

**ST. DAVID'S PARISH
ANNUAL MEETING**

Sunday, January 31, 2016

**St. David's Episcopal Church
5150 Macomb Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:15 a.m. Registration of Qualified Voters

Parish Lunch

Announcement of a Quorum

Appointments

Approval of Minutes

**Election of Junior Warden
and Vestry Members**

Rector's Pastoral Address

Senior Warden's Report

Committee Reports

Questions and Other Business

Adjournment

Fellowship continues

**Minutes
St. David's Parish Annual Meeting
February 1, 2015**

Father Dodge called the meeting to order at 11:15 am. After the opening prayer, he appointed the Parliamentarian, Secretary, and Tellers. The Parliamentarian declared that a quorum was present. The minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting were approved as written.

Elections

Father Dodge thanked Lisa Mould, Nominating Committee Chairman, and read the slate of candidates for Vestry positions: for Senior Warden, Stephen Sears; Vestrypersons, Claudia Callaway, Richard Southby, Michael Taylor, Everal Thompson. There being no nominations from the floor, the slate was elected by acclamation.

Pastoral Address

The Rector discussed progress on four initiatives: more opportunities for worship, more opportunities for small group study, more inreach, and planned giving. The Rector then introduced Jayme Aronberg, Community Engagement Manager at Friendship Place, who thanked St. David's for support of walk-in psychiatric services. In conclusion, the Rector thanked the parishioners, parish staff, and the retiring Vestry members, and presented Lisa Mould, Senior Warden, with a gift.

Report of the Senior Warden

Senior Warden Lisa Mould presented three highlights: the Youth Group carwash, Youth Group bake sale, and the hiring of a firm to rework the parish website.

Altar Guild

Lindy Walsh reported on the recent Altar Guild meeting. She offered to provide a demonstration to anyone who would like to learn more about the work of the Altar Guild, and thanked those who have served during the past year.

Other Reports

The Rector called for any other reports; there being none, the Rector referred to the reports in the meeting handout, and drew attention to the pie charts. St. David's received a clean audit, and the Vestry will review the audit report.

Other Business

The Rector invited questions, and responded to questions about major expenses and growth in pledges. Stephen Sears congratulated the Rector on his 10th anniversary of service at St. David's.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. The Rector gave the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine N. Ball, Secretary, Annual Meeting

VESTRY NOMINEE BIOGRAPHIES

Charles (“Chip”) Nottingham (*Nominated for Junior Warden*)

Chip, his wife Catherine, and their sons Garner (age 18) and Charles (age 16) reside about eight blocks away from St. David’s in the Spring Valley neighborhood. Chip was born in Washington, D.C. and has been a life-long Episcopalian. He was baptized at St. John’s Norwood Parish in Chevy Chase and was confirmed at St. Andrew’s and Holy Communion in South Orange, New Jersey. Prior to returning to Washington in the Spring of 2008 and joining St. David’s, Chip and his family lived in Fredericksburg, Virginia for 12 years where they were members of St. George’s Episcopal Church. Chip was head usher at St. George’s for approximately five years and was a member of the Nave Renovation Committee. For the past four years, Chip has served as St. David’s Junior Warden. Catherine has helped teach at St. David’s Sunday School where Garner and Charles have been active participants. Chip and Catherine look forward to helping the children’s Christian education programs expand and strengthen. Chip’s mother, Betsy Nottingham, is also a member of St. David’s. Chip has held a number of senior positions in government as a Congressional staffer, state transportation department head in Virginia, at the U.S. Department of Transportation, and as Vice Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board, a federal regulatory agency that oversees the freight railroad industry. He is now in private practice at his own law firm in Washington. He received his undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University in Connecticut and his law degree from George Mason University.

Sheryl Dolan (*Nominated for Vestryperson – Three-Year Term*)

Sheryl Lindros Dolan has lived in Kent with her husband, Reilly, since 1994, and started attending St. David’s in the mid-1990s. Both of her sons, Tom (age 15) and Will (age 10) were baptized at St. David’s. Much of her involvement with St. David’s to date has been at the “ground level”, teaching Sunday School, though she also currently is sitting on the Lay Committee for our seminarian, Raphiell Ashford. Sheryl looks forward to contributing to a broader range of issues as a Vestry member. Sheryl has a BA in Chemistry from Cornell University and a J.D. from George Washington University. She works for Bergeson & Campbell, P.C. and its science-policy consulting affiliate, The Acta Group, counseling clients on chemical product regulatory matters. In her free time, Sheryl is a Tae Kwon Do student (along with Reilly, Tom and Will) and also often a dog walker for Duke, an Australian Shepherd-Chow mix.

Roderick (“Rod”) Hastie (*Nominated for Vestryperson – Three-Year Term*)

Rod Hastie, a resident of the Palisades, has been attending St. David’s since 2001. He is a lifelong Episcopalian. Raised in Albany, GA, Rod also comes from a family of Episcopalians going back several generations. Rod attended St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church in Albany, where he served as an acolyte as a child and later as a member of several church lay committees as an adult. In the summers Rod can be found in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, where he attends All Saints Episcopal Church. In his professional life, Rod is the Senior Director of Governmental Relations at Hunton & Williams. Rod graduated from Auburn University with a B.S. in Public Administration.

Everald Thompson (*Nominated for Vestryperson – Three-Year Term*)

Everald Thompson is a practicing attorney in Washington, D.C. He is a graduate of Brooklyn College and Indiana University School of Law. He is a former law clerk to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and worked for a decade as corporate counsel and civil rights attorney for the national office of the NAACP where he litigated First Amendment, Employment Discrimination, Voting Rights, and Housing Discrimination cases nationwide. Everald was born in Jamaica, West Indies, where he is also licensed to practice law. He returns to Jamaica frequently with his family for vacation. He is actively and enthusiastically engaged in developing a coffee farm under the Jamaican Blue Mountain Coffee label. He is married to Debbie-Ann Bromfield-Thompson, an usher at St. David's, which union has produced two sons, John and Jeffrey, both of whom were christened at St. David's. Everald has served one year on Vestry completing an unexpired term, and so is eligible for election for a three-year term of his own.

RECTOR'S REPORT

During 2015, St. David's Sunday schedule remained the same as the year before: 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:15 a.m. Christian Formation, and 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I. The 2015 weekday schedule remained consistent with prior years: 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer Rite II on weekdays, and 12:00 noon Holy Eucharist Rite I with the Rite of Healing on Wednesdays.

During 2015, there were 149 Sunday Eucharists, 49 weekday Eucharists, 14 private Eucharists, 5 Daily Offices on Sunday, 135 Daily Offices on weekdays, 1 marriage, and 17 burials.

In 2015 the total attendance at Sunday services was 4,568, representing an average Sunday attendance of 90. This is a decrease from 2014's average Sunday attendance of 99, most evident at the 11:15 a.m. service, providing the impetus to looking at combining the 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services. Easter attendance in 2015 of 348 nearly matched 2014's Easter attendance of 349, but 2015's Christmas attendance of 398 was up significantly from 2014's Christmas attendance of 363. This implies that the number of people who consider St. David's their parish church has increased. For the record, those persons who are at church performing other duties, but who are not present at worship, are not counted in these attendance figures.

Attendance at worship other than on Sunday (including weekday Morning Prayer, Wednesday Eucharists, weddings, funerals, and private services) increased from 1,294 in 2014 to 1,920 in 2015, primarily because of more funerals (17 instead of 3). In addition, there were 5 Baptisms.

St. David's is blessed to have a dedicated staff. Office and Communications Manager Yeme Worku holds down the fort in the Parish Office. We were sorry to see The Rev'd Nan Hildebrand leave as part-time Associate Rector for Children's and Youth Christian Formation, but we rejoice in her being called as Interim Rector of St. James', Indian Head, MD, and we give thanks for Therese Saint-Andre stepping into the volunteer role of Interim Coordinator of Children's Christian Formation. Rob Church, our Minister of Music has continued to bring great energy to our worship and has challenged the choir with singing mass settings on special occasions. We are thankful for the presence of Raphiell Ashford as our seminarian from Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria. We continue to give thanks to God for the faithful service of Elisa Cardoza (Child Care and Cleaning) who makes Sundays run so seamlessly.

One of my great pleasures at St. David's has been working with such fine lay leadership, especially embodied in St. David's Vestry under the leadership this past year of Senior Warden Stephen Sears. My greatest pleasure, of course, is to be able to share in the special aspects of your lives as your Rector and priest. I feel blessed and humbled to serve you at St. David's.

Faithfully,
Robin+

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild held its meeting on January 16, 2016, at 10:00 am in the Wicker Room. Present were Lindy Walsh, Rae Adams, Cathy Ball, Dana Surrey Daly, Paula Blasey, Kathi Taylor, and Robin Dodge. Robin opened the meeting with a prayer. Cathy recorded the minutes. Lindy announced that Dana is retiring from the Altar Guild after serving many years. We presented her a gift. Dana was on Susie Canby's team. Now we need a replacement.

Robin discussed how a combined 10:00 am service might affect the Altar Guild. The candles will need to be filled only on Saturday. The vessels will be silver. He mentioned that he would invite 9:30 congregants to be on the Altar Guild and help set-up. Lindy offered to train new volunteers and set up a substitute list. Paula is unavailable from June to mid-September and Lindy is unavailable from mid-May to early October.

The Altar Guild will count the linens at 10:15 am on Saturday, February 6. Lindy thanked all the members for their services for St. David's. We are always grateful to have Robin keep us on track.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindy Walsh, Chair of the Altar Guild

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The mission of our Sunday School program at St. David's is to help children embrace their identity as children of God and live into the vows made on their behalf at their baptism; in the words of the Prayer Book, "to help the new Christians grow in the knowledge and love of God, and in their responsibilities as members of his Church."

We use the Episcopal Church's curriculum, *Weaving God's Promises*, and adapt it to the needs of our children and setting. In consultation with parents, we have changed the time of Sunday school from after the 9:30 service to during the first part of the service. This frees the parents to listen to the readings, sermon, and prayers while allowing their children to engage with the Bible stories and ask questions in a very approachable way. In the autumn, we used stories from the Old Testament, and in the spring we will learn stories about Jesus' ministry from the New Testament. Throughout the year, we learn about the worship and customs of the church, so that the children can embrace this church (both St. David's and the wider Episcopal Church) as *their* church, their own spiritual home.

We are grateful to those who give of their time to lead and engage with our children: Sheryl Dolan, Alex Shockey, Mike Taylor, Christa Cooper, and Margaret Johnson.

In this time of major shifts in the values of our society, when the fastest growing religious group is those who claim "none", we encourage everyone in the parish to think about children in your own neighborhood or your own family, who don't regularly go to church. Consider inviting them to St. David's. Here they will find spiritual nourishment and a sense of Christian community; they will find our hearts and minds open and welcoming. This can be the place where they will come to know a loving God who welcomes them as his beloved children.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Saint-Andre, Interim Coordinator for Children's Christian Formation

FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild currently has eight active and creative members. Emily Stabler graciously hosted our bi-annual luncheon meeting on November 21, 2015 where we committed to work 2 to 4 Sundays during the following 6 months to do arrangements for the main altar and side chapel, our congenial committee always remaining flexible with the schedule. Each inspiring and beautiful arrangement is the flowers and fruits of Sandra Berryman, Joan Bond, Betsy Edgeworth, Pat Martin, Patty Mason, Christine Parker, Emily Stabler, and Gracie Stockton. We are always looking for new members who are interested in doing arrangements. New members are encouraged to take advantage of the excellent Altar Arrangement course at the Washington Cathedral and/or partnering with members to establish a few guidelines. It is a rewarding and creative experience!

We are always glad to arrange memorial flowers. Just sign up in the back of the church or call the office to choose dates and make financial arrangements. Approved church brass containers also make a lasting and appreciated gift.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Martin, Chair of the Flower Guild

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The endowment account at the end of the calendar year totaled \$1,080,234. The funds are invested in five well diversified mutual funds. All the funds rank in the top 10% of their respective peer groups looking at the past 5 and 10 years. Fund returns were more varied in the past year and the endowment was off 1.38% for the year. At its next quarterly meeting the Investment Committee will review the holdings and report any changes to the vestry.

The endowment started 2015 at \$1,271,241.10. In addition to the annual draw to the operating budget of \$63,500, the Vestry authorized the withdrawal of \$111,500 for repairs and restoration of the undercroft after the recent flooding and to meet other obligations. The account as of January 29, 2016 totaled \$1,014,688.74. That computes to a 6.07% decline year to date vs. an 8.5% decline in the Dow Jones and 7.9% decline in the S&P.

In accord with vestry policy, a \$50,000 reserve is kept in a money market fund. There haven't been any withdrawals yet in 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Whelihan, Chair of the Investment Committee

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Susan Ashburn, John Cope, Robin Dodge, Margaret Johnson, Marietta Falzgraf, Christine Parker (chair), Betsy Rea, Emily Stabler, Joan Townsend

Meetings: First Tuesday of every month (Sept. to June) at 12 noon in the Wicker Room

Outreach Ministries: **Bishop Walker School** (DC), **Friendship Place** (DC Metro area), **Honduran Independence Bilingual School** (Honduras), **Martha's Table** (DC), **Palisades Village** (immediate neighborhood), **Project Retrak** (7 countries in Africa and 1 in South America)

The six Outreach ministries supported by St. David's reflect an effort to work locally as well as globally. In every instance except Martha's Table, a member of St. David's is active in these organizations, which provides both insight and oversight into all our charitable endeavors.

- Outreach to the Honduran Independence Bilingual School sits within a long history of aid to this country, the poorest in Central America, by the Diocese of Washington. The three children, Lesly, Genesis, and Veronica, who attend HIBS on scholarships provided by St. David's would not otherwise learn English, which is the most important skill needed in Honduras for a successful future.
- The Bishop Walker School is also a special ministry of the Diocese. It is a private day school for boys located in the Anacostia, the poorest jurisdiction in the metropolitan area, and relies heavily on the local Episcopal churches for support.
- Project Retrak provides services for street children in Malawi, D.R. of the Congo, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Brazil. The services include medical treatment, shelter, food, job training, and if possible, return to their families. The annual salary of one Retrak social worker in Africa is \$2000, which is equal to the matching grant obtained for Retrak by St. David's and a cash donation from the Outreach Budget.
- Friendship Place has become nationally known for its rapid response models for ending homelessness and joblessness. In the past year alone this organization prevented or ended homelessness for 1150 people including veterans and children.
- Palisades Village is a volunteer organization and community network in Berkley, Kent, Foxhall, Palisades, Spring Valley and Wesley Heights that enables seniors to age in place.

The yearly Outreach budget is \$7000. This amount is increased by the extraordinary generosity of St. David's parishioners who donate out of pocket to help support Outreach endeavors. Below is a tally of Outreach Budget expenditures, and both monetary and in-kind gifts from the congregation:

2015 Budget expenditures:

3 Sandwich Making Sundays for Martha's Table	\$1788
1 Trail Mix Making Sunday for Friendship Place	\$ 329
Matching grant for Project Retrak	\$ 500
Paperback books for Honduras	\$ 198
Donation to Palisades Village	\$ 150

Equal cash donations to:

Friendship Place	\$1000
Project Retrak	\$1000
Bishop Walker School	\$1000
HIBS	\$1000 (to be sent for the start of 2016 school year)

Donations from parishioners:

Advent Giving Tree	
Friendship Place	60 pairs of socks
Bishop Walker School	\$ 900
Project Retrak	\$ 640
HIBS scholarships	\$2689
Lenten Eggs	\$1100
St. David's table, Friendship Place	
Friends and Neighbors Breakfast	\$6,950 (cash and pledges)
Bishop Walker School Supplies	\$1417

Many thanks to Outreach Committee Members for their leadership, to Robin Dodge for his advice and support, and the St. David's congregation for their generosity.

All St. David's Parishioners are welcome at Outreach Committee meetings. Please consider becoming a member.

The first Outreach effort of 2016 is raising scholarship funding for Lesly, Genesis, and Veronica, our three students at HIBS. This effort is an ongoing commitment that is presently lagging behind previous years. Only \$600 of the \$3,201 needed has been donated to date. The Committee hopes that the St. David's congregation will rally to this cause. School begins on Feb. 1 in Honduras.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Parker, Chair of the Outreach Committee

TREASURER'S REPORT

Although the 2015 financial statements have not yet been finalized, the preliminary figures reflect that total operating expenses for the year were \$454,512.¹ This was approximately \$10,000 above the amount budgeted, primarily due to maintenance and repair expenses related to water damage during the summer. Average annual expenses for 2012 through 2014 were \$453,300.

¹ These figures do not include expenses related to the Capital Campaign, which will be covered by Capital Campaign contributions.

Total operating income for 2015 was \$346,376. This was \$33,673 less than the amount budgeted, primarily due to a shortfall in pledge income. Average annual operating income for the three years preceding 2015 was \$392,300.

As in past years, the operating deficit was covered with funds drawn from the Church's endowment account. The account's balance at year-end was \$1,080,235.

It is important to recognize that, as these figures reflect, the Church's reasonably assured income from pledges, other contributions, and facility rental payments typically covers only 65% to 80% of annual operating expenses. The annual shortfalls have been covered in the past by special gifts, bequests, and funds drawn from the endowment account. In order to assure that the Church is operating on a fully sustainable basis going forward, it will be necessary to keep the annual operating deficit as low as possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Phillip Parker, Treasurer

USHERS GUILD

Our tasks are probably familiar to anyone attending the 11:15 am service, because we perform most of them in plain view of the Congregation.

In brief, we greet all persons coming into the church and make a special effort to identify and to welcome newcomers and to answer their questions. We pass out programs and make new people aware of the availability of hearing aids. We ring the bell before the service, count the congregation, manage the Collection, deliver the ciborium and flagon to the Deacon of the Table, help the Congregation through Communion, ring the bell after the service, and tidy the pews. In addition, we welcome newcomers again after the service, identify them to Father Dodge, encourage them to attend the coffee hour (informing them, if necessary, of the availability of the elevator), and talk to newcomers during the coffee hour (introducing them to other parishioners). When we remember, we take in the flags that are outside the Church and put them inside the entrance to the North Tower. We also deal with the occasional emergency, although we are thankful that these are rare.

We are always happy to add to our ranks. Ushers generally are assigned to three or four Sundays a calendar quarter, but we take pride in our flexibility and freely substitute for one another.

Respectfully submitted,
John Rich, Head Usher

Ushers:

Sandra Berryman
Sheila Budnyj
Katie Bush
George Esherick
Rod Hastie
Alastair McKechnie
Dorothy McSweeney

Bill McSweeny
Chip Nottingham
John Rich
Michael Taylor
Debbie-Ann Thompson
Lindy Walsh

Alternates and emeritus:

Bill Fraser
Ozzie Johnson
Michael Thompson
Tom Nicholson