them is available to operate the video camera every Sunday so the service can be visible online.

During 2021, there were issues with trees falling which was handled by Sprigs & Twiggs with Bill Day's help.

We also installed a large platform at the back of the church to accommodate online streaming. The Wi-Fi improvements were completed in 2021. Wi-Fi is now available anywhere in the building.

In late fall of 2021, the many weeds in the garden were pulled by a group of people who gathered on a Saturday morning. If you would like to support that group, look for sign-up opportunities or see Scott or Jill Foster who has also been working to help keep the weeds under control and gardens looking beautiful.

Rev. Jana adds that Bill Day is there at the church nearly every day. And he is always asking what he can help with which she is very grateful for. She is also grateful for Al Schober being at the church so frequently as well as Jacqueline Leone.

Steve Forbes, Treasurer As Scott started with his report, Steve would also like to thank the Assistant Treasurer Bill Day who has been a great help in keeping the financial stability of the church going and going well.

We had some fiscal concerns during the year due to ups and downs but our pledges and plates have maintained a steady stream of income and he thanks everyone for the continual contributions.

The Rector account was started before hiring Rev. Jana. That account is still around and being utilized. We did not have to transfer much out of that fund in 2021 due to finishing the year with donations higher than expenses. New pledging members are always a good source of income so please keep a look out for opportunities to invite people to join as new members.

It is a pleasure to always serve as your St. David's Treasurer.

Rev. Jana asks how many new families we have and Steve believes it is six or seven families. She adds that there are new families that do not attend because of COVID but they are eager to be in-person and bring their children to Sunday School. Also, there are three pending baptisms that will take place as soon as she is able to speak over a person.

Diane St. Laurent, Christian Formation Diane reports that she has become a Zoom master and can do many things now without needing to ask for her grandchildren's help. There are many children involved in St. David's church school and their parents are very supportive. She looks forward to the new families joining when possible. It is fun to work with Rev. Jana and the kids are very comfortable with her which makes her work much easier and enjoyable.

#### Other Ministries

Jacqueline Leone indicated that in regard to the Christmas Feast, she learned a lot this year while helping. And there is someone behind the scenes who she would like to have recognized and that is Pete Hall. Rev. Jana joins Jacqueline in a big thank you to Pete Hall, for all your work with the Christmas feast and all the work you do for St. David's outreach.

Maren Schober adds to her Prayer Chain report. She indicates that they are a phone tree who take requests for people in our church. All the people on the phone tree prayer faithfully every day. We need more people to be on that calling list so that when a prayer is requested, we have someone to call.



Pat Anderson gives a huge shout-out to all the members of the vestry who she thinks has worked as trojans and all deserve medals.

Jill Foster expresses her thanks to everyone in the parish who has knowingly joined together who have made this transition into the newest strong and gracious. Her reports are rather long and she would like to have printed copies so that the Diocesan reports can go on record in the library. The network regions within the diocese are alive and active. Keeping up with the weekly bulletin and monthly bulletins is work but she encourages everyone to do so. She was re-elected by ECCT 2021 Annual Convention to serve a 3-year term (2022-2024) on ECCT Title IV Disciplinary Board and subsequently by the Board to serve as president. She asks for our prayers for our faithful work together in seeking justice, hope, loving amendment in the broken relationships brought about by clergy misconduct. When things go wrong with our relationships, we as the Disciplinary Board and panel work for healing and justice and reconciliation with each other so we can truly be disciples of Christ. She looks forward to the paper copy of the reports. Thank you everyone for all your work and it has been a pleasure to work on the vestry for all these years.

Cindy McLane reports that St. David's women's group has been going strong even through COVID. Ann Cady in New Hampshire has been providing the zoom controls and Karen Ysewyn has been joining from Maine. They had the author or one of the study books join for an online meeting. They are now studying a very good book called "Universal Christ". The women's group meets on Tuesday morning at 8am if anyone would like to join, please do.

Mike McLane indicates there will be a meeting on altar guild coming up which Rev. Jana will provide the new date. All the altar guild helpers do a fantastic job. Rev. Jana indicates she would like to have the meeting 2/20/22 after church if everyone in altar guild could let her know if they are able to attend at that time.

Maren Schober adds that in addition to the women's group there is a men's group that meets every Wednesday morning. Mike McLane indicates if anyone would like to join in the men's group to please contact Kent Harding

Rev. Jana indicates we are starting confirmation classes in March for anyone who would like to be accepted into the Episcopal church. That is open to anyone 12 years or older. March 6, 2022 after church is the first meeting date. She would like to hear from parents of children who would like to participate.

Rev. Jana extends her heartfelt appreciation to Pat Anderson and Jill Foster who are rotating off Vestry. She is very sad to see them go but is grateful to know that she will still see them active in church.

Presentation of Slate of Nominees.

Ken Nogacek, Sr. Warden expresses his thanks to Jill Foster & Pat Anderson for their years serving on vestry and for helping to make his job easier. Thank you also to Jeannette Olson and Jacqueline Leone for their help as the nominating committee. Ken reads the nominees as listed below.

Nominees presented for election who will serve a 1-year term as officer:  
Senior Warden: Ken Nogacek

Junior Warden: Scott Stadnicki  
Clerk: Chris Curcio  
Treasurer: Steve Forbes

Vestryperson 3-year term: Anna Mae Burr 2022-2024

Vestryperson 1-year term: Amy Cloud 2022  
Vestryperson 1-year term: Teri Hochdorfer 2022

Delegate to the Episcopal Church of CT (ECCT) 3-year term 2022-2024: Jill Foster

Jacqueline Leone motions that the clerk caste one ballot for all nominees, Pat Anderson Seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

Election of Nominating Committee – Ken Nogacek, Sr. Warden invites volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Jeannette Olson and Jacqueline Leone nominate themselves. All in favor of the nominees, motion passes.

Old Business Rev. Jana asks if there is any old business. Jill Foster asks that in the annual report we include the names of the individuals that have been elected and to also include their names on the back of the bulletin. Rev. Jana indicates vestry names have inadvertently dropped off the back of the bulletin but she will see that they are added back.

Jacqueline Leone requests that the names of all vestry members be announced in this meeting please.

Rev. Jana reports the names:

Sr. Warden: Ken Nogacek  
Jr. Warden: Scott Stadnicki  
Clerk: Chris Curcio  
Treasurer: Steve Forbes

Vestry Member with terms ending 2023 are Hap Fallon, Ed Fialkosky, Jeannette Olson  
Vestry Members with a one-year term ending in 2023 are Amy Cloud & Teri Hochdorfer

Vestry Members with terms ending in 2024 are Kent Harding, Jacqueline Leone, and Mimi Peck-Llewellyn

Diocesan Delegates are Jill Foster who is starting another three-year term and Jeannette Olson who has two years remaining.

Diocesan delegate alternate is Ken Nogacek.

New Business: Rev. Jana asks for new business, comments & questions.

Pat Anderson asks for a unanimous round of applause for everyone who has helped in the wonderful events that have taken place in 2021. The spirit of St David's is alive and well. We were very excited when we first heard Rev. Jana's voice and she has done a wonderful job for us and we thank you for coming to St. David's.

Rev. Jana indicates that means a lot. This is a call from God.

Benediction & Adjournment

Hearing no further comments, Rev Jana offers a closing Prayer.

Meeting is adjourned with prayer at 12:54pm.

## ADMINISTRATION

### **Rector's Report 2022**

The Saint David's Vestry began the year with reimagining our Mission and Vision Statements as we prepared to move into our post-pandemic experience. We continued this process as we attended a vestry retreat to brain-storm ways to move into the future.

This is the first year since the pandemic that we have been entirely back in person and in the Sanctuary. Because of the installation of Air Conditioning, we no longer need to have services in the Parish Hall in the summer, enabling all but a few parishioners to attend throughout the hot summer months.

In the summer, we join together as a whole community and have one service on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. This was voted on by the congregation. We join for one service on special days as well. Otherwise, we have had two services each Sunday. One at 8:00 a.m. and one at 10:15 a.m. followed by a Coffee Hour. In between, we have Sunday School for the children and youth and a discussion for adults.

Throughout the year, we have varied how we distribute communion due to varying levels of concern about COVID-19. We began the year with individually packaged Eucharistic hosts and wine/juice and then graduated to regular wafers and intinction.

We have been able to have more singers safely available during church services, which we have all enjoyed. We have also enjoyed a selection of Bell pieces throughout the year.

We continued to live-stream one of our Sunday Services each week. Additionally, we have purchased equipment to make this process easier, as the church now owns what is needed. We are looking toward training additional people on the live-stream process. At this time, all of the live-streaming is done by Scott Stadnicki and Tom Nolan.

This past fall, we started a Healing Eucharist service with book Study, using the C.S. Lewis classic, *The Screwtape Letters*. Although the attendance was small, we enjoyed lively discussions on the book and a good time was had by all.

We have also formed a team to do pastoral visits to people in long-term care or who are homebound. In addition to me, Jeannine Weeks and Jacqueline Leone do visits. Additionally, a newer parishioner, Nicole Murphy, is preparing to join the team. We have also engaged people who are willing to transport people to church who are unable to attend on their own. Christie Stadnicki regularly

brings a parishioner, and Jacqueline Leone is looking into doing the same with another parishioner. Many thanks to all involved for their help.

Submitted by The Rev. Jana Branson

## **Senior Warden Report 2022**

Again, I would like to begin by saying thank you for allowing me to continue in my service as Senior Warden. It is truly an honor and privilege to serve Saint David's in this capacity.

This past year as we have come out of COVID, has seen Saint David's again begin to be a presence in the community. We have been blessed with a wonderful capitol campaign. This has allowed for many improvements within the physical structure of our facility. Many of which will be discussed in other reports. I must say I am amazed by the generosity of all who attend Saint David's. I can only say "Thank you". I do know we as a vestry will continue to be good stewards of the money you have so generously given.

As we have worked to improve our facilities, we have also begun the process of rebuilding many of our critical committees/teams to help with the weekly operation of Saint David's.

This is an area of critical nature. We cannot function without help and volunteers. I do hope that each and every member of our parish will pray for guidance, listen and watch where God may be guiding you to be able to help at Saint David's. I would love for each member to be involved to some extent in Saint David's. This is an individual and personal choice, but I ask you to contemplate how you may be involved and where you may help us to continue to grow and be a visible member of our local, state, national, and world community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Teri Hochdorfer, Anna Mae Burr and Mimi Peck-Llewellyn for their time and service on the Vestry.

Again, thank you for your continued support and faith in me as the Senior Warden.

Faithfully submitted,  
Ken Nogacek

## **Junior Warden Report 2022**

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.

There were several major upgrades made to both the building and the grounds at St. David's this year. All upgrades were funded as part of our capital campaign drive that was done during the 1st

quarter of the year. The major capital projects completed this year were adding air conditioning to the Sanctuary, re-surfacing the parking lot, upgrading the sound system, repairing the front door the church, and replacing the exterior door in the Parish Hall leading to the playground. Projects that were discussed but have not been completed are replacing the outside lighting and resurfacing the playground.

Ed Fialkosky served as our project manager for all the capital projects this year. Ed did an outstanding job coordinating fund raising and project scheduling through all our projects. I'd like to thank Ed for all his dedication on keeping all our project running smoothly and for keeping the parish up to date on a weekly basis.

Six Mitsubishi P-Series Air condition units and six American Standard P-Series Outdoor Condensers were installed in the Sanctuary in June to provide air conditioning. The units were installed to provide cooling during the summer months, but they also can serve as a heat pump to provide heat during the colder months. The Heat People, Inc were hired to install and configure the units. Work took about 2 weeks to complete. Mystic Electric was hired to install the electrical system to support these units. I would like to thank Jacqueline Leone for her dedication and hard work on this project. She performed most of the research, coordinated the installation schedules, and made herself available during the installation. I would also like the thank Bill Day for serving as our general contractor during the installation. His knowledge of our building along with his engineering background was instrumental in getting this project completed. Both the HVAC and electrical contractors benefited from both Jacqueline and Bill throughout the installation process.

The parking lot project was complete in August by Sheridan Asphalt Paving. Bill Day provided the following description of what was needed to be done to restore parking lot in a document presented to the vestry in July.

“Saint David’s Church in Gales Ferry has approximately 37,000 square feet of paved surface for parking and vehicle access. This pavement area can best be described in three zones of nearly equal size.

Zone 1 - is the oldest and in the most in need of repair/replacement. This zone is in the front of the church, to the west, and has access to two state roads with thirteen designated parking places, two which are marked handicapped. This zone is sixty-years-old and as had minimum maintenance accomplished (primary filling of pot holes over the years). There are several large pot holes near one of the state road accesses and the road grade has sunk in the wet lands area and requires rebuilding and raising at least a foot. The plan is to remove all the asphalt in this zone, rebuild the bed, and repave to parking lot specifications and striping.

Zone 2 – is a sixty-years-old parking area with a-thirteen-years old over pavement. This area is to the east of the church and provides primary access to the sanctuary and church offices and provides

parking for 43 vehicles with several marked for handicapped only. This zone has significant cracking problems which reflects the cracks in the original pavement before over lay. This parking lot has access to one state road and provides parking to over 32 automobiles. The plan here is to grind down one layer and over pave correctly to prevent crack propagation and stripping.

Zone 3 – is a thirteen-year-old parking lot at the North side of the church added during the church expansion. This area only requires crack filling, sealing, and stripping to support the its 57 parking places and access to zones one and two. This area provides access to the Parish Hall, classrooms and Music Area.

The state engineer for District 2 Construction Right of Ways, Norm Miller, was contacted and came and assessed the situation and stated our state construction (two drain structures and 24-inch culverts to Thames River) were satisfactory and did not need upgrade/repair.”

We hired a local contractor named Rick Thomas to refurbish the front doors to the Church and to replace the door between the Parish Hall and the Playground. The front door where scrapped, sanded, primed, and painted. The Parish Hall door was replaced with a solid core exterior birch door and painted white.

Sam Whittmore of DB Designs was hired to upgrade the sound system in the Sanctuary. The model year of our equipment was more than 20 years old and no longer serviceable. We replaced the 2 overhead speakers with RCF M-80 Cabinet speakers, upgraded the amplifier with a Lab Gruppen IDP amplifier, and upgraded the mixer with a Personus Rack Mixer. The amplifier and mixer are digitally controllable with software with means they can be re-configured and serviced remotely if needed. We also installed device called a Fetch Express, to assist with hearing impaired. This device broadcasts sound through WIFI from our sound system to hearing aids using smartphones as the bridge between hearing aids and our sound system.

The Gardens and Grounds Ministry continued to work on weeding and trimming the gardens around the church. The mission of this group is to keep the gardens surrounding St. David’s looking presentable and to control the weeds and overgrown plantings. The group met a few times over the year and tremendous amount of work was accomplished. We did contract out a one-time weeding and trimming for the playground to support Vacation Bible School over the summer and major fall cleanup activity which consisted of weeding, trimming, and mulching the entire ground surrounding the church. I would like to thank everyone that participated in the clean-up and hope to see you all and more when we schedule our spring clean-up.

I would especially like to thank Bill Day, Al Schober, and Steve Forbes for their dedication and expertise on all thing mechanical and building related. Their dedication to St. David’s is amazing.

Faithfully Submitted,  
Scott Stadnicki  
Junior Warden

**FINANCE MINISTRY**

## Treasurer's Report 2022

This year has two separate and challenging financial stories, led by the Spirit and our inspirational leadership. The Capital Campaign was a huge success and goals were met that surprised everyone involved. The congregation raised \$273,000, of which \$45,000 was loans to be repaid.

The church's operational budget managed to meet all operational expenses in a timely manner, but expenses still exceeded income by \$37,000. This difference was challenging and disappointing, in that it was generated by a Pledge shortage of \$24,000, and consumed \$16,700 of Rector Savings and \$20,300 of capital reserve in checking. The budget for 2023 reflects these same stresses. The 2023 Pledge budget is \$15,000 more than 2022 Pledge budget and to balance the budget we had to budget \$40,000 of Rector Savings which will deplete the remaining balance.

Expense category summaries for calendar year 2022 are presented in the following line items:

**Christian Formation** was on budget, primarily due to Diane's management and frugal use of materials.

**Worship** was over budget \$950. This is primarily due to worship supplies not correctly budgeted. The cost of communion material was over budget by \$988 and this is attributed to the continued use of more expensive communion material due to Covid-19.

**Outreach and Mission** was under budget \$1,397. Outreach Pass-Through, Saint Vincent Christmas party, and Rector's Discretionary are primarily donations from parishioners, above what is normally allocated by the vestry. The Rector's Discretionary fund is alms for the needy, to be disbursed by the Rector, and the need is there. The parish is encouraged to support these line items as part of their faith mission.

**Parish Life** was under budget \$696. This is 6.7% under budget (or essentially on budget) and all needs were supported.

**Pastoral Care** was slightly over budget \$135.

**Wider Church** was on budget. This is the Diocese Pledge and reflects monthly round off differences between the Diocese and our books and is right on which seldom occurs.

**Facilities and Grounds** was over budget \$4,131. This expense category is always over budget except for 2020 and reflects many expenses of which we have little control over such as electricity and fuel expenses. Heating and electricity have been uncontrolled this year and Property Liability Insurance has been growing at an unprecedented rate. However the Diocese switched our insurance vendor to the Church Insurance Agency resulting in a smaller than expected increase in our building and liability insurance premium.

**Payroll** was under budget \$5,729. This category was significantly below budget due to two factors: Nursery Attendants have not been needed due to health considerations, and the Rector's lack of need for Continuing Education and Supply Clergy funds. A portion of Robin's salary has been allocated to the Organist and Director of Christian Formation Salaries as they have assumed a number of Robin's responsibilities, such as youth music and bells.

**2023:** The 2023 budget supports a full-time rector, our existing staff, incorporates the Diocese-mandated salary growth of 7.1% due to cost of living and meets our Diocesan commitment.

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 2022, and known changes such as contracts: negotiated with Anderson Oil, Eagle Landscaping for snow plowing, and Diocese related expenses;
3. The budgeted pledge amount is based on commitments received;
4. The budget supports the Diocese's 7.1 % COLA guidelines for clergy and employees;
5. The Diocese was expecting a 10% increase in insurance costs this year;
6. Outreach is budgeted at \$2,500 and Rector's Discretionary Fund is budgeted at \$1,200, but both accounts need to be increased as opportunity presents and the needs in the community are identified.
7. The ECCT Assessment is budgeted at \$27,395, which is 10% of our 2021 Operating Income.

Saint David's Account Balances as of December 31, 2022 are as follows:

Centerville Bank Checking - \$89,461

Centerville Savings - \$109,575 Restricted Funds- \$76,933 (Rector Savings)

The following pages are the CY 2022 Budgeted and Actual Receipts and Expenses, the CY 2023 Budget, and the Restricted Fund CY 2022 Fund Balances.

Respectfully Submitted

Steve Forbes, Treasurer

Bill Day, Assistant Treasurer



## ST DAVID'S CY 2023 INCOME

### BUDGET

Variance **-\$100**

		CY 2022 BUDGET	CY 2022 ACTUALS 12/31/2022	CY 2023 BUDGET
01-4070	Ash Wednesday Envelope	\$250	\$240	\$240
01-4080	Christmas/Thanks Envelope	\$1,200	\$317	\$1,200
02-4510	Discretionary Fund	\$1,500	\$3,450	\$1,200
01-4301	Vacation Bible School	\$300	\$339	\$350
02-5935-002	Soup Kitchen	\$500	\$0	\$500
01-4060	Easter Envelope	\$500	\$405	\$500
02-4501	Good Friday	\$150	\$93	\$100
01-4090	Initial Offerings	\$100	\$83	\$80
01-4120	Interest	\$120	\$162	\$162
01-4130	Miscellaneous Income	\$50	\$38	\$50
02-4505	Outreach Income	\$3,500	\$1,143	\$2,500
02-4505-003	St Vincent Xmas	\$500	\$0	\$500
01-4035	Plate	\$10,000	\$13,216	\$12,826
01-4035-001	Plate Restricted	\$5,000	\$19	\$5,000
01-4030	Pledges	<b>\$236,670</b>	\$212,264	\$251,105
01-4031	Pledges last year	\$0	\$90	\$100
01-4032	Pledges for Next Year	\$16,000	\$11,000	\$7,000
01-4050	Special Offerings	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-4110	Use of Building	\$3,000	\$1,475	\$5,000
25-5025	Rector Savings Exp	\$22,301	\$16,726	\$40,198

TOTALS \$301,641 \$261,061 \$328,611

VARIANCE -\$100

**ST DAVID'S CY 2023 BUDGET EXPENSES**

		<b>CY 2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>CY 2022 ACTUALS 12/31/2022</b>	<b>CY 2023 BUDGET</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN FORMATION (EXPENSES)</b>				
01-5510	Church School	\$500	\$340	\$300
01-5520	Library	\$0	\$0.00	\$0
01-5521	Vacation Bible School	\$300	\$497	\$500
01-5514	Youth Group	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5540	Adult Education	\$0	\$20	\$200
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>\$800</b>	<b>\$857</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>WORSHIP (EXPENSES)</b>				
01-5450	Worship Supplies	\$1,800	\$2,788	\$2,500
01-5460	Choir Activities/Supplies	\$500	\$303	\$300
01-5465	Hand Bell Activities/Supplies	\$100	\$229	\$200
01-5470	Organ/Piano Tune	\$1,300	\$1,495	\$1,300
	Specialty Musicians	\$2,225	\$2,188	\$2,225
01-5405	Organist Cont. Educ	\$125	\$0	\$125
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>\$6,050</b>	<b>\$7,002</b>	<b>\$6,650</b>
<b>PASTORAL CARE (EXPENSES)</b>				
01-5240	Rector Expenses	\$80	\$369	\$400
01-5810	Stewardship	\$400	\$246	\$250
01-5820	Audits	\$1,350	\$1,350	\$1,450
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,830</b>	<b>\$1,965</b>	<b>\$2,100</b>
<b>WIDER CHURCH (EXPENSES)</b>				
01-5910-001	Diocesan Pledge	\$27,627	\$27,627	\$27,395
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>\$27,627</b>	<b>\$27,627</b>	<b>\$27,395</b>

**ST DAVID'S CY 2023 BUDGET EXPENSES**

		<b>CY 2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>CY 2022 ACTUALS 12/31/20 22</b>	<b>CY 2023 BUDGET</b>
<b>OUTREACH &amp; MISSION (EXPENSES)</b>				
02-5925	Outreach Pass-through	\$2,500	\$500	\$2,500
02-5935	Outreach	\$1,900	\$303	\$2,500
02-5935-002	Soup Kitchen	\$0	\$0	\$500
02-5935-003	ST. Vincent XMAS	\$0	\$0	\$500
02-5930	Other Outreach Projects	\$0	\$0	\$0
02-5945	Rector's Discretionary	\$1,200	\$3,400	\$1,200
02-5950	Southeast Region	\$0	\$0	\$0
02-5940	Seminary Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		\$5,600	\$4,203	\$7,200
<b>PARISH LIFE (EXPENSES)</b>				
01-5330	Office Supplies	\$800	\$1,430	\$1,400
01-5340	Equipment Repair	\$150	\$0	\$100
01-5350	Postage & Mailing	\$200	\$118	\$140
01-5360	Copier	\$4,100	\$4,646	\$4,800
01-5840	Fellowship/ Receptions	\$250	\$165	\$200
01-5870	Parish Support	\$850	\$265	\$277
01-5880	Communications	\$300	\$25	\$50
01-5890	Info Technical Support	\$3,660	\$2,965	\$3,000
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		\$10,310	\$9,614	\$9,967

**ST DAVID'S CY 2023 BUDGET EXPENSES**

		<b>CY 2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>CY 2022 ACTUALS 12/31/202 2</b>	<b>CY 2023 BUDGET</b>
<b>FACILITIES &amp; GROUNDS (EXPENSES)</b>				
01-5701	Trash Removal	1422	\$1,422	\$1,422
01-5705	Snow Removal	\$3,800	\$3,730	\$4,200
01-5710	Lawn Mowing	\$3,900	\$3,220	\$3,000
01-5713	Pest Control	\$1,068	\$1,157	\$1,175
01-5715	Safety Inspections	\$3,500	\$3,166	\$3,312
01-5720	Heating	\$6,376	\$9,701	\$12,450
01-5725	Electricity	\$7,200	\$8,504	\$9,458
01-5730	Telephone	\$3,000	\$2,729	\$3,020
01-5735	Water	\$1,700	\$1,679	\$1,867
01-5740	Natural Gas	\$1,700	\$1,682	\$1,910
01-5745	Maintenance & Repair	\$750	\$449	\$500
01-5750	Ground Maintenance	\$150	\$237	\$300
01-5755	Building Supplies	\$1,300	\$496	\$450
01-5760	Property Liability Insurance	\$12,018	\$13,844	\$15,176
01-5765	Capital Reserve	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5775	Capital Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5780	Cleaning Service	\$7,260	\$7,260	\$10,000
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>\$55,144</b>	<b>\$59,275</b>	<b>\$68,240</b>

**ST DAVID'S CY 2023 BUDGET EXPENSES**

		<b>CY 2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>CY 2022 ACTUALS 12/31/2022</b>	<b>CY 2023 BUDGET</b>

<b>PAYROLL (EXPENSES)</b>				
<b>RECTOR</b>				
01-5210	Rector's Salary	\$61,144	\$61,144	\$65,713
01-5220	Rector's FICA	\$8,845	\$8,845	\$9,496
01-5230	Rector's Housing/Utilities	\$26,348	\$26,348	\$28,219
01-5232	Clergy Insurance	\$360	\$330	\$360
01-5235	Clergy Pension	\$17,344	\$17,341	\$18,437
01-5236	Future Rector Savings	\$0	\$0	\$0
01-5237	Continuing Education	\$1,850	\$0	\$0
01-5290	Rector Sabbatical	\$1,551	\$1,551	\$1,600
01-5440	Supply Clergy	\$1,250	\$889	\$1,500
<b>PARISH COORDINATOR</b>				
01-5310	Parish Coordinator	\$24,254	\$24,258	\$25,976
01-5321	Parish Coordinator Pension	\$1,213	\$1,120	\$1,280
<b>ALL</b>				
01-5380	Payroll Taxes	\$5,248	\$5,101	\$5,639
01-5801	Putnam Bank Fees	\$75	\$70	\$84
<b>MUSIC</b>				
01-5410	Organist Salary	\$23,691	\$23,691	\$25,373
01-5415	Dir of Bells/Junior Choirs	\$5,778	\$4,282	\$6,188
01-5420	Substitute Music Staff	\$750	\$875	\$750
<b>CHRISTIAN FORMATION</b>				
01-5506	Dir Christian Formation	\$11,683	\$11,683	\$12,513
01-5512	Nursery Attendant	\$1,872	\$0	\$3,032
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>\$193,256</b>	<b>\$187,527</b>	<b>\$206,159</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$300,617</b>	<b>\$298,071</b>	<b>\$328,711</b>

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nomination 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 that consisted of myself, Jeanette Olson and Jacquelin Leone.

We met in January of this year to discuss and solicit nominations for Vestry for 3-year terms. We also have a 2-year term that needs to be filled due to the resignation of Anna Mae Burr, another 2-year term that is the result of Teri Hochdorfer continuing one year beyond her 3-year term. We also have a one-year term from the resignation of Mimi Peck-Llewellyn.

We are pleased to nominate the following nominations:

**Vestry 3-Year Term:**

Chris Curcio

Lisa Carr

**Vestry 2-Year Term:**

Hap Fallon

Ed Fialkosky

**Vestry 1-Year Term:**

Jeanette Olson

**The Following are nominated for one year Officer positions:**

Senior Warden- Ken Nogacek

Junior Warden- Scott Stadnicki

Clerk- Nicole Murphy

Treasurer- Steve Forbes

Faithfully submitted,  
Ken Nogacek, Senior Warden

## OTHER MINISTRIES

### **Lay Readers Report 2022**

A total of 25 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 a priest,

Morning Prayer services are conducted by a lay reader. They also lead Evening Prayer services during Lent.

This number was augmented by many of the youth of the parish reading Scripture, leading intercessions and preaching during special services. Others have stepped up to read during Facebook services during the pandemic. The 10:15 (or the single 9:30 a.m.) service was available live or recorded on Facebook. Consecrated elements were available for at home reception.

There were 8 Lay Eucharistic Ministers who at times during the year assisted the Priest during Communion. Several parishioners acted as a Lay Eucharistic Visitors 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 seven 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 2022**

Pat Anderson	Jill Foster	Ken Nogacek
Dale Ann Beebe	Kit Foster	Mimi Peck-Llewellyn
Eric Branson	Craig Gilbert	Diane St. Laurent
Pauline Burdick	Pete Hall	Christie Stadnicki
Anna Mae Burr	Kent Harding	Eve White
Lisa Carr	Pete Landolt	Jeannine Weeks
Bill Day	Jacki Leone	Clark Ysewyn
Susie Forbes	Polly McIntyre	
Joan Good	Claire Muskus	

R. S. (Pete) Hall, Jr.

### **Altar Guild Report 2022**

This year was another challenge for our group. Things seem to change often, and it can be difficult to keep up. Lisa is still in charge of keeping our supplies and tools in stock and does a wonderful job with it. In addition, she keeps me on track, so we can guide our group of dedicated behind the scenes workers smoothly. We have been very happy to get new members this year. Our thanks to Janet Cosenza, Dorothy Lathrop, & Sue Marelli for joining our ranks. In addition, we have been very grateful for the times that our dear members, Cindy & Mike, have been able to be with us, lifting our spirits when they can come join us at church for altar guild or worship together.

We have learned and are still learning how to jump with new situations, with regards to changes in how the communion and other services are held, or even not held, adjusting for wafers, or wine, or prefabricated sterile wafers and cups. It's not fun to have to switch, but we are adapting and managing to go with the flow, whenever unappreciated surges on the health scene affect us. Rev.

Jana has given us good instructions, even pictures of what we need to do, which has made it easier to accomplish whatever is needed. Her easy communication with us has helped us move in the various directions we have progressed.

A hearty thanks is due to all our members: Pat Anderson, Pauline Burdick, Janet Cosenza, Chris Curcio, Ann Dow, Pat & Ed Fialkosky, Teri Hochdorfer (& daughters), Maureen Joiner, Dorothy Lathrop, Polly McIntyre, Cindy & Mike McLane, and Lisa Nogacek.

Polly McIntyre

## **Flower Guild - Annual Report 2022**

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.

Over the years, Saint David's Flower Guild has played a major role in all types of church activities ... worship, weddings, funerals, and other celebrations. However, in recent years we have lost most of our key team members and the few of us left can no longer do in-house arranging every week. While we have fortunately been able to purchase outside arrangements this year from our friends at Norwich Stop and Shop, it appears that this option will no longer be available to us this coming year. We are considering every other alternative within our expense limitations and logistics capabilities and your suggestions will be very welcome.

Most importantly, 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. Polly McIntyre is a great teacher and will be happy to teach you everything you need to know. If you can't join our team, we hope that you will at least support our program by dedicating one week's arrangement in honor of your special birthday or anniversary. You can do this by signing up on the flower chart in the gathering space or with a quick call to the church office. Our flowers on the average cost us about \$50.00 to \$60.00 a week, but any contribution will be greatly appreciated. Thank you and come join us.

Joe Anderson

## **Counters Report 2022**

The church's accounting system keeps track of contributions by individual account numbers. The annual pledge form is the basis for assigning or continuing an individual's account number. This number is either their envelope number if envelopes were requested or a number between 200 and 399 if you do not request envelopes. Contributors lacking an account number are recorded as miscellaneous (#533) with available information entered as a memo line.

As most contributors do not request envelopes, only 60 boxes (numbers 1 through 60) were purchased in 2022 of which 37 were discarded at year end. Only 40 boxes (numbers 1 through 40) were purchased for 2023 (23 boxes have been requested as of January 9, 2023).

Contributions to St. David's are locked away as received until counted. They are counted twice a month, approximately mid-month and end-of-month, and funds deposited the day of the count. The



counters also prepare a spreadsheet report identifying the contributor and amount by account (envelope) number. At least two people must be present for the count. Generally, the treasurer (Steve Forbes) and I count. If either one or both of us is unavailable Ed Fialkosky and Bill Day filled in as needed. My thanks to both for their service.

Respectfully submitted,  
G. Kent Harding,  
Financial Secretary

IF YOU WANT A REPORT OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ST. DAVID'S YOU MUST COMPLETE A PLEDGE FORM. IF UNSURE OF THE AMOUNT OF YOUR PLANNED CONTRIBUTION(S) LEAVE THE PLEDGE AMOUNT INFORMATION BLANK.

### **Saint David's Greeters & Ushers - Annual Report – 2022**

This year we began having an organized list of ushers for the 10:15 service. Each Sunday, there is an adult and a youth usher. The duties of an usher include greeting visitors, passing out bulletins, collecting the offering and bringing up the elements for communion. The members of the Vestry are also encouraged to act as greeters.

Thank you to Scott Stadnicki; Jolene and Kaylee Ramos; Ken Nogacek; Clark, Reid, Kellan and Grayson Ysewyn; Ryan and Karissa Hochdorfer; Jacqueline Leone; Bella, Gabe and Alayna Atlixqueno; Brian Joiner; Kirk Kirkpatrick; Jack White; and Ed Fialkosky for helping with this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane St. Laurent

### **Saint David's Music Director - Annual Report - 2022**

The job as music director at St. David's is ever evolving. Selecting hymns and service music for worship is a constant, as is playing for all weekly worship services and all special services. Along with that is selecting and preparing special music (Call to Worship and anthems) for each service.

For 2 years, since the beginning of Covid and live streaming, Lisa Nogacek, Sarah Ladd, Eric Branson and James Cady provided special music every Sunday. Since our return to "in Person" church, they have continued to sing most Sundays, but now we have more singers and ringers to provide special music at worship.

A number of youths have played handbells for worship including Travis Ziolkko; Clark, Reid, Kellan and Grayson Ysewyn; Ryan, Karissa, and Jessica Hochdorfer; and Sebastian and Wesley Martelle.

These young people are the future of the church and it's wonderful to see them participate in the worship service, not just playing bells, but also singing, serving as acolytes, ushering, and working on service projects.

As of November, we have a new handbell choir rehearsing every week preparing anthems for worship. One of my goals for the coming year, is to work with our younger children ringing chimes or bells.

Doing Sunday School music is relatively new for me, but it's exciting to see children of all ages come together to sing for worship. The younger ones really look up to the older ones, and learn the words so much faster with their help.

Vacation Bible School is exhausting, but, oh, so much fun. The kids learn so many new songs in one week, and sing with excitement, at the top of their lungs.

In addition to regular rehearsals with the different groups, we encourage individuals to sing or play instrumental solos for a worship service. I am more than willing to rehearse with them in preparation to do that.

Blessings,  
Jane Nolan

## **Saint David's Christian Formation Annual Report – 2022**

There were 525,600 minutes in 2022. Some of these minutes were used by the youth of Saint David's in a variety of activities. Sunday School used many of these minutes. A typical Sunday morning begins with Faith Through Music with Mrs. Nolan in the Parish Hall. We share the joy of music, and the students will be singing an anthem once a month during the 10:15 service. A particular favorite anthem was *When Israel was in Egypt's Land* with Clark Ysewyn as Moses singing "Let my people go."

After music, the youth divide into two classes. The students ages 4-11 go to the *Bible Stories* class to learn stories from the Old and New Testaments. The older youth, ages 12 and up, are called the *God and Me* class and are developing a real relationship with God. They have participated in studies including Prayer, Lent, Easter, and Advent. These students are curious about their God and are devout in their prayers.

The students in Sunday School are Bella and Gabe Atlixqueno; Arlie Carr; Bella Gomez; Ryan, Jessica and Karissa Hochdorfer; Jolene and Kaylee Ramos; Clark, Reid, Kellan and Grayson Ysewyn; and occasional visitors. The Sunday School classes were taught by volunteers including Alayna Atlixqueno, Amy Cloud, Bill Day, Kit Foster, Teri Hochdorfer, Brian and Maureen Joiner, Polly McIntyre, and Diane St. Laurent.

There are often whole group learning sessions including Power Points to learn about St. Francis of Assisi and Saint David of Wales. There are intergenerational classes such as the one about the history of Saint David's which was very interesting thanks to the input of Pete Landolt. The students learned, among other facts, that the Landolt family have been members of Saint David's for four generations and the Ysewyn/Joiner family for three generations.

The older youth participated once a month in what they call *The Shepherd's Pie Ministry*. They prepared pies for *The New London Community Meal Center* under the direction of Pete Hall. On school vacations, the students were sometimes available to assist in serving the food as well.

It was an honor to help with confirmation class this spring. Our 2022 confirmands included Robert Campbell; Ryan, Jessica and Karissa Hochdorfer; Wesley Martelle; and Clark and Reid Ysewyn.

In July, Saint David's hosted an ecumenical *Vacation Bible School* with St. Luke Lutheran Church and United Methodist Church of Gales Ferry. It was a busy and exciting time as we became part of the *Food Truck Party*. Thanks to Christie Stadnicki; Jane Nolan; Rev. Jana; my granddaughter Emma Carvalho; Jolene and Kaylee Ramos; Clark, Reid, Kellan, and Grayson Ysewyn; and Steve and Susie Forbes for sharing in the fun.

In October, we hosted a Halloween party for the community. There were crafts, games, costumes, and spooky desserts as we celebrated together. Again, special thanks to Jane Nolan and Christie Stadnicki for their help. We are looking forward to doing this again next year and to planning more activities for the community.

We are beginning to reestablish activities with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. We hosted them and visited their church. We have new activities planned for this winter.

Although there are many minutes in the year, we do have to share some and our students with their other activities including sports.

Many thanks to the students, parents and parishioners who support the youth of Saint David's. Please know, it is time well spent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane St. Laurent

## **Siobhan Cady Nursery Report 2022**

The Siobhan Cady Nursery has been closed since the pandemic occurred in the spring of 2020. We are currently attempting to find staff to reopen the nursery during Sunday School and the 10:15

a.m. service. We are looking for 2 attendants, at least 15-years-old with babysitting experience to work from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The wage is \$14.00 per hour for each attendant. The wage will increase to \$15.00 per hour on June 1, 2023. We are advertising and have a few good candidates to interview.

Submitted by: The Rev. Jana Branson

## **Prayer Chain Report 2022**

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 Steve Forbes, Anne and Keith Ripley, Myra Day, Leslie Aiken, Jacqueline Leone, Diane Fallon, Diane St Laurent, Mimi Llewellyn and myself.

For more information, please call me, Maren Schober, at 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.

Maren Schober, Chairperson

## **The Saint David's Women's Group Report – 2022**

The Saint David's Women's Group meets weekly (every Tuesday at 8 a.m.) via ZOOM. Contact Cindy McLane ([cindymclaneCT@gmail.com](mailto:cindymclaneCT@gmail.com)) or Ann Cady ([revmrskd@aol.com](mailto:revmrskd@aol.com)) for details. When COVID conditions subsided in 2022 it was decided that it was more convenient for existing members to continue to meet via Zoom. Ann Cady hosts the sessions on her Zoom account and meeting credentials are provided by email to those who wish to attend. Our discussions are split between books on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month and the devotional pamphlet "Upper Room" on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Our book selections are chosen by the group and are faith-based. Leadership of book discussions rotate among the attendees, so we have many differing perspectives. Maren Schober leads the Upper Room discussions. Fifth Tuesdays, when they occur, have open discussions on various topics or no topic. It is a lively beginning to your day. Please join us (and bring a friend) and see for yourself!

Submitted by Cindy McLane and Ann Cady

## **Men's Discussion Group Report 2022**

The men's group continues to meet Thursday mornings at 9:00 am. We have 10 regular attendees. Meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend. If you are interested just send an

email to [gkentharding@gmail.com](mailto:gkentharding@gmail.com). I will add your address to the contact list which I use to send the link each week.

Kent Harding

## **Open Intra-Service Discussion Group Report 2022**

A group of parishioners of all genders meet in an ad hoc manner between the two Sunday services to discuss any topic(s) on a participant's mind. Originally, started several years ago as a book study group open to any and all, it has evolved into a Christian discussion of the issues, questions, challenges and concerns that any participant brings before the group. The discussions often provide personal growth and insight into alternative perspectives and the recognition that others often share similar questions and concerns. It also affords the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the other participants.

Kent Harding

## **Memorial Garden Report 2022**

Several volunteers work regularly to maintain The Memorial Garden year-round. Jill Foster has done monthly weeding, edging, pruning and general care, and she has also provided some seasonal replanting in and around the formal Memorial Garden and grounds. Within the Memorial Garden, Steve and Susie Forbes have been master brick-path weeders, Scott Stadnicki is hedge trimmer in chief, and Kit Foster has shredded the mountains of garden waste and leaves, from the grounds and garden, making natural compost to help conserve soil health and water in the Garden.

Submitted by:

Jill Foster

## **Convention Delegates Report 2022**

### **Episcopal Church in Connecticut 2022 Conventions May & November A.D. 2022**

Attending from St. David's Episcopal Church, Gales Ferry, were Lay Delegates, Jeannette Olson and Jill Foster, and Clergy Delegates Jana Branson, with retired Clergy Ellen Adams Alternate Lay Delegate, Senior Warden Ken Nogacek was absent.

The Year of Our Lord, 2022 was an extraordinarily busy year in the life of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut —Thanks be to God. Attending Convention in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) is like coming home for Thanksgiving. We catch up on family, friends, and meet strangers, welcome new relations, cherish old, broach deep issues, decide who's going to do what out there and back home, and drink the Cup of Blessing together.

Two Conventions, all by consent, one to elect a bishop, one to pay the bills, elect lay leaders and clergy representatives for ECCT Committees, Networks and Missions, agree to new faith communities, explore and decide resolutions, discern relationships, commune, and Praise God. Then, home to Region and Parish and Partners to do all that Convention Resolved and God is up to wherever, supporting and sustained for another year.

**This year St David's Episcopal delegation attended to two Conventions Diocesan — Thanks be to God.**

**May: Election Convention for the XVI Bishop Diocesan in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut  
November: The Episcopal Church in Connecticut 138th Annual Convention**

**May: Election Convention** In preparation for the election of our next Bishop Diocesan, we attended a week-long opportunity to meet and greet through their written faith statements and live questioning panel format, the five candidates selected by the Bishop Transition Committee in their year-long discernment. These were carried via ZOOM, hosted by five Mission Regions across the ECCT, for all ECCT members to witness. Then on Saturday, May 21, 2022, we convened in the Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, to choose and elect our next ECCT Bishop Diocesan, the sixteenth.

We delegates were profoundly moved, deeply affected by the prayerful discernment, the wide debate, the powerful energy filling us with hope, doubt and light as Convention moved to a stillness as XV Bishop Diocesan, Ian Douglas' quietly pleaded: "Come Holy Spirit!" and so we were graced to consent and elect the Rev. Jeffrey William Mello to become our chief priest and pastor as XVI Bishop Diocesan of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

The Ordination and Consecration of the Reverend Jeffrey William Mello as Sixteenth Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut took place on Saturday October 15, 2022, at eleven o'clock in the morning at the Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, Connecticut. Taking part in the Procession of ECCT Clergy were the Rev. Jana Branson with Crucifer M/ Clark Ysewyn, and in the Congregation were more members of St. David's Gales Ferry with other thousands to glorify God for this new shared ministry, celebrate in praise, music, and solemn prayer the laying on of episcopal [other bishops'] hands. Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, was the Chief Consecrator, with Co-Consecrators Retiring ECCT XV Bishop Diocesan, the Right Reverend Ian T. Douglas and ECCT Bishop Suffragan, the Right Reverend Laura J. Ahrens with Episcopal the Right Reverend Bishops Thomas James Brown, Alan Gates, Gayle Harris, and Bishop of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Right Reverend James Hazelwood.

The Liturgy booklet for this day explained: *Our faith tradition teaches that the laying on of hands originates with Jesus himself, charging his apostles in the continuation of ministry, witness, and teaching about God's redeeming love. The apostolic succession is given in the laying on of hands by three other bishops and the consent of the people. Today, our Bishop-elect will take his place in the unbroken succession of authority that leads back to those first apostles of Christ.*

## November: 138th Annual Convention 4-5 November 2022

The reports to Convention of work by ECCT Ministry Networks, Resolution Task Forces, Boards and Committees are available at ECCT online, see link below.

The resolutions brought by faithful to Convention are the mission game plan mutually discerned then consented to annually by the clergy and elected lay delegates as to how we for the next year will work together in God's ministry, informed by Christ's teaching and sustained by God's grace. It is our pledge to Common Mission.

2022 Resolutions of Mutual Consent —resolved, that this 238<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut: <[Annual Convention | Episcopal Church in Connecticut \(episcopalct.org\)](https://www.episcopalct.org)> "Minutes" ...

Each resolution was moved for adoption by its sponsors. There were five minutes of table discussions before the Convention reconvened. Then those wishing to clarify, amend, support, or oppose the resolution, rose to speak at the public microphone as these were individually discussed. Convention delegates as a whole voted on the proposed motion to adopt the ensuing resolution, according to the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church.

Adopt 2023 Budget of Convention **Approved \$6,826,827.00** [70% mission/25% operations]

adopt 2023 Clergy Compensation (salary schedule) **Approved**

Ratify the merger of St. John the Evangelist, Yalesville and Grace and St. Peter's, Hamden **Adopted**

Ratify the merger of St. Peter's on the Green, Monroe, and Grace Church, Trumbull; and further resolve, merged parish be named St. Peter's Grace Episcopal Church **Adopted**

Express Sorrow for Past Statements that harm Indigenous Peoples. Twice amended. **Adopted**

Two Resolutions from the 80<sup>th</sup> General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2021 (delayed to 2022 because of COVID-19) Second Reading to approve amended text in the Book of Common Prayer related to the Table of Lessons and all Tables and Rubrics relating to the Psalms, and A031 to Amend the Constitution and Canons Relating to the Mergers of Dioceses: **Concurred as Amended**

Nominations with biographies of Lay and Clergy Nominees were posted, and Delegates elected these members electronically for: ECCT Standing Committee; Mission Council; Cathedral Chapter; Title IV Disciplinary Board; Camp Washington Board; Commission on Ministry and Church Scholarship Society; Region Missionaries; Deputies to General Convention; and Delegates to Province 1. (A full list of successful electees is found from "Minutes" 2022 Convention link above) At Convention the new Treasurer of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut was elected, Gordon Russ.

Breakout Groups gave delegates insight to Ministry Networks and TEC and ECCT Taskforces. Your delegates participated in featured, Fostering Relations with Indigenous Peoples-Native Americans; Sharing from TEC 80<sup>th</sup> General Convention delegation on Creation Care; 20s-30s Ministry Age Group. Others included Reparations between Racial Inequalities, and Model Policies of Safe Church.

Taizé Evensong was offered on Friday night for all. Integral to Convention are prayer, dance, music, shared meals, Thanks be to God.

Throughout the 2022 year, St. David's Episcopal Church members have participated in an ECCT array of discipleship and apostleship activities: "Whether traditional or emerging grassroots, the presence and power of Ministry Networks are a vital component of how Episcopalians participate in God's Mission in ECCT". These were: shared meals, coping skills, prayer and praise, dance and music, Racial Healing, Justice and Reconciliation ministry network; Faith Beyond Bars ministry network; Spring Training; Indigenous Peoples relationships, Sacred Ground, and Beloved Community studies, bible studies, and youth community.

Joining in the offerings of other Episcopal parishes in the ECCT in-person locally and further afield via Zoom has been especially enlightening and communally rewarding. Such invitations for all ages are regularly posted on <episcopalct.org> "Resources" and in the Mission Region monthly emails and website newsletters, such as our own Southeast Region's "Bridges".

From our annual financial pledge in Common Mission, we have benefited from ECCT grants and loans which support our Parish mission and sustenance as well as opportunities for our parishioners to achieve certifications in ECCT requirements such as, "Safe Church Training" which has been completed and recertified by most; (This is a three-year term certificate requirement of all adults in liturgical, social, administrative, fiscal, educational, and child, youth, and elder care, roles in the Parish.

Additionally, those in leadership roles on Vestry and within the Parish are strongly encouraged to complete the "Becoming Beloved Community", Kaleidoscope Institute Training, free of charge in the ECCT, as adopted in Annual Convention 2019 Resolution 7, to strengthen intercultural awareness and transformational change in building community. Jill Foster completed this in July 2022.

In it all, energized, clarified, co-missioned to trust each other, listen beyond our selves, gladdened to venture together in God's world given for all. Glory be to God.

The 239<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut is scheduled for November 2023, at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, Connecticut

Submitted in faith, Jeannette Olson (2024) and Jill Foster (2025) Lay delegates to ECCT 238<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

### **WHAT does a St. David's DIOCESAN DELEGATE do?**

St. David's Episcopal Church is blessed by many who have served and serve as Diocesan Delegates. **As representatives, elected delegates take the voice of the parish to the ECCT for the once-a-year Annual Diocesan Convention in October or November. Delegates are decision-makers in the work and mission of the ECCT and communicate this consensual work to the Parish by attending and reporting to Vestry monthly meetings, so that all may know of and participate actively in the living ministries, which are the mission of the Episcopal Church.**

According to St. David's By-laws and according to the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Constitution and Canons, this is a three-year term for two laypersons, and a one-year term for two alternate



laypersons (the serving Senior Warden is one of the alternate delegates). All ordained Episcopalian clergy of the parish are delegates to the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Convention. Lay Delegates in "Good Standing" are elected at our Annual Parish Meeting, serve on and report the Vestry with "Voice and No Vote". Additionally, the Rector may appoint youth of sixteen years and older to the delegation. Observers of any age 16 and up are always welcome to attend Convention, witness the proceedings, speak to the resolutions. Voting on resolutions is reserved to elected delegates.

**The resolutions brought by faithful to Convention are the mission game-plan, mutually discerned then consented to annually, by the clergy and elected lay delegates as to how we for the next year will work together in God's ministry, our Common Mission informed by Christ's teaching and sustained by God's grace.**

### **The Episcopal Church in Connecticut**

The ecclesiastical authority for the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) is its diocesan bishop. In that person's absence, authority lies with the bishop suffragan first in order of ordinations, the bishop suffragan second in ordination, and in the absence of any other bishops, authority lies with the Standing Committee, an elected committee of lay and clergy members.

The business of the Diocese is conducted at an annual convention, held in October or November. All canonically resident clergy are required to attend, and each parish elects two delegates who attend. Both lay and ordained participate in deliberations and vote on resolutions including the budget.

Between sessions of the convention, a Mission Council meets to conduct the business of ECCT. (This superseded an Executive Council, which ended June 30, 2016). Members are selected from the six geographic Regions through a process determined by the Region and include one clergy and one lay from each. In a profound structural change from the prior Executive Council, nine additional members are from Ministry Networks, elected at the annual convention starting in 2016. The Mission Council makes decisions, between conventions, for the whole of ECCT and its participation in God's mission. Mission Council members serve staggered three-year terms.

There is a quarterly Leadership Gathering of members from the Mission Council, Commission on Ministry, board of Donations & Bequests, and Standing Committee. Held on Saturdays, members of each group meet jointly for a morning session, then after Eucharist and lunch, break into separate groups in the afternoon to conduct their specific work.

ECCT has its own Constitution and Canons that govern our common life. The ECCT is a member of Province 1, "New England", of The Episcopal Church in The United States of America and a constituent member of the Anglican Communion, a Fellowship within the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

## THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Many thanks to all of Saint David's Parishioners for their contributions to a very successful campaign. The goal was to reach \$250,000. (Actual: \$273,000).

The purpose for the campaign was to add a new Air Conditioning System to the Sanctuary; to rebuild and/or improve all parking lots; to upgrade the sound system in the sanctuary.

The outcome of the campaign is as follows:

Six new A/C-Heat-Pumps units have been successfully installed in the sanctuary.

All parking lots have either been replaced, upgraded, or repaired to include the water run-off problem at the Rt 12 entrance.

A Sound System has been installed and working. An App for a Smart Phone is available.

New speakers have replaced to old ones, microphone issues were addressed, and equipment in the control panel has been upgraded.

The issue with the front door to the Sanctuary has been resolved and the side door to the playground has been replaced.

ACCOUNTING (Round thousands):

Goal: \$250,000. Actual pledged: \$273,000.

Cash received:

Pledges	\$203,000.
Parishioners Loans	\$45,000.
Total cash received	<u>\$248,000.</u>

Actual Costs:

A/C	\$104,000
Parking Lots	\$122,000.
Sound System	\$7,000.
Doors	\$4,000.
TOTAL COSTS	<u>\$237,000.</u>

Cash on hand: \$11,000.

Anticipated pledge receipts, over five years:	\$69,000.
Loan payments and interest:	(\$49,000)
Funds available: Net of loans from future pledges:	\$20,000.
Available for future projects after loan repayment:	\$31,000.

**NOTE!!!**

A rebate from Eversource of \$4,500. has been received.

An application for a grant of \$8,000. has been submitted to the Diocese.

Future Projects being considered include:

- 1) Improved parking lot lighting, and dusk to dawn lighting at every entrance.
- 2) Playground improvement.

Projects will be completed with cash on hand and pledged funds as received.

Blessings to all,

Ed Fialkosky: Team Leader

## OUTREACH

### Crop Hunger Walk Report 2022

St David's Episcopal Team Church World Service (CWS) — Gales Ferry-Ledyard CROP Walk Day was on OCTOBER 16, 2022 where we joined with 8 other teams.

CWS is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. The St. David's Episcopal Team Outreach Goal -- Raise \$5000 in sponsored walk to help our neighbors near and far. Plan and work with other churches in neighbor towns to raise more than \$20,000.00 in the Church World Service Gales Ferry-Ledyard 2022 CROP Walk. St. David's Episcopal Team joined the nationwide CROP Walk

in work against poverty/hunger. Why?

According to the FAO, [worldwide between 702 and 828 million people were affected by hunger in 2021](#). 46 million more than in the previous year. According to the World Food Program, 345 million people in 82 countries are in danger of dying due to insufficient food now. Extreme weather, wars, COVID-19, and high inflation are all creating havoc with people's access to adequate food. This is intolerable.

A quarter of the money we raised was distributed by CWS to our designee, southeastern Connecticut's Gemma Moran Food Bank. This helps to supply food to 75 agencies, pantries, meal centers + 5 mobile pantries, and, last year, Gemma Moran distributed 2.15 million pounds of food! What does Church World Service [CWS] do? See online <https://cwsglobal.org/about/> and <https://cwsglobal.org/stories/> CWS has a 4-star rating on [Charity Navigator](#).

9 teams formed our Church World Service (CWS) Gales Ferry Ledyard CROP Walk 103 walkers! Who? How many, how much?

Ledyard Congregational 12 = \$2683.30

St. David's Episcopal 17 = \$2,465.16

St. Luke Lutheran 27 = \$3,327.25

St. James Episcopal Poquetanuck, & Grace Episcopal Yantic 8 = \$1,572.14

Gales Ferry United Methodist 19 = \$7,513.88

St Andrews Lutheran - Charleston, RI 11 = \$1,269.44

St Paul's Episcopal Owego, NY - online = \$270

United Way/Gemma Moran 7 = \$460.30

Unaffiliated Walkers 2 = \$50.00

Together, we raised just over \$20,533.00

To everyone who prayed and gave, thank you! Thanks be to God.

We have plans for our CROP Walk 2023. It is on Sunday, October 15, 1pm

New St. David's Captain this Year! Is it you? Let's work together

Come share ideas at CROP Walk meeting on 27 April 2023 -- Thursday @ 7pm St. James Episcopal, Poquetanuck, 06360

AND we look forward to CWS Community agent, Adam Smedberg, visiting St. David's one Sunday morning this Spring to tell us about 2023 Church World Service action.

Submitted in faith, Jill Foster: 2022 captain Team St. David's Episcopal

## **New London Community Meal Center Report 2022**

During the pandemic it was not possible to get sufficient parishioners to sign up to provide the necessary amounts of shepherd's pie and green beans for Saint David's to serve dinner on the fourth Tuesday of each month. We still are committed to serve the food provided by the meal center, many times augmented by some shepherd's pie prepared by the youth of the parish. Several times the youth have even come to the dinner and assisted in the preparation, serving and cleanup efforts. The number of regular volunteers (average age in the 80's) has diminished due to physical, medical and safety reasons. At times we have had to ask for help from non-parishioner volunteers to be able to efficiently serve the dinner. Several new, younger parishioners have recently stepped up to help. It is a rewarding ministry and more are encouraged to participate in it.

R. S. (Pete) Hall, Jr.

## **St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Event Report 2022**

St. David's provided Christmas presents for 12 families and 24 children this year. The children ranged from age 2 to 16. Thank you for all those who participated by offering tech support, buying presents, and helping to sort and distribute them. Special thanks to Sprigs and Twigs who always carries the presents to Norwich for us.

Ellen Adams, Coordinator

## **Annual Coat Drive Report 2022**

Although we no longer host the annual Christmas Feast, people in the community continue to donate coats for our annual Coat Drive. When coats are donated to the church, they are delivered to a local charity.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane St. Laurent

## **School Supply Outreach Report 2022**

In an ongoing effort to provide outreach to those most vulnerable in the community, we collect school supplies in late August and deliver them to a school whose population requires assistance. The people of Saint David's generously donate to this outreach.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane St. Laurent

## **Souper Bowl Sunday Report 2022**

One part of the mission of Saint David's Episcopal Church is to serve God's people. This is accomplished in many ways.

The youth are involved in activities such as Soup-er Bowl Sunday. They make posters asking for donations of soup. Then they collect funds; some of which are donated to The Ledyard Food Pantry, and some are used to buy needed supplies for The Homeless Hospitality Center. The students purchase things as socks, hand warmers, hats, and gloves. It becomes a shopping experience to remember.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane St. Laurent

## **The Blessing of the Animals Report 2022**

As we do each fall, we held an outdoor *Blessing of the Animals* service which was open to the greater community. Most in attendance are not parishioners of St. David's, but are community members that return each year for this event. The uplifting service drew approximately 20 people and was a great opportunity for fellowship and fun involving St. David's members and non-members alike.

Submitted by: The Rev. Jana Branson

### **Ledyard Food Pantry Report 2022**

We at Saint David's are blessed with generous parishioners who make the world around us a better place. Each and every week, donations from our congregation are made to the Ledyard Food Pantry. Many thanks to all who donate and to Ed and Pat Fialkosky, who deliver the donations on a weekly basis.

Submitted by: The Reverend Jana Branson

### **Ledyard Inter-Church Emergency Assistance Program (LICEAF)**

LICEAF is a non-profit organization that establishes grants for emergency assistance for people in need in the town of Ledyard. Applications for grants are vetted by the town of Ledyard and if the application meets the qualifications of LICEAF, the requests for assistance are brought to the LICEAF board. The board, which meets monthly, consists of clergy and lay people from local churches, including St. David's. The Reverend Jana Branson and Polly McIntyre are currently serving. Cindy McLane needed to resign this year due to health concerns. We are very grateful for her years of service. We are currently looking for a lay member of St. David's to fill the empty spot.

Submitted by: The Rev. Jana Branson

### **Supporting One Another Report 2022**

The family of Saint David's helps one another. Sometimes this involves sending a card, making, and delivering a meal, or knitting hats. Other times, a sizeable donation is made when needed. All these gifts are true blessings.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane St. Laurent