



# Visions

## Mission Statement

*Building Bridges of Hope with the Living Christ*

## NOVEMBER 2018

### *A General Thanksgiving*

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

P836—Book of Common Prayer

## Celebrating 58 Years of Caring & Sharing

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## **From our Priest, The Rev. Jon M. Richardson**

Dear Friends,

The month of November, with the Thanksgiving holiday looming toward the end, it's not uncommon for people's minds to begin to turn to the *idea* of thanksgiving – giving thanks; gratitude. During this month each year, my social media feeds tend to be overrun with people engaged in disciplines of expressing something each day that they are thankful for. It's nice to see something positive online for a change, even if it can come across a little bit saccharin sometimes.

While it is a part of our national culture to consider what we're thankful for once each year, as Christians we would benefit from considering thankfulness more often. But if you've been seeing the news lately, it may be hard to consider "gratitude" these days. In just the week before this writing, our nation has been on edge as more than a dozen bombs have been delivered through the mail to citizens, and leaders of this country. This past Saturday, as they were engaged in worship, a gunman walked into a synagogue in Pittsburgh and killed nearly a dozen people – all while proclaiming that all Jews should die. Not by coincidence, this is all happening in the wider stew of the election season, with its hyper-polarity and anxiety.

For me, it calls to mind the opening words of Psalm 137: <sup>1</sup> By the rivers of Babylon — there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion. <sup>2</sup> On the willows there we hung up our harps. <sup>3</sup> For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, 'Sing us one of the songs of Zion!' <sup>4</sup> How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?"

Expressing "gratitude" these days could sometimes feel like a foreign concept. How can we find the words to give thanks when there's so much hurt and suffering in the world?

The truth is, there is no easy answer. There is no magic pill that will make us feel grateful when it's hard to feel that way. The only advice I can give is to suggest that the best way recognize gratitude is to practice it. Not just once a year, but as often as you can.

One of the things I'm grateful for in our ministry together at St. David's is that your leadership takes gratitude seriously. At the Vestry meeting each month, we set aside time in the agenda to express our thanks for the specific things that people do to keep this church working – and there's never a month with nothing to give thanks for! In my own life, I try to begin each week by giving thanks. I look for opportunities to thank people for their ministries, and in doing so, to thank God for bringing us together. And each week in worship, there are chances to express the things for which we're thankful – both in the prayers and in the sharing of joys and concerns.

What I've found is, the more I train myself to give thanks, the more naturally it comes. The more I practice the discipline of expressing thanks, the easier it becomes to see all that there is to be thankful for.

November is a good time to work on this discipline. There is support for it in our wider culture. But don't let it pass next month. Hold on to your gratitude and watch it bloom.

Peace,





You are cordially invited to  
DICKENS' CHRISTMAS CLASSIC!

## “A CHRISTMAS CAROL”

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH

APPETIZER RECEPTION AT 6 PM. BYOB.

PERFORMANCE AT 7 PM.

TICKETS \$25

AFTER SERVICES OR  
\$26 CREDIT CARD/ONLINE  
BEGINNING OCTOBER 28TH

ONE MAN  
ONE TRUNK  
25 CHARACTERS

adapted for the stage by

JAMES RANA and TIMUR KOCAK

performed by TIMUR KOCAK

*After successful engagements around the US, this one-man production for all ages comes to Kinnelon. With only the contents of a steamer trunk, Timur Kocak embodies 25 roles in this 75-minute version of Dickens' 1843 holiday classic delivered with physical humor and dramatic honesty.*

*A Christmas Carol*



adapted for the theater by James Rana and Timur Kocak



performed by Timur Kocak

Bring your friends!  
Sign up in the narthex if you can  
offer an appetizer. Thank you!

# HOW TO BE A HOLIDAY HELPER

## North Porch

North Porch is a year-round ministry and we will be supporting them through our voucher program, providing funds for diapers and formula. Help fill the boxes and cradle in the narthex with the following needs—wipes; baby food (jars, toddler finger snacks, cereal); toiletries (shampoo, body wash, lotion, diaper rash cream).



## Diocesan Prison Ministry

This program is where children visit their incarcerated parents for a Christmas party. The children vary in age from toddler through 17. **DO NOT WRAP!!** You MUST use gift bags only, since everything coming into the facility is inspected. Each bag should have a large tag on it stating the age and gender of the child—for example, “preschool girl/boy, toddler boy or girl.”



Since the program has only one volunteer to make diocesan-wide pickups, we need one or perhaps two volunteers (s) to deliver the bags. The two locations are either Grace Church in Nutley or St. James in Upper Montclair. Can you help? Please let Gill know if you’re available the week of December 3. Thank you very much!

## TOYS TOYS TOYS



**The boxes will be in the narthex on November 11.  
The Christmas Ingathering will be in church on  
December 2.**

# IT'S BACK! Clean up day—Saturday, November 10, 9:00 am—Noon, Both inside and outside.

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Mike Roehrer directly. Bring your tools and give as much time as you can. Donuts, bagels and coffee will be provided.

*We need  
YOU*

Community  
Thanksgiving  
Worship



**WE WILL BE HOSTING** the Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 18, at 7:00 pm, and the reception following. There's a sign-up sheet in the narthex for finger foods and desserts for that event. Thank you for considering making a contribution!



**THE ST. DAVID'S "saints"** who met our commitment to St. Paul's Shelter on October 16: cooks—Mary Harbinsky, Michael Kidney, Jeanette Meyer, John Simonelli and Irene Williams; drivers and servers—Rich Dobson and John Simonelli.



*Thank  
You*  
FOR YOUR  
KINDNESS

*Thank you so much for  
St. David's generous donation  
to St. Anthony's Food Pantry.  
We are so appreciative and  
blessed by your generosity.  
Sincerely,  
Karen Binkley*

## **Vestry Meeting Highlights October 17, 2018**

Irene Williams led the opening prayer and Mike Roehrer spoke about taking the time to focus on what's really important in life.

We discussed matters brought to us by parishioners – posting Jon's sermons online, missing citations in the skylight room, 'multiplying furniture' in the skylight room, missing minutes and reports on the parish website, and the declining numbers at the 10:00 AM service.

Stewardship reported on ticket sales for the Beefsteak Dinner, the \$45 net profit from the Yard Sale, the present status of the Financial Commitment Program, the importance of using the outdoor sign to promote parish events (ideally 3 weeks in advance), the reception and performance of Dickens' A Christmas Carol on November 24 – and that Stewardship is confident that we will exceed the budgeted fundraising amount for 2018.

Outreach reported that so far this year we've donated \$4,000 to 5 local food pantries, that we have received information on the Prison Ministry gifts for inmates' children's program, that North Porch is seeking a volunteer driver and would welcome our providing them with vouchers to use at the Food Bank, where they get \$10 worth of food and supplies for every dollar they receive, that Michael Kidney is arranging a knitters group to make items for Seamen's Institute, and that we are planning to hold a public blessing when the Kinnelon Animal Shelter reopens,

We voted to include North Porch in our outreach voucher program, bringing a total to 6 recipients, each receiving \$200 whenever we reach \$1,200 in donations.

We gave thanks for Mary Harbinsky and Nancy Moody for their work on the parish yard sale, Rich Dobson (driving and serving) and Michael Kidney (cooking) for the Men's Shelter, Jeanette Meyer and Rich Dobson for the beautiful bulletin boards, Marty Stanton for his technical expertise, Jeannette and Tony for the pet treat bags at St. Francis Day, and the K-Fest crew (Irene, Julie, Jenn, Mike, Rich, Mary and Marty).

We reviewed the September Quickbooks reports and voted to accept them.

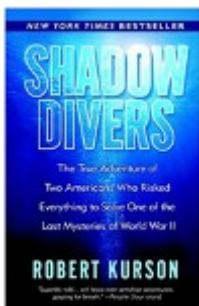
We discussed and agreed on a Financial Stewardship follow-up procedure.

We discussed and noted the present status of the wardens and vestry.

The Property Committee reported that they are seeking to remedy the dampness problem in the sacristy, that they will start working on making the driveway more visible, that an electrician has made recommendations for improving the sanctuary lighting and the controls for same, and that they are in the process of getting quotes on a garbage disposal for the kitchen and air conditioning for the large skylight room, both to be paid for by private donors.

We amended and approved the November calendar.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Simonelli, Senior Warden



**THE READERS CIRCLE BOOK GROUP**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2018 SKYLIGHT ROOM, 7:00 PM**  
**SHADOW DIVERS, Robert Kurson**  
**DISCUSSION LEADER: MIKE ODIAN**

Robert Kurson's **SHADOW DIVERS** is a true story in the tradition of Jon Krakauer's **Into Thin Air** and Sebastian Junger's **The Perfect Storm**. It is a tale of riveting adventure in which two weekend scuba divers risk everything to solve a great historical mystery and make history themselves. Testing themselves against treacherous currents, braving depths that induced hallucinatory effects, navigating through wreckage as perilous as a minefield, they pushed themselves to their limits and beyond, brushing against death more than once in the rusting hulks of sunken ships.

Not even these courageous divers were prepared for what they found 230 feet below the surface, in the frigid Atlantic waters sixty miles off the coast of New Jersey: a World War II German U-boat, its ruined interior a macabre wasteland of twisted metal, tangled wires, and human bones—all buried under decades of accumulated sediment. No identifying marks were visible on the submarine or the few artifacts brought to the surface.

No historian, expert, or government had a clue as to which U-boat the men had found. In fact, the official records all agreed that there simply could not be a sunken U-boat and crew at that location.

Over the next six years, their dives grew more daring, and each realized that he was hunting more than the identities of a lost U-boat and its nameless crew.

St. David's Readers Circle meets each month at 7:00 PM on the first Monday of the month. Newcomers are welcome to join the Readers Circle at any time.

For more information about The Readers Circle please contact Sondra Odian.

**AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE**

October 2017   October 2018

38

49

# K-FEST—September 29



**Thanks!**

Rich Dobson  
Julie Dolci  
Steve Grieshaber  
Mary Harbinsky  
Caroline Mossip  
Deb Roehrer  
Mike Roehrer  
Marty Stanton  
Jenn Trevisan  
Irene Williams



## BOROUGH YARD SALE—OCTOBER 6



**Thanks!**

Mary Harbinsky, Michael Kidney, Nancy Moody



## THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS October 7





# THANK YOU

FOR YOUR DONATION  
TO OUR FOOD PANTRY.

YOUR THOUGHTFUL GENEROSITY  
HAS MADE IT A LITTLE EASIER  
FOR US TO HELP THOSE  
WHO ARE LESS FORTUNATE  
IN OUR COMMUNITY.

With grateful hearts,

*St. Joseph Cares Food Pantry*



*We really appreciate  
your donation during  
these non-holiday  
months!*



*"You've shown me the only thing that really matters in life – living every second for God. You give me such peace of mind!"*

*There are wonderful people who give from their hearts in thoughtful and unselfish ways, so willing to share, help out, or be there, no matter how busy their days... There are people we count on, who wisdom and caring help everything work out just right – wonderful people, who shine in our lives, with their gentle and beautiful light.*

*If only you could know the thanks, that fill each thought of you and the smiles, that warm each memory of the generous things you do. You'd know you're treasured, more than words can say.*

*With a smile or a kind word, you spread Christ's love in the best way there is – with a gentle spirit and a generous heart, you're a special person and you're appreciated so very much. Thank you.*

*Yours in Christ,*

*Father Kamil Stachowiak*  
Father Kamil Stachowiak

**NOVEMBER 2018**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>4 Pentecost 24 All Saints' Day Sunday</b> <b>Daylight Savings ends— White Team</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist/Healing* 9:15 am Choir Warm Up 10:00 am Holy Eucharist/Healing* 11:15 am Coffee Hour *Healing Prayers	<b>5</b> 7 pm Readers Circle Book Group	<b>6</b> 7 pm AA meeting	<b>7</b> 1 pm Meditation in Church 2:00 pm Tai Chi Chh 8:00 pm AA Wednesday group	<b>8</b> 9:30 am Healing Eucharist 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b> Office closed Priest's day off	<b>10</b> 9:00 am—Noon Fall Clean Up Day
<b>11 Pentecost 25 Veterans' Day</b> <b>Green Team</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist* 9:15 am Choir Warm Up 10:00 am Holy Eucharist* 11:15 am Coffee Hour 11:30 am Joyful Noise *inc. Birthday and Anniversary Prayers	<b>12</b> 7:00 pm Budget & Finance Committee Meeting	<b>13</b> 10:00 am Outreach Committee Meeting 7 pm AA meeting	<b>14</b> 1 pm Meditation in Church 2:00 pm Tai Chi Chh 8:00 pm AA Wednesday group	<b>15</b> 9:30 am Healing Eucharist 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b> Office closed Priest's day off	<b>17</b> 9:00 am Vestry Mutual Ministry Review
<b>18 Pentecost 26</b> <b>Gold Team</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Choir Warm Up 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:15 am Coffee Hour 11:30 am Joyful Noise 11:30 am Dream Group 7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service at St. David's	<b>19</b> 7:15 am Stewardship Commission	<b>20</b> 7 pm AA meeting	<b>21</b> 1 pm Meditation in Church 2:00 pm Tai Chi Chh 8:00 pm AA Wednesday group	<b>22</b> THANKSGIVING observed Office Closed	<b>23</b> Office closed Priest's day off	<b>24</b> 6 pm “A Christmas Carol” one-man show
<b>25 Christ the King Sunday Red Team</b> 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Choir Warm Up 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Boonton Care Center service 11:15 am Coffee Hour 11:30 am Joyful Noise	<b>26</b> 7:00 pm Vestry	<b>27</b> 7 pm AA meeting	<b>28</b> 1 pm Meditation in Church 2:00 pm Tai Chi Chh 8:00 pm AA Wednesday group	<b>29</b> 9:30 am Healing Eucharist 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b> Office closed Priest's day off	

# St. David's Leadership Team

Empowering all our members to build bridges of hope with the living Christ through worship, spiritual formation, hospitality and outreach.

Bishop *The Rt. Rev. Carlye J. Hughes*  
Priest-in-Charge *The Rev. Jon M. Richardson*

Senior Warden: *John Simonelli*  
Junior Warden: *Jennifer Trevisan*

Vestry: *Mary-Esther Arther (Treasurer, non-voting)*  
*Mary Harbinsky (Clerk, non-voting)*  
*Pat Hodde*  
*Kathy Kent*  
*Lee Moody*  
*Mike Roehrer*  
*Dale Pappas-Wilhelm*  
*Marty Stanton*  
*Irene Williams*

Staff: *Mary-Esther Arther* *Newsletter Editor*  
*Dr. Salvatore Mallimo* *Music Director*  
*Gill Otto* *Parish Administrator*  
*Guy Baskinger* *Sexton*

