



# ST DAVID OF WALES

Episcopal Church  
Shelton, WA

PARISH NEWSLETTER

February, 2019

**GOODBYE FR. JOE and NANCY . . .** On January 27<sup>th</sup> we bade Fr. Joe and Nancy farewell and wished them a happy and adventurous retirement. We will miss them both for their presence and dedication to the life and wellness of St. David's. A standing-only congregation also enjoyed the biggest and best potluck we have ever seen! Fr. Joe was 'toasted and roasted' and a great time was had by all. Good luck and God's speed as they travel the road of life into the future they have earned.

**HELLO TO FR. STEVE and BETH BRILL . . . .** We already know Fr. Steve and Beth. They have been a part of the congregation of St. David's for some time. Fr. Steve is prepared to take over the duties of Priest-in-Charge in the interim until the Vestry search team finds a replacement. Beth has prepared Fr. Steve's story, "From The Perspective of One Who Knows Him Well," and it is included in this newsletter. The very last paragraph asks the congregation to wear our nametags in order to help them get to know us better. It is a great idea. If you do not have a nametag, please let Billie know.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held FEBRUARY 10<sup>th</sup> . . .** between the services at 8:30 a.m. It is important that members of the congregation attend this meeting. A new Senior Warden will be announced, delegates to the Diocesan Convention will be elected as well as two new members to the Vestry. Dick Taylor and Patti Case have served their three year terms on the Vestry. They have served well, seen a lot of changes and moved us forward. Hot rolls and fruit will be available for snacks.

## VESTRY VISIONS . . . .

**From Sr. Warden, Patti Case**

"As I reflect on my past three years on the vestry, I am amazed at God's vision - and how we struggle with it! We lost a priest, and found him again, then he rode off into the sunset on January 27. If I didn't believe in His power, I might take this personally.

"Canon to the Ordinary (Bishop Rickel's right hand person) Marda Steedman-Sanborn visited St. David's vestry at its regular meeting on January 13 to outline the process we will undertake to call a new priest. As we just did this a couple of years ago, we will thankfully enjoy a streamlined process.

"Your vestry also approved a balanced budget for 2019. That budget will be presented to our annual meeting February 10. As you may remember, we approved a deficit budget in 2018 and, while we spent less than planned, we did chew up some reserves this past year. It was a relief to see that, thanks to God's grace and your generosity, we will move forward with fiscal responsibility.

"Term limits are my friend. Dick Taylor and I will be cycling off the vestry and you will see nominations for new vestry members at the annual meeting. Father Joe appointed Suzy Petty as our new Senior Warden. I have pledged to help her in any way I can and ask that you do, as well. I will be leading the call process and am assembling a team to help in this important work.

Through all of this, my observation has been that we have matured as a parish and are facing our future calmly and faithfully. Communication will be critical going forward. If you have questions, I encourage you to seek out a vestry member and ask! Also, we are all volunteers at this juncture, and our capacity is not endless, so patience and teamwork are both important. Patience, in that the leak you discover or the tablecloth you're missing, or the light bulb that's out may not be the only thing on the vestry's list of "stuff to think about." Teamwork, in that just maybe there's someone in our parish who can pitch in and help - and maybe that person is you!

"Yes, we will miss Father Joe, but we are poised to welcome the next priest, and the next chapter in St. David's story. Nothing is impossible with God."

**THE NEW DIRECTORY** is in the process of being put together by Mary DeForest, Suzy Petty and Cheri Ratay. You will soon have the rough copy to make changes and/or additions. Cheri will be taking pictures for the directory so when you are asked to smile, do so happily. The committee has debated whether-or-not to include birthdays as in the past. It is your call, if you don't mind including your month and day of birth, let them know. If you **do not wish to include it**, that's okay as well. We don't count age, so you need not give your year of birth. Remember to say "cheeze" for the camera!

**DATES TO REMEMBER . . . .**

**Sunday, February 10**

**An 8:30 a.m. Annual Meeting** – in celebration of out-going Vestry members, Dick Taylor and Patti Case, election of new Vestry members and election of delegates to Diocesan Convention; review of 2019 budget. Snacks will be served.

**Monday, February 11**

**Hands of Hope, 1 - 2:30 p.m. @ St. David's**  
**St. Pantry Board Meeting - 4 -5 p.m. @ Faith Lutheran Church, 1212 Connection St., Shelton.**

**Monday, February 25**

**Hands of Hope, 1 - 2:30 p.m. @ St. David's**

**HANDS OF HOPE PRAYER LIST . . .** Michael Curry, Paul, Marjorie, Shawn, Mike & Judy, Doug, Eli, David, Hector, Bud, Terry, Betty, Greg, Bob & Kathleen, Randy, Donna, Mary, Christopher & Justine, Russ & Debi, Alyssa, Noah, Lily, Barrett, and Darla.

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS** - There may be a time when you need a contact person to answer a question or have an emergency. The following are key people at St. David's to call for assistance:

Patti Case, Sr. Warden	360-898-2273 (home), 360-790-6182 (cell)
Suzy Petty, Jr. Warden	360-789-9997 (cell), 360-432-0989 (home)
Billie Howard, Newsletter	360-426-8443 (home), 360-463-3938 (cell)



## FR. STEVE BRILL

'From the Perspective of One Who Knows Him Well!'

Steve was born the second child of four in a Missouri Synod Lutheran family. That religious backdrop defined all aspects of his upbringing. His dad was a principal/teacher of small church schools and director of Christian education until he accepted a position as counselor of education for the Minnesota North District. His mother supported and worked alongside him, kept an immaculate house and cooked excellent meals on a shoestring – necessary for a large family of modest means. His late brother was born with birth defects, offering Steve the opportunity to be a devoted advocate at a young age. He was absorbed in the world of church school and as a summer school counselor, Boy Scout, and avid fly fisherman. Steve worked at a local Safeway during high school and had modest grades to show for it. He then earned a bachelor's degree in business and accepted positions at Farmland Industries. He and his first wife brought two children into the world – Ashley and Spencer, now both in their 30's.

I'm Wife #2. Steve and I met in the St. Mark Episcopal Church choir, Hastings, NE, in March 1991. I got to know him as he transitioned from the world of products, management and the bottom line to the world of people. I fell in love with him for that shift, along with his intelligence, enchanting smile and cooking acumen, and married him in May 1992. My son, Paul, graduated from high school and left home shortly after Steve and I began dating. (He's the Paul you've supported with your weekly prayers since he began his hard-fought battle with cancer.)

In 1994 Steve and I moved to western Washington. We joined a circle of laypeople representing several small congregations involved in *Total Common Ministry*. After five years of study in the same modules taught to seminary-trained students, along with homework, we met with Bishop Warner and the Diocesan Standing Committee, who gave us their blessing. Steve went through deep reflection during his discernment process, accepted the call to become a transitional deacon, and in September 1999, was ordained into the priesthood. With this equivalent of a Master of Divinity he accepted a position as chaplain supervisor at Stafford Creek Correctional Center, and now serves as family educator and therapist at *Connections* (formerly *Children's Advocacy Center*). Steve has supported churches within our diocese as they've gone through the search process St. David now enters, and he serves as Assistant Rector for the St. David community of faith and friendship.

We participated in the service and celebration to wish Fr. Joe and Nancy fulfilling future adventures and to let them know how much they are loved and appreciated for all they have offered the congregation at St. David. We respect the separation anxiety you must feel upon their departure and challenging call process. As Cathy Warner wrote in her beautiful poetry, "... God has called us and will not send us into the world empty-handed ...". Fr. Joe is a uniquely wonderful human being whose gifts cannot be duplicated. In Steve you will find another unique man who loves the liturgy, the music, and the involvement of people in worship, in showing honor and value for each other, in sharing our work together, and in mutual support.

As a part of that mutual support we ask a favor of you: **BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO WEAR THEIR NAMETAGS**. Keep them visible to help us connect your names with your faces, along with something meaningful about each of you. Thank you for your encouragement as Steve and I expand our circle of friends at St. David of Wales.

-- Beth DayWaters

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