



SAINT DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# *THE MESSENGER*

DECEMBER 2020

VOLUME 2020, ISSUE 3

## From the Rector

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness could not overcome it.

*John 1:5*

Dear friends in Christ,

Never in our lives, perhaps, have we been in greater need of a reminder of the coming of Christmas, and never in our lives have we been more ready to hear it. Scientists and physicians have told us that this is going to be a long, hard winter, made worse by the hard spring, summer, and fall before it. We have been living with this pandemic for so long, and sacrificed so much, that the news that this winter will include continued restrictions and continued rising infection rates and death tolls, feels impossibly hard. Never have we known such challenge as a people, and never have we been in greater need of the Church's reminder that Christmas is coming.

This year, the reminder is even more urgent: Stop. Really, stop what you are doing, if only for a few seconds. Breathe, and remember. Remember that there is nothing you can do to make this Christmas anything like what Christmas has been in the past. Remember, too, that it does not depend upon you. Remember that Mary's "Yes" was the only consent God needed to break into our world in the person of Jesus. Remember that no one was ready for Christ's first coming among us, and yet God showed up anyway.

*... and never have we been in greater need of the Church's reminder that Christmas is coming.*

And remember also that the world into which Christ was born was not so different from this one as we might think. That world, too, knew darkness and disease and loneliness. That world, too, saw heartbreak and despair, oppression and violence. That world, too, was filled with frightened people. But that world was, ultimately, lit by the ever-burning flame of hope, kindled one night in a dark stable in a remote village, with an exhausted young mother and her bewildered husband. That hope was witnessed by shepherds and sung by angels. That hope was celebrated by the wise and feared by the powerful.

Friends, Christmas is coming, whether we are ready for it or not. We are loved and held by a God who is willing to brave life and death for us, whether we feel that or not. The light shines in the darkness now, as it did long ago, and still the darkness cannot overcome it. Let the Light in.

With constant prayers for your health and ministry, I am,

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Andrew D'Angio White, Rector

## St. David's Christmas Eve Service



In the Parking Lot

Join us on Thursday, December 24 at 4:00 PM for a "drive in" service in the parking lot. And, you can tune in to 89.5 FM to listen live.

For your convenience and especially if you are not feeling well — we invite you to enjoy the Christmas Eve service recorded in the sanctuary, available on Facebook and YouTube on 12/24 at 8:00 PM.



On Christmas Day join us again on Facebook for a Morning Prayer service at 11 AM.

## 2020 ANNUAL MEETING

St. David's Online Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 31, 2021. More information on the format will follow.

**Attention, Committee Chairs:** Annual Reports are due in to the office no later than January 15th.



## ADVENT GIFT OF SONG

BY TOM KOVACEVIC

Our own Pastoral Musician Tom Kovacevic composed a beautiful piece of music that he has played throughout Advent. It is called *Advent Joy (Make a Place in your Heart)* for St. David's children singers. Recently, he had an opportunity to record this piece for a winter/Christmas compilation and thought to put words to it. If you would like to listen to this lovely hymn, contact Cathy in the office and she will send it to you via email.

## SALAD SEASONINGS BIG SELL



Thanks to Suzanne Robinson and many, happy customers, sales of St. David's Salad Seasonings will

bring a bright light for the year ahead at the Harmony LaSalle School in Haiti. Over \$300 was raised! Thank you St. David's.

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

A heartfelt thank you to all of you who have sent in a pledge for 2021.



As of this writing we have received more than 100 pledges which represents about 95 percent of our total pledge goal. Based on these returns we are very optimistic that we will reach our goal of \$250,000.

If you have not pledged for 2021 and are planning to do so, please do at your earliest convenience. If you did not receive a pledge card contact Cathy in the office or pledge online at [www.stdavidskennebunk.org](http://www.stdavidskennebunk.org).

If you would like to hear from any member of the Stewardship Ministry Team, contact Bob Pagano, chair, at [bpag645@gmail.com](mailto:bpag645@gmail.com).

Bob Pagano