An Open Invitation

Paul Smejkal, Senior Warden

June 24th @ 3:00 pm: The Vestry retreat is complete. I wish the entire community could have been with us. I know everyone would be so proud of their Vestry. Each Vestry person brings such beautiful gifts and they complement one another so well, there had to be a little divine intervention happening during the recruitment of these amazing people. In the next year, we are going to focus on how our mission statement calls us into relationship with God, with each other and with the larger world. We discussed the fracturing of society that has been so evident in our nation and our local community and indeed, at St. David’s.


What does our mission statement call us to do in this environment?

July 28th @ 11:18 pm: I wish I could report to you that your Vestry had THE answer. We do not. Instead we decided on an action. We are inviting all into conversation. We are inviting all into relationship. We are inviting all to be a presence, the Body of Christ, in this world.

At St. David’s Episcopal Church, we are devoted to loving and serving God, one another and the world. We honor the dignity and freedom for all to seek God at their own pace, connecting our life stories with the teachings of Jesus. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we believe our actions transform the world and as a result, we, too, are transformed.

We hope that this invitation will allow you the space to discuss what it means to be in relationship with God, with one another and with the world.

We hope that this invitation will encourage you to live the presence of Jesus Christ in this world through one of the many ministries at St. David’s.

• Giving transportation to a person to church.
• Bringing the Holy Eucharist to a member of the community that cannot come to church.
• Leading a prayer service at Lake Minnetonka Care Center.
• Helping to prepare a meal for the community on a Wednesday evening.

On September 10th we will have our kick-off Sunday. We will talk about the new programming year. We will explore this idea of invitation.

I formally invite each of you to join me on September 10th. We will have a wonderful celebration as we begin the new program year.

Who are these people?

Care to make a guess? Answer on Page 19

Eighteen years ago on August 31, these babies were born prematurely and weighed in at a whopping approximate 3 lbs. each. After spending 6 weeks or more in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit they got to come home. Then an angel appeared each week to lovingly help the frazzled family take care of these tiny morsels sent from heaven.
These early St. Davidites were inspired by the Holy Spirit to commit their resources to create a community where they could invite others to join them in worship. And then immediately they started to find ways to serve God with love in the community.

“loving and serving one another”

The Duntley’s are not certain, but they think that Mrs. Burwell may have donated the land where the church was built. In 1961 St. David’s school opened in the basement and classrooms of St. David’s church. Then in 1965 school services began for children with special needs. In 1989 the school moved to the Burwell Community Center (formerly known as Burwell School) and has continued to grow their services ever since. St. David’s Center for Children and Family Development, located at 3395 Plymouth Road, served 2,872 children and adults in 2016. Today they operate completely independent from our St. David’s Church.

Through the years the people of St. David’s continued to find a multitude of ways to love and serve others, some big, some small. In the days when St. David’s School was in
the building, the land on which the ICA (Inter-congregation Communities Association) building is located was the playground. After St. David’s School moved away, c.2007 St. David’s allowed ICA to construct a building from which would come many services including food distribution to anyone in need. Today the people of St. David’s still do organized food collection in the parish every month and ICA pays the enormous rent sum of $1.00 a year to St. David’s. In the near future St. David’s plans to deed the property over to ICA.

A baby shower is held periodically to furnish families in need with all the many items necessary when a new baby comes, school supplies are collected for children, Families Moving Forward are hosted periodically, where homeless families are fed, entertained and housed at St. David’s. Parishioners work at Loaves and Fishes, The Prayer Shawl group makes, blesses and delivers Prayer Shawls to people in need of uplifting when they are ill. Anyone in need of meals during times of need, or in need of transportation gets it. A group of people work tirelessly to promote affordable housing in the western suburban area.

“Loving and Serving the World”

St. David’s has a strong partnership with Kenya in what is known as The Kenya Project. In northern Kenya and all of east Africa, right now, people are starving due to drought and conflict. They say, first the animals all die because there is no pasture land or water for them to drink. Next the people die. The world health organization says that this famine will be far worse than the 1984 famine. It is estimated that more than 20 million people are at risk. 3.5 million children are on the verge of starvation. Please pray for these people and respond financially if you can.

When Mama Ada first came to St. David’s in 2004 to care for a new granddaughter, her message was simple. “Come meet my people”. The following year a team from St. David’s visited and came back inspired by her and her community. After additional visits from parishioners, we discerned ways to continue to assist the needs we saw. Out of this, the Kenya Partnership was born.

Mama Ada lives on a farm in a community called Ziwa in Kenya. On this farm she has raised nine children and tended her fields. Her home is open to any and all providing food, lodging and all of life’s needs to children in need. These children are orphans of the aids epidemic and farmers without seeds to plant. Driven by her powerful faith in God’s love for all people, she has opened her arms and embraced this community and we are called to join her in this effort through a program at St. David’s called The Mama Ada Project. Our annual Kenya dinner and Coins for Kenya have given St. David’s an opportunity to assist with school scholarships and money for seeds and fertilizer.

Each summer a group of high-schoolers from St. David’s in partnership with Trinity Episcopal Church and Epiphany Episcopal Church spend a week at the White Earth Indian Reservation in northern Minnesota. There the kids perform many services for the residents including tearing off and re-roofing homes, making and installing window screens, demolishing small buildings and painting the inside and outside of homes. They also conduct a Christian Summer School for the children. The teens learn so much during this week, not only about the work they do, but about life, themselves and the strong connection to the Holy Spirit available to them. They also have fun.

Continued on page 4
Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

connecting our life stories with the teachings of Jesus.

Jesus often spent time with marginalized people such as the tax-collectors who were regarded poorly by the people, prostitutes, lepers and beggers. Our efforts at inclusion at St. David’s try to follow his example. Jesus often taught us by His example, such as when he was baptized by John the Baptist. Lindsay Freeman, who was raised at St. David’s remembers being baptized, at the age of three and a half, when the baptismal font was in the coat room in the rear of the sanctuary.

Jesus said, Let the little children come to me and He also said we should teach others about Him. Lindsay says in the 60’s the classrooms were all full every Sunday. Today the education of our children and youth continues to be an important part of life at St. David’s.

Our life stories include meeting people who are in need in the many ways that being human presents. We

The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Gospel of St. Matthew 5:3-10
believe that what we do for others we are doing for Jesus.

“Inspired by the Holy Spirit”

Everywhere there is evidence that we are inspired by the Holy Spirit. We mere humans do not have the necessary capability to come up with some of the wonderful ideas that are born in our midst. We may not recognize that it is the Holy Spirit that is pushing us to be generous with our resources, but something bigger than us calls us to do the things we do.

“we believe our actions transform the world and as a result, we, too, are transformed”

Our own actions transform us, and because of this we in turn transform those around us. They then transform us in turn and so it goes in a holy circle. Father Richard Rohr says that “Our hope lies in the fact that an authentic inner life is going to change the society that we live in just as we allow it to change us.” By the very act of giving a person a ride to the doctor or church, both the driver and rider change. By supporting affordable housing in our neighborhoods and welcoming those residents into our community, all of us are transformed. And maybe the one we welcomed will go on to do the same for someone else. Pay it forward?

One never knows what the visit of a Lay Eucharistic Visitor means to a person unable to get to church. When people of the parish show up to clean the inside and outside of the church, to tend the gardens, to meet in prayer groups or to work in the nursery on Sunday mornings, The Holy Spirit is hard at work in all of us.

These stories are not meant to be a pat on the back for St. David’s, but rather a report of the history and many good things going on yesterday and today in our church family as well as an invitation to people to join in the ongoing efforts and to help to come up with additional ideas about how to live into our mission statement.

There are over 7 billion people on the planet. The Holy Spirit inspired, faithful work of the people of St. David’s and other Christians is like leaven to the people of the world. Whether in Kenya where people are starving, or in Minnetonka where many are in need, we must all soldier on together, each of us providing a unique piece of the puzzle that is the body of Christ.

In the Forward Day by Day publication on June 27, the author talks of asking Giorgio Perlascia why he was willing to risk his life to save thousands of Hungarian Jews during the holocaust. His reply was, “I began to feel like a fish in water.”

This is the obvious opposite of “a fish out of water”, which describes a feeling of awkwardness and discomfort. The author says “a fish in water implies swimming smoothly with the current, being in sync with life, not struggling against the tide.”

The author goes on to say, most of us don’t usually have to make such dramatic or dangerous decisions, but every day we do make decisions about participating in God’s Plan, moving with the currents like a fish in water, or fighting against God.

At St. David’s, so many find themselves just naturally and comfortably living like fish in water, swimming along with God’s plan just naturally. What a wonderful feeling. Ca’ mon’ in. The water’s fine!
Dear members of St. David’s. What can I say but...thank you. Thank you for your love and support throughout my time at St. David’s and now, on the eve of my departure for sabbatical. Thank you for the space to step away, take a breath, seek renewal and refreshment. Thank you for being such an easy congregation to love. Thank you for loving God and love one another so well. I am grateful and humbled. See you in December! – Katherine

Welcome The Rev. Nick and Edna Mezacapa

The Rev. Nick Mezacapa will be with us most Sundays to serve as our supply priest during Katherine’s sabbatical. Nick retired in January 2016 as the rector at Calvary Church in Rochester, Minnesota. He and his wife Edna still live in Rochester.

Nick and Edna met while both were students at Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio. They both taught in Ohio schools until Nick realized his desire to become an Episcopal priest. He served in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and then Cedar Rapids, Iowa, before being called to Calvary. He served 29 1/2 years at Calvary, and as such is the longest serving priest in the history of that parish. To keep busy, he works weekday noons at Pasquale’s Pizza in Rochester. They have two daughters and four grandchildren. Edna is a piano teacher, and her musical talent spreads amongst the daughters and grandchildren.

The Sabbatical Team

First Call for Help
The Sabbatical Team has created a new “First Call for Help” phone number called the Pastoral Care Phone Line: 952-767-0891
Currently that number will roll to Norma Walton who will coordinate all pastoral needs, such as Eucharistic visits, personal visits, prayer shawls or the need to be in contact with clergy. In the future, even after Katherine’s sabbatical, and in Norma’s absence it will roll to another person on the sabbatical team.

Paul Smejkal, Senior Warden is our shepherd during Katherine’s absence. If Paul is unavailable, Carol Stender and Bill Jacobs are backups.

Paul Smejkal – Senior Warden
Paul_smejkal@hotmail.com; 952-270-6762
Carol Stender – Lay Coordinator
cstender51@gmail.com; 612-810-0940
Bill Jacobs – Junior Warden
Bjacobs38@comcast.net; 952-836-6162

The Rev. Nick Mezacapa – Our supply priest during Katherine’s sabbatical. His duties will include celebrating and preaching some Sundays. musicmez@yahoo.com
I Thank You Lord

By Leslie Rummel

I thank You for the blessings bestowed on me each day
Abundantly filling my life with joy
More than words can say!
I thank You for a growing faith
And the trials I’ve made it through,
I’m much more than a conqueror
Because of grace from YOU!!
I thank You for Your only Son
Who came to set me free,
And marvel at the fact that You
Think so much of me!
I thank you for Your mercy
And love that never ends,
How blessed that I can call You both
My Savior and my Friend!
I thank You now for who You are
The king whom I adore
From the deepest part of who I am
Today, I thank You Lord!!!

Please Welcome Our New Intern
The Rev. Allred

We are pleased to welcome a new intern at St. David’s. The Rev. Jennifer Allred will serve with us through the end of the program year, Spring 2018. Jennifer was recently ordained to the Transitional Diaconate and, God willing and the people consenting, will be ordained a priest in June of 2018. St. Clement’s Episcopal Church, St. Paul, is the parish that is sponsoring her for ordination, although she originally hales from Jackson, Mississippi. She is completing her Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) residency this summer at Methodist Hospital and is exploring a call to fulltime chaplaincy. Jennifer will be with us as a leader in worship most Sundays during her internship. Please introduce yourself and help welcome Jennifer.
Fall Approaches in the Gardens of St. David’s

By Launa Tucker

It’s August and summer is waning but the gardens are still in bloom. We continue to weed and feed all the blossoms and greenery. It was a wonderful July evening when our youth group and adult leaders spread 80 bags of much needed mulch for the garden! That’s a lot of wood. From the church windows above someone remarked that they looked like very industrious ants crawling around the hillside! And indeed they were. The Peace garden thanks you for all your efforts, it looks great. There was a Morning Prayer service in the garden on the Sunday of the Minnehaha Creek clean-up and we are preparing for a wedding in September. Please come and take a moment to look and smell and enjoy the beauty of God’s creation. Give thanks for the hard work of Pat Anderson, Carol Johnson, Marty Scott, Randy Lindquist and David Pearson. They have weeded, planted, watered and nourished the garden. Join us if you like on Monday mornings; it’s a big space so there is always room for more help. For more information call Launa Tucker at 952-935-1294.
Bible Study Under New Leadership

It is a pleasure to announce that when Bible Study resumes on Tuesday, September 12, we will have a new leader. The Rev. Jennifer Allred has graciously agreed to guide us this year replacing the Rev. Katherine Lewis.

This long standing group meets Tuesdays during the program year at 10:00 AM in the library for an hour, beginning with coffee. The course of study will be determined by those in attendance so mark your calendars now. Newcomers are most welcome and will find this group friendly and the discussions lively and relevant to today’s challenges. Contact Sharon Engel at sharonengel@comcast.net or 763-732-9418 with any questions.

St. David’s Book Club

The Book Club marches on into its second year. A few changes are afoot. We will meet on Tuesday evenings – likely from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Here are the dates: 10/24, 2/27, and 4/24. We will meet in the Committee Room (that’s the meeting room next to the Nursery). Book selections will be announced at least two months before the meeting. Any one is invited to join, even non-St. Davidites. These are informal meetings with no agenda other than discussing the book and of course, having some laughs along the way. Cathy Schwichtenberg has graciously agreed to be the new “book club queen”. We do not discriminate – any age or gender are welcome – please join us if you can.

“Body and Sold”

Saturday, October 14th
7:00 PM

St. David’s Undercroft

Last year St. David’s hosted the premiere of Chain Reaction Theatre Project’s “Invisible” a play about homeless suburban youth. This year we will host a powerful documentary about juvenile sex trafficking which is prevalent in our communities.

Based on interviews with sex trafficking survivors in five major U.S. cities, this powerful documentary play gives voice to victims and inspires discussion and action. The play’s interwoven stories of nine juvenile sex trafficking survivors are thought-provoking eye-openers about what is happening to the youth in our communities. The true stories of these survivors, including those of Twin Cities’ youth, will be performed in the round to create an immersive experience for audiences.

Performances are scheduled before the Super Bowl arrives in Minneapolis—at which time sex trafficking is expected to increase by 50 percent—to help increase awareness of this issue. Director Shelley Smith says, “The FBI ranks Minnesota 13th in the U.S. for sex trafficking. With this play our goal is to create awareness about this issue and inspire audiences to be part of the solution.”

A “talk back” will take place following the performance with several local nonprofits who are doing the important work of fighting sex trafficking. Detective Jake Wenmark, of the Minnetonka Police Department, has worked on several high profile cases and will be present for the discussion following the play.

There will be seven more productions throughout the Twin Cities from October 15-November 2.


Tickets are $15 “pay as you can”.

DoveTales § Volume 6 § Fall § 2017
Welcome to the fall season and the beginning of a brand new church program year at St. David’s. This truly is an exciting time for our worship community. Our kickoff Sunday to celebrate this new beginning will be held on Sept. 10, the Sunday after Labor Day. On this day we’ll distribute new directories, spend some time getting familiar with the new 2017-18 program guide, register our school age members for the coming class year, and begin this year’s forum schedule. There will be new drawings for the Prosperity Prize Pick Program, the choir and the acolytes will be back with us, and our new year will be off and running.

Very soon, the annual pledge drive, another exciting and significant St. David’s event will begin. In less than a month, on Sunday October 8th, we’ll kick off this year’s drive with a presentation at the Forum. We hope to see you all at the forum on this important Sunday. Pledge packages will arrive at your home on Monday, Oct. 9th, and the drive is underway.

We may not all think of the pledge drive as an exciting event, but we should. It’s an opportunity for each of us to pledge our support to insure St. David’s continuing success, and as such, it needs to be an exciting event in our church year. The pledge drive is the time each year when we pause to consider our feelings about St. David’s and think about its presence in our lives. We take time to consider what it means to us and decide what commitment is appropriate for us to make in support of our worship community and ensure it’s presence and success into the future.

Take a few moments now to think about what it is that excites you about St. David’s. Here are some of my own thoughts. I hesitate to imagine what a different person I might be if I didn’t have the support and influence of St. David’s in my life. My first thought would be the worship service, with its music, its messages from the bible and pulpit, and our wonderful, elegant, thoughtful prayers to lead me through the tougher times in my life. I am always amazed at how, when we pray basically the same prayers each week, a different word or two can pop out at me, depending on what’s going on in my life, and take on a whole new meaning. And I think about the personal, inspiring messages from Katherine, Guy and the rest of our Clergy team. How different my life might be if I wasn’t exposed to their influence every week. And the music is so special to me. Music has a way of digging way down in my being and creating a new passion. Meg does a great job of bringing this feeling to all of us. Many years I have taken parish groups out at Christmas-time to sing to our shut-in members, and this is a very emotional experience. I always tear up at some of these places.

And how about the mission teams who do so much for our parish and community? Think about programs such as Families Moving Forward, the Prison Ministry, the Minnetonka Care Center. And think about our LEV volunteers taking communion to members who are unable to make it to church on Sunday morning. And the transportation we provide to bring people to church who cannot get to us on their own. And our wonderful pastoral care team that brings aid from St. David’s to a multitude of members who have special needs in their personal lives. And how about the support we provide to people in our area through donations to the ICA Food Shelf, and the building we provide for them to carry on their programs? Is all of this worth our support? I think so!

And it’s very special to me to watch our children grow each year before our very eyes, and to see them benefit from the education and training they receive from our worthy and dedicated Sunday school teachers. We are doing so much to form and structure their lives. We are making better citizens of these youngsters. These efforts are all well worth our support. The pledge drive provides us with the opportunity to be full partners in all of this activity.

Many of you know that this last year has been a tough one for me. I lost Nita, my beautiful lifetime partner of more than 50 years to the dreaded cancer disease, and my entire life has been turned upside-down. Before this happened, I thought I knew what a faithful, caring, personal organization our St. David’s community was. But the vast amount of love and support that poured forth in my loss helped me realize that I didn’t have a clue. The hugs, the sincere wishes and remembrances, the people who knocked on my door each night, (some of whom I didn’t even know well) and said, “Here’s your dinner for tonight.” All of this was just overwhelming to me. A St. David’s member arranged to have someone in my house with
Exciting things are happening with the Cornerstone Endowment Fund of St. David’s! Thanks to the continued generosity of St. David’s parishioners and strong investment performance, as of June 30, we were less than $1,500 away from total endowment funds of $100,000. Giving has continued to be strong in the first half of 2017—our thanks to everyone who has donated!

Although we’re so close to $100,000, for now, the endowment continues to be in a building mode. The endowment committee has agreed that we want to continue growing the endowment until it is large enough to be able to steadily support an annual transfer to the parish that is sizable enough to support a meaningful contribution to the church’s mission. This decision supports the endowment’s goal of supporting the church’s mission beyond what the operating budget is capable of providing.

Again, thanks to those who have supported the endowment thus far. If you haven’t gotten around to it yet, don’t worry—there are still plenty of spaces available on the plaque to add new donors! As we head into the latter part of the year, it’s a great time to be thinking about planned giving. I’m excited about the vision of a St. David’s parish decades from now that has an endowment capable of supporting new ministry opportunities that we haven’t even contemplated today!

If you have any questions about the endowment, or are interested in contributing, please don’t hesitate to contact myself or any of the other endowment committee members. They are: Robby Stokes, Jeff Handley, Peg Woellner, Tom Edmond, Susan Taylor, David Pearson, and Jim Monteith.
Leah and Oscar sit side by side, Oscar not leaving Leah’s side during this interview. Oscar is Leah’s 10 year old Bichon Frise, her best friend and faithful companion. At prayer time, Leah wraps up in her prayer shawl and she and Oscar sit together in prayer.

Leah has been at St. David’s for 19 years. She did a little church shopping but the first time she walked in to St. David’s, there was Bill Wilson welcoming her. Bill actually called her the following Wednesday asking her to usher. After that, everything just clicked into place. Leah was involved in ushering and the altar guild. She helped to put a team together to work in the church office. She was on the Vestry for 3 years and she was the Vestry clerk for 6 years. She was a part of the search committee to hire our priest and she helped to hire our last two office administrators.

Leah loves to watch the kids at St. David’s. They seem so happy and content and so at home at St. David’s. St. David’s has so many activities for the youth including the camps and missions and choir to name a few. When in high school, St. Mary’s sent her to Oberlin Ohio for the National Episcopal Youth Conference, so she is aware of the impact the church can have on young people.

Leah grew up in Mitchell, South Dakota. A cradle Episcopalian attending St. Mary’s church. Her mom was very involved at St. Mary’s and passed on some of her daily tasks to Leah. Leah’s parents were involved in horse racing in South Dakota so Leah did clerical and customer service work at the tracks while in high school and college which helped to pay for college.

After high school Leah moved to Nebraska to attend the University of Nebraska in Lincoln majoring as an English teacher. She met her husband James in Lincoln. After their marriage at St. Mary’s they moved around for three years while James was in the Army. Then off to Connecticut for five years and back to Nebraska for two years. After her marriage she left the Episcopal Church to attend a congregational church with her husband. After thirteen years away, there were many changes in the Episcopal Church including the change from Rite I. Three children later and a divorce in 1975 Leah moved herself and her children to San Jose, CA. She spent 20 years in California.
In California, Leah worked in Human Resources, specializing in building start-up electronic companies in Silicon Valley. When she moved to Minnesota, she used her HR knowledge working for larger financial institutions. She did considerable traveling, training employees in management skills and sexual harassment. When she retired, she turned her energies to volunteering at St. David’s.

Leah’s 3 children attended the University of Nebraska and ended up staying in the Midwest. Leah’s daughter Susan lived in Minnesota so with the encouragement of Susan, Leah moved here in 1996.

Besides Susan, Leah has two sons, Lee and James III, known as “Trip.” Both live in Lincoln. Along with 3 children, Leah has 9 grand children, 5 boys and 4 girls. The family is very close and spends as much time together as possible. Susan and Trip each have a cabin on Woman Lake in northern Minnesota and Lee has a place not far from Lincoln.

Thirteen years ago Leah was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. She gave up her car 2-1/2 years ago and relies on family, friends and caregivers to help her get around. She is especially thankful for the transportation ministry which gets her to church on Sundays and to other special events. Leah has had a special caregiver, Ruth, for almost 3 years. Ruth spends about 15 hours per week helping Leah with whatever needs she has. She is adding other caregivers as her situation changes. She does have a bit of memory loss so don’t feel bad if she doesn’t recall your name.

After the interview, Leah got up from her spot on the couch and there was Oscar, right behind Leah, protecting and watching over her.
Some questions to ponder regarding affordable housing:

Who is welcome in our neighborhoods? How do we view changes in our neighborhoods? What does our faith ask us to do? What do we need to do to live into our name – Christian? What do we mean by inclusion?

The Beacon Interfaith Housing Initiative is a collaboration of some 90 churches in the metro area who together support an effort to end homelessness. They also support the Families Moving Forward initiative with which St. Davidites are familiar. Because of Beacon, about 800 people no longer have to worry about where they will sleep tonight. 75 families each year are helped through Beacon.

They have built or preserved about 500 housing units and they continue to support these tenants to achieve stability in their lives. Their goal is to raise this number to 1000 housing units by 2020.

Why are people homeless?
There is a huge shortage of affordable housing in Minnesota and across the country. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition there is a shortage of 7.2 million housing units in the country and just one out of every four eligible families receive the help they need. One out of every 10 families in Minnesota pays 50% or more of their income for housing.

Additionally, socio-economic imbalances foster unequal access to housing and opportunity. Generational poverty, institutional racism, low wages that don't support market rent levels all play a role in homelessness.

Another cause is unforeseen circumstances, things that can happen to any of us such as a job loss, a medical crisis or chronic illness, or a landlord who sells their building and all are evicted.

And, finally because we allow it. Since the homelessness crisis of the 1980's when many “temporary” shelters were built, society has accepted homelessness as part of the fabric of our society. We the public need to demand that our public officials adequately fund the development of affordable housing and other supports needed by low income families.

I tell you the truth whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.

Mathew 25:40

Currently Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative is working toward the construction of Cranberry Ridge Apartments in Plymouth. This will be a 3-story, 45-unit building with one, two, three and four bedroom apartments renting from $800 – 1200 per month which is 20 to 25% lower than rents in Plymouth.

Why Plymouth?
Plymouth is a welcoming community that is home to families with a wide range of incomes. City data shows that more than 4,000 Plymouth households are living in poverty. It's been projected that the city will need an additional 763 affordable homes over the next decade. Cranberry Ridge will help close this gap and ensure that families have access to the great schools, parks and other community assets this community is known for.

St. David's housing committee will be doing a Sunday forum on October 29 with updates on Beacon’s Cranberry Ridge proposal.

And do not forget to do good and share with others for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:16
Monday Morning Contemplative Prayer

No experience necessary to join others for Contemplative Prayer Monday mornings from 9:00-9:30 AM. We meet in the Conference Room/Oratory, opening with a reflective reading, meditating for twenty minutes and then closing with prayer.

Transportation to St. David’s

St. David’s helps coordinate rides for parishioners who cannot drive themselves. If you would like to help provide transportation for parishioners from time to time or, if you have a transportation need, please contact Tom Edmond at 952-936-0968.

Meals for Parishioners

Nourishing meals prepared by fellow parishioners are brought and delivered to folks who are ill, injured or newly discharged from the hospital, to families gathered with their loved one during the final days of hospice care, to people just not up to preparing nutritious meals due to a variety of circumstances.

Would you like to help with this outreach program? Volunteers are usually called just a few times a year to provide a meal. Such an easy, yet meaningful, way to volunteer a bit of your time! If you are interested in participating, please contact Sue List by phone at 952-935-3923 or by email at sml2day@aol.com.
Music at St. David’s

Music @ St. David’s
2017-2018 Season

Take Five
Sunday, October 22, 3 PM
We kick off our 11th season with guest pianist, Garret Ross! He is joining us for Shostakovich’s famous piano quintet. Also on the program is the powerful Voces Intimae by Sibelius. Come hear these wonderful five movement quartets!

Time Travel
Sunday, November 5, 3 PM
What do an Arab-American (Fairouz, born 1985), an American (Glass, born 1937), and an Austrian (Schubert, born 1797) have in common? Music of course! Take a trip back through time as we discuss and perform music that spans 185 years!

Huldra vs. Huldah
Sunday, March 4, 3 PM
A Huldra is a forest spirit from Norwegian folklore. Norwegian composer, Edvard Grieg was inspired to set the folklore-based poetry of Henrik Ibsen to song. Grieg composed six songs for voice and piano. He borrowed from these songs to create his one and only string quartet in G minor. Huldah, Erika, Valerie, and Ruth will perform this epic string quartet for your enjoyment along with Haydn Op. 2 no. 5 and Beethoven’s Grosse Fugue.

From Bach to Bartok
Friday, April 13, 7 PM
We finish off our season with selections from Bach’s Art of Fugue, Schulhoff’s 5 Pieces for String Quartet and Bartok’s incredible String Quartet No. 2. Bartok’s quartets are some of the most difficult pieces of chamber music ever written. What a way to end an amazing season!

Have You Missed the Choir this Summer?

We’re BACK and we need YOU!
To ease back into the routine, we’re starting off with a night of singing and fun! Please come Wednesday, September 6th from 7-9 PM with soaring voices and open hearts. Bring a snack or a drink to share.
All that is required is a love of music.
We rehearse Wednesdays from 7:15-8:45 PM between September and May. NOW LET US SING!

KIDS CHOIR is BACK

We will be performing on November 5th, All Saints Sunday.
All kids through 5th grade are welcome – Solo/duet parts available for brave souls
Rehearsals on Sunday following the 9:30 service from October 8 – 29. Hope to see you!
Bell Choir Resumes

Bell Choir rehearsal starts up again Wednesday, September 13th.

Come join this fun, energetic group of music readers, non-readers and TEAM players. The Bell Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights from 6:15-7pm and performs once per month from September through May under the direction of Pam Schroeder. Please contact Pam @ pam618@comcast.net or (612) 749-7799 with any questions.

A new opportunity for St. David’s KIDS... KIDS BELL CHOIR

Pam Schroeder will be heading up this new program for kids ages 3 & up. More details to come....

“Kidsplay Handbells and Handbell Music are easy, fun and God-honoring. They help to build confidence, music appreciation and discipline in my kids. Literally, when I get the “bell boxes” out, the kids cheer. They LOVE it! The parents are thrilled, our congregation “wowed,” and I usually have people wiping tears from their eyes when we are finished. They often ask me, “How do you get little children to play bells like that?!” They just don’t understand how easy it is, and the kids know that they are doing something they can be proud of.” Patti Hershey – childrens music educator & lecturer

Jam Session: Definition: A relatively informal gathering of amateur and/or professional musicians, who desire to gather and share music together in a casual setting. The emphasis is on fun, music and sharing musical gifts.

Bring your voice, your guitar, some drums or maybe even that kazoo! Grab whatever you want. Once autumn arrives, let’s start jamming, meeting informally to make some music. This is just a warning to you to sharpen up your musical chops. More information to follow.
Let’s Go Bowling

Party & Fundraiser

September 17th, 3:00-5:00 PM
Park Tavern & Bowling, St. Louis Park

Let’s have some family fun! We have room for up to 40 bowlers at Park Tavern and Bowling in St. Louis Park. Pizza and fountain drinks will be provided.

A suggested donation to St. David’s is: $10 per adult, $5 per child, or $25 for a family. Please sign up in the undercroft. We put the FUN in fundraising!

Wednesday Night Dinners

The Wednesday night dinner program will continue with one change – we will be serving dinner only on the Wednesday nights when the two youth groups meet. The dates will be published in the yearly program, bulletin, and you will continue to receive email reminders.

We are looking for volunteer cooks. To make cooking even easier we will do the food shopping for you. You would just need to show up in time to heat the dinner, set out the plates and silverware and then clean up. Working in pairs is recommended to keep things more fun. Please let Carol Stender know if you can volunteer for this activity.

Fall Clean-Up is October 28th

Mark your calendars for October 28 from 9:00 AM -- 1:00 PM. Join us as we get our church building and grounds ready for winter.

A sign-up sheet will be in the undercroft along with a list of many of the tasks that need to be completed. St. David’s budget thanks us for all of the volunteer help!

Cleaning supplies and tools will be available, and a light lunch will be served.

See you there!

If you have suggestions for items to be covered in DoveTales, or photos that we might use, please send them to Gervaye Parent at GJP1963@yahoo.com. Thank you.
Save the Date
Mark Your Calendars

SEPTEMBER
3 ICA Ingathering
   Martha Grave Wedding
4 Labor Day - Office Closed
6 Choir Rehearsals
9 Prayer Shawl Ministry
10 1 Service Only at 9:30 AM
   Forum: Kick-Off Sunday/Ministry Fair
13 Dinner
   Choir Rehearsals
   Youth Groups
15 Bridge Group
15-16 ECMN Convention, Duluth
17 Forum: Nick Mezacapa
   Bowling Party
20 Choir Rehearsals
24 Daylight Savings Time Begins
   Forum: Godly Play Presentation
27 Dinner
   Choir Rehearsals
   Youth Groups

OCTOBER
1 ICA Ingathering
   Forum: State of the Parish with
   Convention Report
4 Choir Rehearsals
8 Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
   Forum: “Loving God-Loving
   One Another – Supporting Our
   Mission” Blessing of the Animals
9 Prayer Shawl Ministry
11 Dinner
   Choir Rehearsals
   Youth Groups
14 “Body & Soul”
   Chair Reaction Theatre
15 Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
   Forum: Community of Hope
20 Bridge Group
22 MEA Weekend
   Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
   Forum: Social
   Music at St. David’s
24 Safe Church – Children
25 Dinner
   Choir Rehearsals
   Youth Groups
   Safe Church – Adults
29 Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
   Forum: Affordable Housing Team
31 Loaves & Fishes

NOVEMBER
5 All Saints –
   1 Service Only at 9:30 AM
   Kid’s Choir performs
   ICA Ingathering
   Forum: Pledge Celebration
   Music at St. David’s
8 Dinner
   Choir Rehearsals
   Youth Groups
11 Prayer Shawl Ministry
13 Bridge Group
15 Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
   Forum: Radical Hospitality Team
17 Thanksgiving – Office Closed
20 Thanksgiving – Office Closed
26 Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
   Forum: Intergenerational
   Thanksgiving Social
29 Choir Rehearsals

DECEMBER
3 First Advent
   ICA Ingathering
   Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
   Forum: Welcome Back
   Rev. Katherine Lewis
6 Choir Rehearsals
9 Joint Advent Retreat with
   St. Marks – “Expectancy and
   Expectations” Prayer Shawl Ministry
10 Second Advent
   Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
   Forum: Craft Bazaar
13 Choir Rehearsals
   Youth Baking for Caroling
17 Third Advent
   Soup and Caroling
   Kid’s Choir Rehearsal
20 Choir Rehearsals
24 Fourth Advent Services
   Greeting of the Church
   Christmas Eve Service
25 Christmas Day Service
   Office Closed
26 Office Closed
31 Forum: Intergenerational
   New Year’s Eve—Social

JANUARY
1 New Year’s Day – Office Closed
7 Epiphany Baby Shower
   1 Service Only at 9:30 AM
   ICA Ingathering
   Forum: Reach and Restore –
   Rhonda Oliver
10 Dinner
   Choir Rehearsals
   Youth Groups
14 Forum: Social Time
15 Martin Luther King Day –
   Office Closed
17 Choir Rehearsals
21 Forum: Understanding
   Our Budget
24 Dinner
   Choir Rehearsals
   Youth Groups
26 Talent Show
28 Annual Meeting
30 Loaves & Fishes
31 Choir Rehearsals

Answer: Who are these people?

This is an angel who believes in living into her name as a Christian. She is better known as “Grandma Joanne” Deakyne to the babies, Michael and Marisa Harvala who turned 18, August 31, 2017!!!
We Welcome You

St. David’s Episcopal Church is committed to following Jesus’ example of practicing radical hospitality, seeking to find God in all people because they are of sacred worth. We welcome all persons, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, education, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic or marital status. All are invited as full participants in the life and ministries of our community of faith.

### Vestry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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