

# At St. David's Episcopal Church & School



## Joyful Worship



Joyful Worship defines our celebration experience at St. David's. Each week, we gather as a community of faith to enter God's presence, hear His Word, respond with music and prayer and leave encouraged to do His work. In addition to services each weekend, we gather to celebrate the holidays and other events that mark milestones and passages in the lives of our family of faith.

Our worship ministry includes:

- Clergy and Lay leadership
- Music direction & leadership
- Adult and Youth Choirs, musical accompanists & vocalists
- Flower guild, altar guild, sound, ushers and our Welcome Ministry, and so much more.



We ushered in 2018 with the introduction of Saturdays@Six. To date in 2018, we have celebrated over 115 weekend worship services. We've also celebrated Eucharist at Lansdowne Woods monthly and added a second monthly service at Falcon's Landing. Through August, 2018 has seen 12 baptisms, 6 funerals and 33 weeks of Centering Prayer. We continue to work with our school to strengthen "Sing and Celebrate" for all classes with individual and group sessions. Finally, we introduced "Messy Church" this summer. Look for all of this in 2019, along with the long-anticipated overhaul to the Sanctuary sound system.

## Lifelong Learning



Our vision of Lifelong learning begins with our children. We share in the responsibility of guiding them through church life. We adults are also on a journey; called to a life of continued learning about what our faith in Christ means and how we express that in our daily lives.

Our Christian Education includes:

- A Baptism Ministry
- 30 Good Minutes for all ages, Children's Chapel
- Bible study for youth, women and men
- Expanded Communion and Confirmation classes

In 2018, we continue to deepen our educational programming. We engage our older youth in regular weekly bible study. We continue the work of our Race and Reconciliation ministry studying issues impacting our lives as Christians. Look for all of these programs to continue in 2019, along with new opportunities for continued study and on-line learning such as the Rector's book club, Read the Bible in a year and Godly Play.

## Engaging Outreach

As children of God we are called to serve the world around us. At St. David's, we respond to that call in our county, across our country, and in communities in need in the world. Our community comes together in support of a range of ministries that address essential human need.



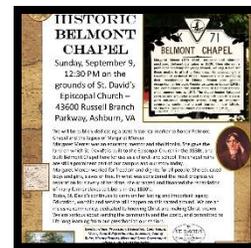
In 2018, our outreach ministries include:

- The Bromley School and the REACH Mission
- Loudoun Hunger Relief, Backpack Buddies & Grace to Go, DC Central Kitchen
- Restoring Eden Vegetable Garden

By the close of 2018, we will have provided more than 12,000 lbs. of food to Loudoun Hunger Relief and over 3,100 bags of food to Backpack Buddies. We have prepared nearly 2,000 meals with Grace to Go and grown more than 35 lbs. of fresh produce in the Restoring Eden Vegetable Garden to feed the homeless and hungry in our community. This past June, more than 70 youth and adults traveled to New Berlin, NY to provide labor and hope to a community in need. We do indeed have "open hearts" to serve God's in His work.

## Celebrating Community

Our community is the fabric into which we are all woven together. It is how we are personally connected to each other – to inspire, comfort, engage and encourage. We gather in fellowship, surround each other in times of need and pray for one another.



2018 Community highlights include:

- Special events such as the dedication of the Belmont Chapel, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Blessing of the Animals
- The broadening of our Youth Ministry – now clergy-led
- Another wild VBS adventure for over 160 children
- Our Quilt ministry that has stitched, tied and prayed over more than 280 quilts and prayer squares since 2010
- Weekly visits to bring grace to those who are home-bound; with four to seven Lay Eucharistic visits per week - close to 300 per year, this is one more way that we take care of each other here at St. David's
- Continued fellowship and study by Brotherhood of St. Andrew and Daughters of the King (& Jr. DOK)
- A new Senior Ministry, new 20s and 30s Brunch Series, Dining Connection and regular meetings of our Women's Ministry

Clearly, we are a community where "no one stands alone".

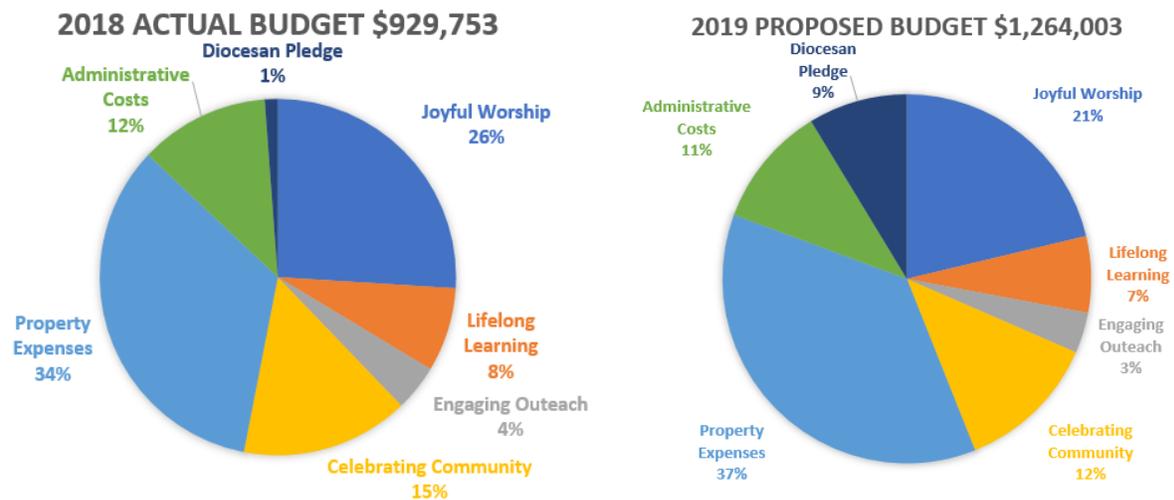
## Our Story

Our St. David's Story began with Margaret Mercer who acquired the Belmont Plantation in 1836 and went on to construct Belmont Chapel on what is now the site of St. David's Church. These grounds that we treasure were deeded to the Episcopal Church in 1844 and have grown to include buildings that provide the setting for our worship, fellowship and formation. Being good stewards of the land and buildings adds up. For 2018, property expenses are approximately 34% of our budget. Property expenses include:

- Close to \$165,000 to our mortgage on the church building (that alone is over 15% of our budget)
- Over \$40,000 in utilities
- Over \$60,000 in regular maintenance and repairs
- Over \$70,000 in extraordinary repairs from the Repair Reserve fund

Our story is one of transformation; just as this property has grown, so has our mission. We change lives. Our story demonstrates that gifts of financial stewardship make a positive impact, but it's more than that. Without you, there is no transformation.

Now that you've seen all that we've done with the Treasure entrusted to St. David's in 2018, join us in supporting our mission of "...making Christ known" in 2019.



## October 2018 – Our Season of Treasure

At St. David's, we rely almost exclusively on the pledging of our members to carry out our mission; we call that being good stewards of our treasure. We have no endowment and we receive no subsidy from the Diocese of Virginia. In fact, just as we are asking you, we send a portion of our income to the Diocese each year to support the programming and outreach efforts of the Diocese of Virginia.

What we are able to accomplish next year in our worship, education, fellowship, outreach and property management will be determined by the financial pledges we receive from parishioners. The foundation of a generous financial commitment will enable us to develop a budget to support the many programs and activities which we feel God has called us to take on.

Each October, we come together as a family of faith to declare our financial commitment pledges of our treasure and to say once again that we believe in and support the mission of St. David's. As we begin our financial stewardship campaign for 2019, we remember again that everything we have comes from God, and God has great plans for St. David's through us.

***Now is the time for all hearts to be open!***

*Please complete the enclosed Financial Commitment Pledge Card and take it to the altar any Saturday or Sunday between October 6 and November 18, 2018.*



## St. David's 2019 Financial Commitment Pledge Card

My/our commitment to St. David's for 2019 is a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To be paid in \_\_\_ weekly \_\_\_ monthly \_\_\_ quarterly \_\_\_ other installments

Accept this pledge as a symbol of my/our commitment to follow Jesus through the intentional giving and gratitude for all the ways this community transforms lives through Christ.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose all that apply:

I/We would like to pay our pledge electronically. Please send me/us an Electronic Payment Form.

Please contact us about including St. David's in an estate gift or a gift of stock.

I/We would like to continue our pledge electronically for the above stated amount starting January 2019.

May we thank you Publicly?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*This commitment, offered in faith, may be increased or decreased at any time due to a change in circumstances.*