



THE DOVETALE SEPTEMBER

St. David's Episcopal Church

2019

Jesus and the Apostle

As I write this, I have been back from sabbatical for just twenty-four hours, and I still feel a little out of touch. But I am ramping up and, looking ahead to September, I can see that a lot is happening. That activity is a beautiful indication of the health and vitality of our parish.

It is also an occasion to remember a bit of wisdom from Henri Nouwen's book *The Way of the Heart*. Nouwen writes, "the question that guides all organizing activity in a parish is not how to keep people busy, but how to keep them from being so busy that they can no longer hear the voice of God who speaks in silence" (69).

One of the benefits of a sabbatical is a slower pace of life than is normal for me during the ordinary course of parish ministry. Slowing down for a season creates a little extra time for connecting to our Lord. This came up for me most concretely during a session of spiritual direction with Bishop Scruton. We were talking about my Paul book, which was filling my time(!). Bishop Scruton said, "Of course, Paul's goal always was to point to Jesus." What a helpful reminder!!

We can see from the Acts of the Apostles and also from Paul's own letters that he was often frantically busy. And yet Paul never lost sight of what mattered most. No matter what he was doing, Paul did it for God. That is the best lesson Paul can teach us. Everything we do can become a form of prayer if we begin by asking God's blessing and end by giving God thanks.



Having been away for three months, I cannot express to you how pleased I am to be back with you, worshipping and studying and serving and eating and playing together. And I am thankful for the faithfulness of you all, 'who really do keep focused on Jesus the whole

time.

My prayer for us is that we can do all the things we are called to do. And that we can always keep focused on what matters most!

In Christ's name,

Fr. Harvey

Inside this issue:

Sabbatical Report	2
Sabbatical Thanks!!	
Rabbi Mark Shapiro	
Reflection on Summer	
Visioning Potluck	
Mexican Train Night	
Building Bridges	3
Small Church Summit 2.0	
"A Promise to Astrid"	
Parish Life	
Friday Healing Eucharist	
and Bible Study Resume	
Flooring for the Church	4
Car-Park Solar Project	
Building Update	
Development Committee	
Church Without Walls	5
Caregiver Ministry	
New Preschool Playgroup	
Upcoming Youth Events	6
2019-2020	
Young Scholars Program	
Fall Sunday School	
CISA Farm Share Update	7
Sustain Island Home	
Carbon Tracker Update	
"Tag Sale" Table	
Why Statements	8
Prayer Cycles	
Reading New Testament	
Praying at Home	
Prayer Requests	
Dovetale Deadline	
"Memo in Bronze"	9
Calling All Crafters	8
September Calendar	9
Inspirational Quotes	10
Mission Statement	

Sabbatical Reports By Father Harvey

I had a wonderful three month-sabbatical and look forward to sharing what I did. I am talking to the vestry now about the best way to do that. But in brief, I had three goals: to paddle the northern part of the Connecticut River as a kind of retreat; to work on a book about the Apostle Paul; and to do some long-term planning for Saint David's. I did the paddling, which was fabulous. I have a draft of the book. It's not fabulous yet, but a draft is available if anyone would like to take a look at it. If you do read any part of it, please let me know what you think. I am particularly interested in knowing which parts are unclear, unpersuasive, or uninteresting. But know in advance that it isn't easy reading! The long-term planning part was the hardest, but the vestry and I continue to work away at it.

Sabbatical Thanks!! By Father Harvey

I want to thank everyone who handled things in my absence this summer. Special thanks to the Revs. Domenic Ciannella and Scott Seabury for leading services; our senior warden Carol Fabrycki for chairing the vestry meeting; Sue O'Hare for managing the office; and Bob Rendrick for overseeing the installation of a new HVAC system. Thanks also to everyone who just kept doing what you do. I am blessed to serve at a parish with so much talent and dedication in some many areas!!!!

Rabbi Mark Shapiro and Craig Hammond

Both Rabbi Shapiro, the "Rabbi in residence" at our Cathedral, and Craig Hammond, the Diocesan Evangelist, are available to preach (at no cost to us!) at Saint David's. Rabbi Shapiro may also lead an evening Bible Study. If you would be interested in the Bible Study, please let me know. We can chat about the topics we might propose to him, and also make sure we find a convenient time.

Reflection on Summer Service from Jo Joubert

I haven't been able to make it to Church as much as I would like during the summer due to funerals, weddings, birthdays and my husband's hospital stays but the few times I did make it I loved the combination of the two services. I loved the music and the opportunity to see friends of the 10:00 service and to meet new members. Wish we could continue with the combination longer. Loved the singing.

Thanks to everyone who made this possible

Visioning Potluck

One of my sabbatical goals was to do some long-term planning for Saint David's. While I was gone, Sue O'Hare invited all of you to do the same. Her questions are a helpful way to start. Ask yourself, what feeds my soul? How can I do more of it? And what no longer feeds my soul, and can I drop it? We'll gather on Monday, October 7 at 6:00 for a potluck meal and conversation about these questions. In the meantime, we have put out a box where you can leave your thoughts, signed or not. Our goal is to get as many different opinions as possible, so please join us, and/or share your thoughts in some other way. Thanks!!

Mexican Train Night

As an experiment, we are trying out a monthly Mexican Train Night on the fourth Tuesday of the month. (For those like me who are a little fuzzy on Mexican Train, it is similar to dominos and is a lot of fun.) The idea is to come at 6:00 with a little food to share. We eat and play and chat. In September, we'll gather on the 24th. I hope to see you then!!

Building Bridges

We have been invited by the Diocese to host a Building Bridges meal for veterans. The idea is to offer a regular (probably monthly) free meal to all area veterans. The Diocese provides logistical support, including purchasing the food. To go forward, we need a couple of volunteers willing to coordinate the event. We have invited the Lion's Club to join us in this ministry as partners. We will gather with the Rev. Chris Carlisle and an area veteran to discuss the ministry on Friday, September 13 at 2:30. All are welcome to join us. Whether or not you attend that meeting, please let me know if you are interested in "Building Bridges."

Small Church Summit 2.0: Going Deeper, Moving Forward!

Based on conversations and suggestion cards from the first Small Church Summit, we [the Diocese] are continuing the conversation in hopes of you being able to offer inspiration to each other! Come for some further inspiration via Ted talks, examples from our own parishes, and deeper conversation with one another. The idea is to leave you wanting to explore more, converse more, pray more, experiment more as we begin to see new models of church emerging. Through the day, our coaches will be available to ask: what did you hear that you want to follow up on? What will be your next steps? What further information do you need? Please join us September 28 from 9:00 to 3:00 at All Saint, South Hadley.

"A Promise to Astrid" by Pastor Scott Seabury

On Saturday, September 21 at 6:00, Mike Tourville, the author of the book "A Promise To Astrid," will join Father Scott Seabury to present "The Making of the Movie," followed by a screening of the movie, "A Promise To Astrid" at 7:00 pm. The event is free, and light refreshments will be offered. Parishioners from St. Andrew's Church in Longmeadow will be joining us for a delightful evening!



"A Promise To Astrid" tells the true story of Tourville's experiences with his neighbor, Astrid Nicosia, who lived in Chicopee in the late 1980s. Dean Cain stars as Pastor Scott Seabury. Cain is known for his role as Clark Kent/Superman in the television series "Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman."

If you'd like to read the book to get ready, we have a copy in our library.

Parish Life by Susan Amabile

Our next event will be September 21st. We will be showing the Movie "A Promise for Astrid". Look for notices in the bulletin about the Holiday Bazaar. A meeting for the Holiday Bazaar will be held **at Jim Amabile's house**, Thursday, September 26 at 2:00. All are welcome to attend the meetings coming up.

The date of the Holiday Bazaar is November 23rd.

Friday Healing Eucharist and Bible Study Resume

The Friday Healing Eucharist and Bible Study resume on September 6th. The Eucharist is at 12:00, and the Bible Study is at 1:00. Please join us for either or both!

Flooring for the Church

Although we are not likely to be replacing the rug in the Church in the immediate future, beginning in October the vestry will be considering what direction we want to go. There are a variety of flooring options, and also carpet tiles. Each option has different strengths and limitations, so we are comparing apples and oranges. The different factors, as I see it, are: cost; durability; ease of cleaning; appearance; and acoustics. No doubt I have forgotten some. If you have an opinion about what kind of flooring you would like to see, or what should be the primary consideration in making the decision, please let someone on the vestry know. Thanks!!

Car-Park Solar Project

The roller coaster continues. The state subsidies which were a crucial part of our project have been reduced. Resonant Energy is working with their construction people to try to find cost savings, and the State will release information about a new round of subsidies in September. But for the moment we are on hold. We will keep you informed as the coaster rolls on.

Building Update

The new air-conditioning unit for the narthex and the office side of the building has now been installed. In addition to being reliable—a significant improvement over the old system, which Bob Rendrick was heroically nursing along—it is much more efficient. I am told our electricity bill for July was roughly half what it was last year. That's good news for our budget, our planet, and our junior warden!

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Development Committee will be meeting on Friday, September 6th at 3:30 in the community room.

If anyone would like to join us, we would be very happy to have you. The purpose of this meeting is to bring ideas for activities that will make money to help update the floor in the Church.

We need to raise around \$16,000.00. I am sure we can do it if we all work together on different events and donations. Put your thinking caps on and come meet with us on the 6th. If you can't make it to the meeting and want to give me a call that will work too. My number is 413-821-0444.

Hope to see you on the 6th.

Blessings

Jo Joubert, Chair person of DC

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Philippians 4:4-6)

2019 Summer with Church Without Walls by Jude O'Hare

I have had the honor to cover for Fr. Harvey this summer at the Church Without Walls. It has truly been a pleasure. First I must thank all of you who contribute to this worthy cause each month. We could not bring the fellowship, food and most importantly the word of God to these deserving people. We averaged between 10 and 15 people each month. If we had extra lunches we would give people more than one lunch or Martha would pass out the left overs the next day. Our service was brief (I am not the orator that Fr. Harvey is) and the weather was hot. The people however were friendly and grateful. Thank you again for your support of this ministry with special thanks to those people who came through with last minute supplies. I know the people at the church will be glad for the return of Fr. Harvey, and I will be happy to just be a helping hand.

Caregiver Ministry by Sue O'Hare

I don't usually single out one or two people to sing their praises, but sometimes, for some people, I just need to... Ted and Janet Kopyscinski have given at least 50 rides over the past year to parishioners in need. There may be more that I don't know about. Imagine for a minute or two being unable to drive any more... to get those little day to day things you now just jump in your car and go to get and now you need to find a ride...who would you call? How often would you call the same person? By now I'm sure you understand why I say, "their ministry is such a blessing to those they serve." Thank you and God bless you, both!

New Preschool Playgroup Starting By Virginia Ventulett

A small laid-back playgroup for caregivers and infants through pre-school will be starting up its program year on Wednesday, September 11th at 9:30 AM. The model for the group, which was formerly Grandparents' Playgroup, is based on The Red Round music facilitator training, and is a wonderful socialization opportunity for kids and their mom, dad, grandparent or caregiver. The first half-hour is free-play; the second, large muscle movement play; and the last half-hour is devoted to what can be only very loosely called "music making" with preschool instruments and noisemakers, rhythm sticks, singing and dancing.

The group meets Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11, following the Agawam School calendar (and snowdays), at the nursery in St. David's Episcopal Church, 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills (adjacent to the Police Station). Pre-registration is not required; if you are interested, just come and try it out. Questions may be directed to Virginia Ventulett, (413) 786-6133.

Upcoming Youth Events 2019-2020

2019

Sunday, September 8	Sunday School Kick-Off
Sunday September 22	Bowling after Church, noon
Saturday, October	Trunk or Treat
During the month of October, we will collect mittens and hats for children as our Sunday School Outreach	

Sunday, November 17	Craft Day with Miss Norma after the 10:00 a.m. service
Saturday, December 7	Breakfast with Santa 9-11

2020

Sunday, January 26	Pizza Baking Event after the 10:00 a.m. service
Sunday, February 16	Slime Day after the 10:00 a.m. service
Sunday, March 15	Bowling after Church, noon
Friday, April 10	Good Friday/Easter Egg hunt 10-noon
Sunday, May 3	Mother's Day Brunch
Sunday, June 21	Father's Day Ice Cream Social

Young Scholars Program by Fr. Harvey

This program offers college scholarships to elementary school students. You read that right—elementary students. The idea is that at-risk children benefit from early interventions. The children come from the MLK Charter School and the White Street School, both in Springfield. The schools nominate promising children. The Young Scholars Program promises money if/when the children actually go to college. In the meantime, the schools and the program combine to offer enrichment and support.

If you would like to join this effort, please talk to me. I have served on the Board of the Program for the last few years, and I strongly recommend their work. You can also check them out online at www.youngscholarsfund.org. The Program can always use money, but the single greatest need is for “scholar mentors.” Each mentor tracks one or more students. At a minimum, that means getting their report card each summer. For people with more time, mentors are invited to school events and field trips. I have not been able to do much of that myself, but it is the most rewarding part of the work since it means getting to know the children and their families.



FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

We'll commission all teachers and teachers' aid on September 8 at both services. I suspect that we could still use volunteers—we can always use volunteers!!—if you are interested in joining the team. If so, please contact Ellen Scott or Norma Turcotte.

CISA Farm Share Update by Jim Shields.

I am very pleased to say that we raised \$418.50 for the CISA Senior FarmShare program, which will provide 3.3 shares. Our contribution will help provide 10 weeks of local farm share produce for low income seniors throughout the Valley. CISA partners with senior centers and community centers for distribution. Thank you so much to those of you who were able to contribute to this program.

CREATION SEASON

Our Diocese is participating in Creation Season from September 1 until October 6 (when we will celebrate St Francis!). At Saint David's, we are planning three special events. On September 15, at 11:30, Father Harvey will lead a conversation on "Hope for Creation: A Biblical Perspective." On September 29, also at 11:30, Mary Moore and Jim Shields will lead a Q&A about the science of climate change and/or the Sustain Our Island Home Carbon Tracker. (Please submit questions in advance to them or to the Church office so they can make sure to have the right answers!) Finally, on October 6. Jim Shields will lead us in a Creation Walk in Robinson State Park, beginning at 11:45. Please join us for any or all of these events, and help spread the word!

CARBON TRACKER UPDATE by Jim Shields

Since I last reported in the July DoveTale, there are no additional St. David's members who have created a profile on the Sustainislandhome.org web site. So we stay stuck at an aggregate of 8700 points, 34 actions taken, \$780 saved, 7 members enrolled, and 4th out of 5 Episcopal churches enrolled in the program. I again urge you to reflect on the importance of Creation Care from a Christian perspective, and to take action. Mary Moore and myself would be glad to help you get started, if necessary, so please see or contact one of us to get started. We also plan to have follow up Carbon Tracker Q and A session after a service sometime in September. Thanks!

"Tag Sale" Table by Virginia Ventulett

St. David's will be having a "Tag Sale" table again this year at the Holiday Bazaar. Virginia and Elizabeth will be "manning" it. We are looking for donations of used holiday decor, tableware, ornaments, stockings, etc. Please bring your items and leave them in the "music area" at the rear of the nave; we'll take it from there! Thanks for your help!

“In Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.” (Colossians 1:19-20)

Why Statements

The focus at Parish Leadership Day this year was stewardship broadly understood. (“Stewardship is everything that comes after ‘I believe’”!) Our presenters invited us to think about why we do what we do. In stewardship, that means why we give our time, talent, and/or treasure to the Church. More generally, that means why we cultivate our relationships with God individually and as a parish. We’d love to have a few people share their thoughts on Sunday mornings and/or in writing. If you are willing to give it a shot, please talk to Sue O’Hare.

Prayer Cycles

Two prayer cycles are available in the narthex near the mail slots: the nations of the world; and the people and ministries of Saint David’s. (If you notice people or ministries missing from our Parish Prayer Cycle, please let us know!) It takes just a few minutes each day, and over the course of a month, you pray by name for every nation in the world, and every member and ministry here at Saint David’s. Give it a try. We can all use more prayers on our behalf!!!!

Reading the New Testament

We continue to work our way through the New Testament this year. The reading is quite manageable—we read just one chapter each weekday. To encourage broad participation, we include the specific chapters for each week in the bulletin and our weekly e-mails, as well as a link to helpful introductory videos for each book. It’s not too late to join the effort!! Just start where we are now. You can go back over the books we have already read later if you like. We gather for conversation about what we are reading about every four months—our next gathering will be in early October.

Praying at Home

Versions of both Morning Prayer and Compline appropriate to this season (Pentecost) are available in the narthex, along with a schedule of readings. Pentecost lasts until Advent, which begins on December 1. If you have never prayed any of the Daily Office, consider giving it a try. It’s a wonderful way to add a little time for prayer and engagement with Scripture! And it is not a big time commitment. Depending on how you say it, Morning Prayer takes about 15 minutes, and Compline is under five.

Prayer Requests

We list prayer requests in the bulletin each week, and do our best to keep that list current. But we need help! If you would like to add someone, please contact the office. If you are adding someone other than yourself, please first confirm that the person would like to be on the list. We also have an online prayer chain. People who have signed up for it receive occasional prayer requests by e-mail. If you would like to receive these messages and/or if you would like to put out a request, please contact me or Kathy Glista. Thanks!

DOVETALE Deadline by Esther Nunn

The deadline for the October Dovetale
is September 20, 2019.

Please submit your articles early to estar00@winning.com. Thanks

“Memo in Bronze”
For this I love you most—
Bent to your cross
You stagger up the unending hill,
Yet turn to lift my load
And bless me with a smile
So crossed with pain,
That were my heart stilled
It would throb and beat again.

Pauli Murray (one of the first women to be ordained in the Episcopal Church)

Making Sense of Paul by Father Harvey

This is a three-part series about the Apostle Paul based on my work this summer. The sessions will be Wednesday evenings, October 9, 16, and 23, at 7:00 in the Saint Andrew’s Room at Saint Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Longmeadow. The sessions can stand alone or function together as a series. All are welcome.

10/9 Becoming the Apostle to the Gentiles

As the Christian movement began to take shape, Paul emerged as its harshest critic and persecutor. Then he had a dramatic, mystical encounter with the resurrected Christ, which changed everything. In this session, we will talk about the Christian movement Paul joined, his transformation from opponent to advocate, and the battles he fought within the Church itself over the validity of his gospel.

10/16 Kingdom Living

In this session, we will examine Paul’s teaching about the kingdom of God. In Paul’s view, Christians of his generation were living in an entirely unprecedented time. He claimed (1) that Christ’s death and resurrection had defeated sin and death, and also (2) that Christ would return, perhaps in the near future, to finish the job by establishing God’s kingdom in power and glory. We will look at Paul’s answer to the question, what did it mean to live as Christians in between Christ’s victory and Christ’s return?

10/23 Christian Freedom and Christian Love

The two great characteristics of Christian life, in Paul’s view, were freedom and love. In this session, we will see just how strongly Paul emphasized Christian freedom, but also how he qualified it by insisting on Christian love and unity. We will conclude the session by seeing how his views on freedom and love shaped his comments about women’s religious leadership, and discussing how we might make sense of those comments today.

“Paul an apostle—sent neither by human commission nor from any human authorities, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead.” (Galatians 1:1)

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!!

Agawam's Holiday Bazaar Saturday
is coming NOV. 23rd

Why choose St. David's to sell at?

- **LUNCH VOUCHER** included with your
\$25 space fee
- **NO RAFFLE PRIZE REQUIRED** from you
- **Location** (next to Agawam Police)
- **Plenty of parking**

CALL FOR AN APPLICATION TODAY!

786-6133 and leave message

St. David's Episcopal Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA
(adjacent to the Agawam Police Station)



SEPTEMBER 2019



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 RITE I 8AM RITE II 10AM	2 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7PM SHUGART'S 6-8	3 OA 9:30AM Choir 1PM Bible Conver 2PM	4	5 OA 10:00AM SHUGART'S 6-7	6 Healing Serv. 12 Bible Study 1:00 Dev. Team 3:30	7
8 RITE I 8AM RITE II 10AM Church W/ Walls 12	9 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7PM SHUGART'S 6-8	10 OA 9:30AM Choir 1PM	11 Playgroup 9:30	12 OA 10:00AM SHUGART'S 6-7	13 Healing Serv. 12 Bible Study 1:00 Building Bridges 2:30	14
15 RITE I 8AM RITE II 10AM Hope for Crea- tion at 11:30	16 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7PM SHUGART'S 6-8	17 OA 9:30AM Choir 1PM Vestry 7PM	18 Playgroup 9:30	19 OA 10:00AM SHUGART'S 6-7	20 Healing Serv. 12 Bible Study 1:00	21 Movie 6PM
22 RITE I 8AM RITE II 10AM Climate Q&A 11:30 Bowling at noon	23 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7PM SHUGART'S 6-8	24 OA 9:30AM Choir 1PM Dominoes 6PM	25 Playgroup 9:30	26 OA 10:00AM SHUGART'S 6-7 H B Meet 2PM	27 Healing Serv. 12 Bible Study 1:00	28 Small Church Summit 9-3
29 RITE I 8AM RITE II 10AM Cont. Prayer 11:45	30 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7PM SHUGART'S 6-8					



“Kind words can be short and easy to speak,
but their echoes are truly endless.”

Mother Teresa (1910 – 1997)

***St. David's Episcopal
Church***

**699 SPRINGFIELD STREET
FEEDING HILLS, MA 01030**

PHONE: (413) 786-6133

FAX: (413) 786-4682

EMAIL:

saintdavid@comcast.net

**WE'RE ON THE WEB @
WWW.STDAVIDSAGAWAM.ORG**

Mission Statement

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to love God and community, committing ourselves to lives of joyful worship, prayer, and the teaching of scripture.