

The Tablet

St. David's Episcopal Church

90 South Main Street, Cranbury, NJ 08512

609-655-4731 www.stdavidscranbury.com Fax 609-655-4732

office@stdavidscranbury.com

November 2024

Vol. 55 Number 11

Sunday Services:

8 am Holy Eucharist I

**10 am Holy Eucharist II
(live-streamed on Zoom)**

Wednesday Service

**9:30 am Holy Eucharist and
Healing**

Rector

The Rev. Amy S. Cornell

Deacon

The Rev. Carol Patterson

Pastoral Care Associate

**Chaplain Kate
O'Connor, MDiv, BCC**

Director of Music

Dr. Brian Katona

Treasurer

John Patterson

Parish Administrator

Judy Henningsen

*"We can complain because rose bushes have thorns,
or rejoice because thorns have roses."*

— Alphonse Karr, A Tour Round My Garden

I have a dear friend who engages in a practice every day that I find wonderful. Some time in the morning hours she sits down with her hot tea and writes a thank you email. It is an opportunity to think about all that has happened the day before and really focus on giving thanks for all the good in her life. She then sends the email to a friend who sends one in return. It has been their practice for more than 15 years.

Starting the day off with a list of gratitude. Giving an appreciation for all the positive that happens in life, and maybe finding ways to see the negative things as opportunities. It's something I have known about for quite a while, and yet have never really thought about doing for myself. How different would our days feel if we started each one with time spent in God's presence, allowing all the gratitude to flow over us?

Thanksgiving Day has become a much broader holiday than it was decades ago. It used to be a time where everyone got together, Mom spent the whole day in the kitchen, we ate way too much delicious food, watched a little football, and helped clean the dishes. As an adult, I started to attend the service at my church on that morning, and it slowly helped to expand my understanding of giving thanks. It no longer felt like a day being thankful for the harvest (which really wasn't appropriate any more, given that I had no idea where all the food came from. Oh, wait, of course I did! Shop-Rite.) A sense of overall gratitude became the feeling of the day. At the morning service, we were often asked what we were thankful for, in the same way I now ask here at St. David's. The quick answers are usually the same – my health, my family and my friends.

What if we all decided to do that every day? Coming up with a new idea to give our gratitude to God feels like a challenge that will help make Thanksgiving Day even more joyful. Of course, like all worthy ideas, there has been a way to do this floating around on social media for the last few years. It's called 30 Days of Thanksgiving #delightandbethankful. It gives a different idea for each day, a spark from which we can start. I've decided to accept the challenge – care to join me?

Each day I will send out an email with my thankfulness on a subject. If you want to join me, just send me an email to rector@stdavidscranbury.com and we can share with each other. Or you can take the challenge to your own social media. Perhaps you can even choose a friend to start the correspondence. Let's make this November a month of thankfulness for all the blessings in our lives!

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

**Stewardship
2025**

Please join us as we enter into the 2025 Stewardship season. We're excited to kick off this season of renewal and connection for our church. This season we'll be challenged to explore the ways St. David's mission directly impacts the lives of those in our community. We pray that everyone will be filled with excitement and recommitment to God's Mission for St. David's as we encourage one another. Please join us in person or online during this transformative season.

A Note from the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has begun the process of creating a Church budget for 2025 and will be continuing discussion with the Vestry in November and December. We expect it will be a difficult year. With some confidence, we estimate expenses will increase only 1-2%. Unfortunately on the revenue side, we face a more challenging problem. We have lost several significant contributors due to moves out of the area and deaths. We are working to address what at the moment is a \$40,000 gap in the FY 2025 budget.

The Committee has reviewed the possible income from all sources and is looking at the following scenarios: a slightly greater draw on the endowment, say 5.5%, while still being responsible stewards; an increase in the cost of one-time rentals of Meirs Hall to outside groups and the recruitment of 10 additional hall rentals annually; and somewhat of an increase in fundraisers. We are hopeful that this will be the year we finally receive the \$12,000 the IRS owes us for the Employee Retention Credit. When all of that is taken into account, we find there is still a gap. To continue to fund the level of programs and commitment to the community that is St. David's mission, pledges would need to reach \$275,000, about a 12% increase from the 2024 level.

If you are not currently pledging, we ask you to consider doing so. If you are pledging and are able, we ask that you prayerfully consider an increase. We welcome your questions and your concerns.

Yours in faith,
The Finance Committee of St. David's



Annual Fantasy Auction Saturday, November 2, 2024

3 to 7 pm

Join us for an afternoon of fun, food, & fundraising! Gift cards, holiday baskets, wine baskets, and more items large & small for all budgets! A few surprises are in store!



An Invitation to St. David's Grief Support Group

Are you experiencing feelings of loss over the death of a loved one, whether a family member or a friend, and would like support from others who understand? Our **Grief Group** might be the place to begin or continue your healing from your heartbreak and hurt. If you know someone who doesn't attend St. David's, and you think they might benefit from being in our group, please invite them to join us.

We will meet for **six weeks beginning Wednesday, November 6 from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM** in the Library. The group will decide if they are willing to meet the night before Thanksgiving. If yes, we will meet for six consecutive weeks. If not, we'll have a one-week break, then resume.

If you are interested in being a member of the group, please talk with me *in advance* of the first meeting when you see me at church or call at 609-658-7315. I'd like to have a sense of where you are in your bereavement before our first session.

Much thanks,
Chaplain Kate



An Opportunity to Refresh Yourself in Silence - Let's Learn to Meditate Together

Fact: Our world is getting more complicated by the day. Current events, friend and family matters, school demands, and sometimes just life in general can be overwhelming!

Chaplain Kate will facilitate a time of meditation **every Sunday morning from 9:30 am – 9:45 am in the Library**. Spending time in silence and quieting the constant thoughts moving through our minds can relieve stress and calm our nervous system. Being in silence is another type of prayer. The great mystics showed us its value. In our first two weeks we will be practicing breathing exercises and relaxation exercises. Once we're comfortable with staying focused, we will begin with 3-5 minutes of silence and eventually work our way to the goal of 10 minutes.

Everyone is welcome! J2Aers and Adults, please consider giving it a try.

It is essential that you do not arrive late. The doors of the Library will close **at 9:30 a.m. sharp**, so we can proceed with no interruptions. Any questions? Talk with Chaplain Kate before or after Sunday service, call or text her at 609-658-7315, or send an email to k_oconnor22@verizon.net.



November Outreach of the Month The Seamen's Church Institute

SCI is “deeply committed to mariner wellness and pastoral care, maritime training and education, and advocacy for the men and women in their essential...role in the transportation industry.”

SCI was founded in 1834 and is affiliated with the Episcopal Church, but nondenominational in terms of their spiritual and practical services. Annually, their chaplains visit thousands of vessels, offering pastoral counseling, support and social welfare services. Their maritime education centers provide navigational training. The Center for Maritime Advocacy provides legal services free of charge and speaks out for mariners' rights. Their Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) program offers interactive workshops in suicide first aid to help recognize when someone contemplates suicide and how to work with them to support their immediate safety.

For years our St. David's knitting group has donated knitted hats, cowls, and slippers to the Christmas at Sea (CAS) program which delivers only hand-made knitted gifts to both international and US mariners at work aboard ships.

As a non-profit, SCI's work is only made possible through the support of their donors. Please give generously to help them to continue to tend to the spiritual and practical needs of mariners of all faiths in their working environment.



Thank you for your continued generous support of the Seamen's Church Institute Christmas at Sea Outreach Program. Please continue to bring in toiletry items until **December 8, 2024**. Please mark your calendar and join us on **Tuesday, December 10th** as Joanne Bartosik, Senior Manager, is coming to St. David's to speak on the Seamen's Institute and what they do. More information will follow soon.

Thank you, Renee Christiansen



"It's that time of the year again! Time for RISE's annual Holiday Toy Drive.

St David's community has always supported this toy drive for children of struggling families. In 2024, this toy drive is back to in-person donations..

Gift Drop-off Location: Please drop off Holiday Gifts at the First United Methodist Church located at 187 Stockton Street, Hightstown, NJ.

Gift Drop-off Dates and Times:

Monday, December 9th, 8:30 am – 6:00 pm

Tuesday, December 10th, 8:30 am – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 11th, 8:30 am – 8:00 pm

Friday, December 13th: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm.

Important Note: Rise will be accepting all gifts. However, due to time constraints, your gift may not match a specific child's wish but will still be given to those in need.

For any more details please refer to RISE website. <https://njrise.org/rise-toy-drive/>

Thank you for your generosity, Vestry Outreach Committee

Lay Participation Schedule for November 2024

10 am

	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
Eucharistic Minister	Steve Channon	Tracy Smires	Tricia Metzger	Kate O'Connor
Eucharistic Minister	Corinne Peters	Leslie Terhune	Todd White	Corinne Peters
Intercessor	Deacon Barbara Jensen	Leslie Terhune	Mike Duck	Edmund Abramovitz
Lector-1st Lesson	Steve Channon	Tom Reynolds	Tricia Metzger	Kathy Herzog
Lector-2nd Lesson	Corinne Peters	Ray Torres	Tom Reynolds	Kate O'Connor
Ushers	Carol Hartmaier Jackie Asafu-Adjaye	Richard Bennett Obafemi Sonubi	Richard Bailey Ed Miller	Dan Smires Penny Stout
Presenters	Marna & Gene McDermott	Carol Hartmaier Bernadette Bruce	Joyce Hiscock Virginia Davis	Phyllis Robinson Jo Cornell
Acolytes	Ashley Astudillo Kaylyn Eswine Tracy Smires	Jessie Smires Collin Duck Tracy Smires	Leslie Terhune Kaylyn Eswine Colin Duck	Leslie Terhune Arleen Astudillo Tracy Smires
Verger	Jo Cornell	Tracy Smires	TBD	Maria Eswine
Counters	Jackie Asafu-Adjaye Penny Stout	Jennie Herbert John Patterson	Winsome Bailey David Thomsson	Joyce Hiscock Tena Achen



Nominating Committee 2025

Our Nominating Committee will begin its work shortly. If you are interested in being considered for a position on our vestry or as a convocation delegate, please speak to Tracy Smires.



**Don't forget to change your clocks.
Daylight savings time ends November 3.**

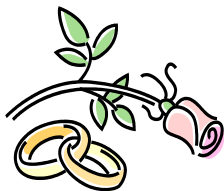
November



BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| 1 Christian Herzog | 9 Ava Lombardo | 28 Alexander Perritt
Harrison Katona |
| 2 Chris Achen
Jon Harding
Michael Miller | 10 Sarah Smires | 29 Anne Benedict
Larry Kraft |
| 4 Martin Lindemann
Stephanie Maloney | 13 Christopher Sgalambro | |
| | 14 Kenneth Robinson | |
| 6 Caitlyn Nagle | 16 Brijette Aris | |
| 7 Allison Whitlock | 17 Dawn Reiss | |

Wedding Anniversaries



- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 4 Robert & Jennifer McKay | 18 Carol Pepe & Carmen Arias |
| 10 Tom & Judy Evans | 19 Emmanuel Apau &
Jaqueline Asafu-Adjaye |
| 14 Kenneth & Phyllis Robinson | 26 David & Anne Holmes
John & Carol Patterson |



Thanksgiving Day Worship Service Thursday, November 28

Please join us on Thursday, November 28 at 9 am for a service of thankfulness and joy.



Advent Wreath-Making at St. David's Sunday, December 1

The annual Advent Wreath-Making event will be held during coffee hour on Sunday, December 1 after the 10:00 am service. Please join us for fun and fellowship while you make an advent wreath to take home. All supplies will be provided, but if you would like to **bring in greens from your yard to share that day**, it would be appreciated. This has been a great event in the past - please plan to stay! Questions, please contact Abbi Clissold or Kathy Herzog.

Sunday Services *

8:00 am — Holy Eucharist I
 10 am — Holy Eucharist II, Choir, Church School

November 2024



Room Legend
 s—Sanctuary
 mh—Meirs Hall / fl—Fish Library
 dc—Double Classroom / bc—J2A
 Classroom

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Holy Eucharist II (s) 9:30am Meditation (fl) 10am Holy Eucharist II (s) & Zoom 10am Sunday School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am & 10:30 am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 5:30pm Jazzercise (mh) 7pm NJGMC Rehearsal (s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Jazzercise (mh) 10am Tai Chi (mh) 12pm ACA (fl) 5:30pm Evening Prayer (zoom) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 9:30am Holy Eucharist Healing (s) 10:30am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 3 more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 11am Women's AA (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 5:30pm Evening Prayer (zoom) 7:30pm NA (mh) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Office Closed 12:30pm AA (mh) 7:30pm AA(mh) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3pm Fantasy Auction 7pm Pentecostal (s)
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Holy Eucharist I (s) 9:30am Meditation (fl) 10am Holy Eucharist II (s) & Zoom 10am Sunday School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am & 10:30 am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 5:30pm Jazzercise (mh) 7pm NJGMC Rehearsal (s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Jazzercise (mh) 10am Tai Chi (mh) 12pm ACA (fl) 2pm Board Game (fl) 5:30pm Evening Prayer (zoom) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 9:30am Holy Eucharist Healing (s) 10:30am Jazzercise (mh) 11am Elms 4 more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 11am Women's AA (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 5:30pm Evening Prayer (zoom) 2 more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 10am Office Closed 10:30am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 7:30pm AA(mh) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am New Life SDA Church (s) 9am Jazzercise (mh) 10am History Group Meeting (fl) 7pm Pentecostal (s)
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Holy Eucharist I (s) 9:30am Meditation (fl) 10am Holy Eucharist II (s) & Zoom 10am Sunday School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am & 10:30 am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 5:30pm Jazzercise (mh) 7pm NJGMC Rehearsal (s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Jazzercise (mh) 10am Tai Chi (mh) 12pm ACA (fl) 5:30pm Evening Prayer (zoom) 7pm Vestry (fl) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 9:30am Holy Eucharist Healing (s) 10:30am Jazzercise (mh) 12pm Lunch & Learn (fl) 4 more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 11am Women's AA (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 5:30pm Evening Prayer (zoom) 2 more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 10am Office Closed 10:30am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 7:30pm AA(mh) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am New Life SDA Church (s) 9am Jazzercise (mh) 1pm NJRC Mtg (mh) 7pm Pentecostal (s)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Holy Eucharist I (s) 9:30am Meditation (fl) 10am Holy Eucharist II (s) & Zoom 10am Sunday School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am & 10:30 am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 5:30pm Jazzercise (mh) 7pm NJGMC Rehearsal (s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Jazzercise (mh) 10am Tai Chi (mh) 12pm ACA (fl) 5:30pm Evening Prayer (zoom) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 9:30am Holy Eucharist Healing (s) 10:30am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 3 more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 11am Women's AA (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 5:30pm Evening Prayer (zoom) 2 more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Jazzercise (mh) 10am Office Closed 10:30am Jazzercise (mh) 12:30pm AA (mh) 7:30pm AA(mh) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am New Life SDA Church (s) 9am Jazzercise (mh) 7pm Pentecostal (s)

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90 South Main Street
Cranbury, NJ 08512



2024

View this newsletter in color at
www.stdavidscranbury.com

Save the Date

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Nov. 2 | 3 pm Fantasy Auction |
| Nov 28 | 9 am
Thanksgiving Service
at St. David's |
| Dec. 1 | Advent Wreath Making |
| Dec. 8 | St. Nicholas Party |

**St. David's Church welcomes all in the loving Spirit of Christ,
through Faith, Worship, Nurture and Community**

St. David's Vestry Members — 2024

Tracy Smires, Senior Warden
Kathy Herzog, Junior Warden
Edmund Abramovitz, Liturgy
Tena Achen, Finance
Jo Cornell, Fundraising
Renee Christiansen, Evangelism

Maria Eswine, Building & Grounds
Jon Harding, Outreach
Tom Pearson, Christian Formation
Leslie Terhune, Liturgy
Ellen Torres, Evangelism
Todd White, Communications