



Fall 2021

Brothers and Sisters of St. David's Episcopal Church in Bean Blossom,

As we roll into fall after a pretty active and busy summer awakening after a long forced hibernation. Returning to church is a blessing after spending the last 15 months worshipping at home. We are in the midst of yet another wave of COVID. It's discouraging to know that the vaccination rate in this state is below 50%. The distrust of the vaccine by many seems greater than the risk to our fellow citizens. I commend you all for being a fully vaccinated church!

It has truly been great to be able to worship together in person again. There is simply no substitute for being with one another in the flesh. We certainly can see what a difference it made to have Jesus incarnate with humanity as we read through the Bible. Jesus presence was and is life giving in all the important ways. I expect that because of our low vaccination rates we may ebb and flow in our ability to meet together safely. We are currently wearing masks in church and church meetings and we are refraining from singing. That is a step backwards from where we were for a short time. The main thing is to provide safe ways of being together as a community while we weather this pandemic.

Fall is the time when we think of cooler weather, leaves that turn beautiful shades of orange, rust, yellow and a new kind of beauty takes over creation. It is also a time when we start thinking of tithing or making a pledge to the church. We will have Canon Brendan O'Sullivan Hale with us August 22 to discuss ways to create a church budget that fulfills our mission, allows us to worship in our building, and provide outreach to our community, and pastoral care and parish life activities for the people of St. David's and beyond. Many of us are loathe to even speak about money, it's a sensitive topic for people. It's a private topic for most people. Tithing is a concept that originated in the Bible. It literally means a tenth of something. Now a tenth of your income may be a lot to consider as a gift to the church, a tithe can be any amount you feel comfortable giving. The pledges we receive at St. David's go towards making a budget. The budget at St. David's literally keeps the church running. It pays from the basics of keeping the lights on and the buildings and land maintained. The budget is used to pay our small staff, the rector, the administrative assistant, the organist, cleaner. The budget is also used to fund things that are important to the mission of our particular church. Outreach is one of our most active committees. We also have a minimal budget for Christian Education, Evangelism/Marketing, Parish Life, Pastoral Care and music. We typically use most of our yearly allotted budget and I have heard numerous ideas for ways to expand on outreach and evangelism if we had the budget to support it. It is exciting to hear your dreams and vision for the church even in a year as financially sparse as this one. We had the lowest pledges this year that we've had for a few years and not enough to maintain basic operating costs. While this is a concern, it is my hope that we can continue to dream and have vision to move beyond a point of reaching into precious savings and continue to be able to help people and communities in the world that promote justice, peace, education and basic necessities for all. One idea for you as you consider a pledge for this coming year is to think of tithing as both offering money towards the work of doing Christ's work in the world and offering our gifts and talents and passions. We can consider ways to be-

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come more visible and collaborative in the community in ways that important to preserving creation and relationships.

I cannot say enough how much I value and love each one of you and appreciate your willingness to serve in the community and in our church. St. David's is a life-giving place to worship and give thanks because of you.

Pax, MM



St. David's Episcopal Church

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St. D Q&A

Why are you in Brown County?

I was born in Bloomington Hospital and have lived all but 3 of my 65 years in Brown County. Those 3 years were during the already difficult pre-teen time of my life and made me realize that I belonged nowhere else. Going forward all my decisions were such that would keep me in Brown County. I chose a career that would keep me in the county, I married a man willing to live with me here in the county, I only considered housing in the county and we are currently updating our home to make sure we can continue to live in the county. When I look out the window I see my home, when I stop in at the post office I see friends I have known my whole life and when I come to church I see people who love Brown County as I do.

—*Jane Herr*

The choice was only practical at first--my husband worked in Columbus and I had just taken a job in Bloomington. Brown County seemed like the logical place for our residence. It didn't take long before the wonder of Brown County completely surpassed the practicality. Fifty plus years later, the wonder remains!

—*Jan Benham*

I have always enjoyed the woodlands and rolling hills of southeastern Ohio, where my grandfather had a farm that I would go to for visits when I was younger.

In the spring of 1998 I received a flyer in my work mailbox regarding an auction of about 700 acres in Brown County. The flyer initially went in my circular file, but it must've been the photos of the green wooded hills on the brochure that made me dig it back out and decide to make a visit to the land. It reminded me of the Hocking Hills and southeastern Ohio. I ended up purchasing some of that land at the auction and have never regretted moving down here to this beautiful county with its beautiful people!

—*Mike Day*

I moved to Nashville because I love the rolling hills and woods. The landscape is similar to where I grew up in western New York State.

—*Carol Ruffin*

As children growing up in Indianapolis, John's and my families had a history of picnics and visits to this lovely area. We even took our brief honeymoon here, at what was then the Ramada. A few years later, dear friends John and Jeanne Hannan bought land and moved to Vaught Road. The light went on in our heads: you can LIVE there! And we promptly went looking for land. That part didn't take long, but then we designed our own house and built much of it ourselves along with family and friends, over a SIX-year period! We already had 1 son by then, and were pregnant with #2, who was announced on moving day in November 1983. A 3rd son followed and we happily remain Brown Countians!

—*Angie Aumage*

A Journey with Brother William

Big Hills vs. Small Mountains

During our time at Trinity Episcopal Church in Bloomington, IN, Sarah and I had the pleasure of being involved in a good number of parish activities. The most adventurous, however, was the 2014 pilgrimage we made along St. Cuthbert's Way, a 62-mile trail that winds through the border villages between Scotland and England, ending on Lindisfarne (or *Holy Island*), off the coast of England.

The five-day pilgrimage, which celebrates the life of St. Cuthbert, a 7th century saint who lived and worked in the villages that now comprise the pilgrimage route, was organized by Mother Henny Grossamere, the assistant priest at Trinity at that time. Mother Henny was deeply inspired by the many pilgrimage routes that transverse England, Scotland, and Ireland. And, when she announced the pilgrimage, Sarah and I immediately said "Yes!" And what a blessing it was!!

We were joined by about 12 others, including a couple of folks who were not Trinitarians. Admittedly, I did not know the other sojourners all that well, but by the end of the trek, each one had a special place in my heart. There were several reasons for this new closeness and affection.

First, the pilgrimage was challenging, even grueling at times, as we covered about 12 miles per day. And, it wasn't the distance that was so difficult, as much as large inclines that faced us every day. The topography could be called big hills; I call them Small Mountains. As you can imagine, these climbs were moments natural for prayer ("Help me Lord, help me get keep going!!"), when our bodies and the environment were called into Cuthbert-like connections. These times reminded us that God, just like the Small Mountains, challenges us to grow and develop in the strength of bodies -- and our faith.

And, our teamwork didn't begin in Scotland; it began when we "trained" together in Bloomington. At McCormick's Creek and Yellowwood and long walks around Bloomington. Sarah and I worked hard to prepare ourselves for the Pilgrimage. We were in really good shape. While our miles and miles of training did not fully prepare us for the Small Mountains of Scotland, we'd have been in real trouble had we not taken the time to prepare: a BIG lesson!!!

Another point of connection was the sheer beauty of the sites along the way. Whether it was emerald-green hills spotted with sheep, or an immense field of bright red poppies, or the roar of the North Sea on the empty eastern banks of Holy Island, everyday was a canvas painted by The Holy Creator.

A third way in which we pilgrims connected was in our morning and evening prayer times. Eucharist was not celebrated in our accustomed ornamental ways, but rather with paper cups and loaves of bread passed from person to person. Our choir was the breeze over the mountain or the sound of a running stream.

Last, the long walks gave each of us time to walk with each other, to pick ourselves up when we took a tumble, to share and laugh and endure, as our legs marched out one step after another.

Today, whenever I see a fellow pilgrim, we smile and hug and remember that very, very special time we spent with God, other pilgrims we met along the way, and each other.

—*Brother William Morris*



A view from a “Small Mountain” in Scotland.



The Castle on Lindisfarne (*Holy Island*)



Poppy fields on Cuthbert’s Way

Outreach News

We Address Food- Insecurity and Moving to Sustainability of Food Resources

During the seven years of the Farmers Market, St. David's parishioners recognized that food insecurity and environmental concerns were among our priorities of ministry in our local community. When groceries handling fresh food closed in the Bean Blossom area, the Farmer's Market offered an opportunity to shop for fresh produce, meats, and baked goods. In addition, SNAP, WIC, and Farmer's Market Senior vouchers could be used for these food purchases.

At each Market, St. David's sponsored a community service outreach booth for not-profit organizations. Representative informed market goers of programs and services available often registering individuals at the market. Children's days and educational events promoted reusing, recycling, and caring for creation. Presiding Bishop Curry's Creation Care initiative for Churches throughout the world, was instituted at the Market. St. David's parish and vendors discouraged the use of plastics and began using china and silver for dining in the café and reusable shopping bags. We collected bottle caps at the Market to be recycled and made into a park bench.

When the market closed due to COVID, we recognized that our neighbors were isolated, alone, or unemployed without transportation or internet or some of them without phones to know what food distribution services were available or how to connect with them. Thus, the Northern Brown County Food Alliance was born. This collaborative body of representatives from area churches, government, services, and neighbors that addresses food-insecurity and advocates for food distribution to all parts of the county. Food Distribution Resources with contacts lists are distributed to individuals, NBCFA can be reached by phone or e-mail. Tons of food has been distributed at pop-up drive-thru pantries in all areas of the county. Door to door delivery of food from resources is available to those without transportation. St. David's installed the "Giving Box" in the parking lot in front of Ackerman Hall which is an emergency drive -up pantry available 24-7

Our Ministry has provided food for many, while all around us the effects Climate Change caused by years of human action or inaction throughout the world are threatening the sustainability of our food resources. "How do we to respond and recognize this planet is God's Gift to humankind and change our behaviors to sustain that gift. As meetings were held with environmental resources facts became clear—80% of our food is a result of the pollinators---many pollinators are nearing extinction –and we can do something about it!

The outreach committee had begun to plan for the children's educational activities at the Market by refurbishing the playground with additional mulch, and weeding the planter boxes, Nature little library and the pollinator garden. Mother Mary, Sandy Ackerman, Cori McCabe, Angie Aumage, and Donna Niednagel formed a Children's Creation Care committee to explore summer programing for children and environmental events. The Children's committee consulted with Shane Gibson, Sycamore Land Trust's environmental educator.

The first event was held June 23rd. Children and parents attended this event learning about the importance of growing gardens. Cori's led making crafts, Angie Aumage and Ed McCabe provided music (some even original), Sandy Ackerman read stories and illustrated what happens to seeds as grow and mature into plants. Knowing that fertile soil, sun and water are essential for plants to grow, the children experienced ways to conserve our energy

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resources by composting, collecting water in our rain barrel, and planting in sunshine. The children and parents were given trowels and seeds as Donna Niednagel explained to the children they were growing food for themselves and the pollinators.

Our second event, featured the a local beekeeper, Kari Smith who brought an active bee hive, equipment to harvest honey, and a recent harvest of honey and beeswax. The children learned the bee anatomy, and how they pollinate and even communicate. Learning that honeybees live in community and each bee has a specific responsibility, helped them to relate to living in a human family and community. Angie was dressed as a honeybee and led the children in song and dancing the honey bee waddle, the honey bee's method of communication. Children, parents, and visiting Waycross staff asked many questions as they enjoyed snacks made for honey.

After meeting with Purdue Extension Educator, Kara Hammes, Erin Kirchhofer, Brown County Soil and Water, and Debbie Kelly, a local Monarch Butterfly expert, we planned a "Celebrating Pollinator –Creating and Improving Habitats Day Camp for July 12, 13th and July 15, 16th from 1-4 pm. Twelve Children including children from the Nashville United Methodist Church and St. David's joined parents, grandparents, and guest resource staff members each day.

The first camp day, the children were given a water bottle to decorate illustrating reusing to reducing waste. Their water bottles were filled each day and left to be washed to be ready for use the next day. Each day began as Sandy Ackerson read stories or poem relating to pollinators, Angie and Adie Smith led action songs, and Cori McCabe helped the children make lady bugs, butterflies, and paper plate life cycles, etc. We learned about worker bees and each child built a house for them by reusing a tin can filled with paper tubes and sticks. Erin Kirchhofer read stories about healthy soil for plants and she helped the children create an earth worm farm to make fertile soil. Debbie Kelly, an expert on Monarchs who cares for the monarchs, brought samples of life cycle of the monarch's from egg, to caterpillar, chrysalis, to adult butterflies. Debbie then releases hundreds of monarchs to begin their migration. The adult monarchs lay eggs on Milkweed, the only food source for the caterpillar stage, and the adults feed on nectar-producing plants. But Debbie explained that in Indiana more than 100,000 acres of monarch habitats were lost in the last ten years. To help restore habitats for pollinators we could plant milkweed and nectar plants in our yards and open fields, avoid the use of pesticides and practice strategic mowing. Kara Hammes from Purdue extension supplied common milkweed seeds and helped the day camp children make "seed bombs" using a mixture of milkweed seeds, kitty litter, and soil. These "seed bombs" will be dried, stored, and thrown in open fields and lawns after the first freeze in October.

The pollinator day camp ended with a pollinator celebration of each child receiving a chocolate ice cream sundae complete with whipped cream and a cherry on top as the children identified how the work of pollinators had made possible this delicious treat! This summer our children have experienced their environment and how we all can protect, create, and renew our planet. They had fun playing games, singing and dancing, and making new friends.

But protecting and renewing creation continues for us. Currently St. David's is part of a community effort to identify and create 100 acres of pollinator habitat. People with open fields or lawns available will be provided "seed bombs" with ingredients donated by Purdue Extension, Brown County Soil and St. David's and made in community work sessions to be dried and stored until after the first freeze and distributed to land donors. Then in the spring, witness the beauty of the Monarch Butterfly!

—Donna Niednagel

A Letter from your Senior Warden

Autumn is the time of year that we think about the coming year. We are thankful for the summer warmth, the crops that have been planted and harvested, and the beauty of the changing season. Soon, we will be preparing for the new year. I call this preparation Stewardship. The gifts that God has given us need to be acknowledged in all we say and do in our life at St David's. Webster's Dictionary writes that "stewardship is the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care". The members of St David's and the buildings have been entrusted to us through God but we work together to acknowledge, enhance, and affirm this trust. In the past year, we have weathered the storm of Covid. We have missed each other but found ways to connect. This year has its own challenges with the Delta variant of Covid but we have had moments of joy, Everett's baptism, Zoom, when we hear the children's voices on Zoom, and the help from the Diocese and the Center for Congregations Tech Grant. We mourn the loss of those who are no longer with us both in our church life and the world at large. We have found ways to help our neighbors with a Food Pantry, Narcan medicine and the work with the Northern Brown County Food Alliance. Members of our congregation have been impacted by Covid, loss of income, work, and our children have lost a year or more of their education. But through it all we affirm the grace of God in all we say or do.

I was baptized as an adult over 30 years ago. It was a choice to see God through the eyes of the Episcopal Church.. Someone once told me:

Stewardship is what you do after you say I believe.

Choosing God has responsibilities. But with Baptism we are marked as God's own forever. I have my whole life to live up to that promise.

In an integration of my past work life and my Christian life I have worked with non-profit organizations who ask that board members, volunteers and workers bring three things to the stewardship of the organizations they support; **work, wisdom, and wealth**. I think these thoughts apply to our Christian life.

Work –Members bring to our church life so many gifts of Stewardship, from Buildings and Grounds, Parish Life, and Music. We change lightbulbs, repair a deck, shovel the snow. We work on the issues that matter to our neighbors; food, assistance with bills, clean water, the environment. We have an ongoing music series open to the community. We allocate resources and work to the enhance our Parish life.

Wisdom – Encompasses computer and social media knowledge, knowledge of the needs of our community through NBCFA, and education programs about protecting the environment. Worship and music strive to honor our Episcopal tradition. Christian Formation through Sunday School for Children, children's time in our regular worship, Pub Theology and Book study, all are ways that we honor God through knowledge and wisdom. We welcome all to the table of the Eucharist. The Vestry brings its' knowledge to the management of the business of keeping St David's a viable church. Elections for Vestry members will happen in the latter part of this year. Please consider adding your wisdom to the Vestry. Evangelism is important to tell the story of St David's to ourselves and the community at large.

Wealth – Active participation in the life of the church also means that we give of our resources. The widow gave her pence and Jesus acknowledged the gift. Participation by everyone affirms the work and presence of St David's in our lives. All that is asked of you is that you prayerfully consider what you can give to St David's and give it with joy. Your participation in the form of a pledge is crucial to knowing what resources may be allocated in a budget. Your pledge is an affirmation of your Christian life. Many have been impacted by the

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world events, pledge what you can and it will be pleasing to God. Do not let the clamor of the noise of the world intrude in your knowledge that you are loved by God. We are all at different places in our lives, members who have retired, young people starting a family, and many in the workplace, gifts will be different for all of us but all gifts enhance our life together.

Whatever you may consider giving to St David's - work, wisdom or wealth remember the words of Julian of Norwich interpreted by Deborah Hutchison. "All will be well" We are together for a reason and we are loved by God. Be well.

—Yvonne Olinger

When the Frost is on the Punkin

By James Whitcomb Riley

When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock,
 And you hear the kyouck and gobble of the struttin' turkey-cock,
 And the clackin' of the guineys, and the cluckin' of the hens,
 And the rooster's hallylooyer as he tiptoes on the fence;
 O, it's then's the times a feller is a-feelin' at his best,
 With the risin' sun to greet him from a night of peaceful rest,
 As he leaves the house, bareheaded, and goes out to feed the stock,
 When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock.

They's something kindo' harty-like about the atmusfere
 When the heat of summer's over and the coolin' fall is here—
 Of course we miss the flowers, and the blossums on the trees,
 And the mumble of the hummin'-birds and buzzin' of the bees;
 But the air's so appetizin'; and the landscape through the haze
 Of a crisp and sunny morning of the airly autumn days
 Is a pictur' that no painter has the colorin' to mock—
 When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock.

The husky, rusty russel of the tossels of the corn,
 And the raspin' of the tangled leaves, as golden as the morn;
 The stubble in the furries—kindo' lonesome-like, but still
 A-preachin' sermons to us of the barns they growed to fill;
 The strawstack in the medder, and the reaper in the shed;
 The hosses in theyr stalls below—the clover over-head!—
 O, it sets my hart a-clickin' like the tickin' of a clock,
 When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock!

Then your apples all is gethered, and the ones a feller keeps
 Is poured around the celler-floor in red and yeller heaps;
 And your cider-makin' 's over, and your wimmern-folks is through
 With their mince and apple-butter, and theyr souse and sausage, too! ...
 I don't know how to tell it—but ef sich a thing could be
 As the Angels wantin' boardin', and they'd call around on *me*—
 I'd want to 'commodate 'em—all the whole-indurin' flock—
 When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock!

Fun

They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment, and gracious hostility.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM . Please use the back door.

The eighth graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM . The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

And this one just about sums them all up:

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday:

'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'

—*from Jan Benham*

Birthdays and Anniversaries

AUGUST

1 Maggie Linscott
 1 Sharon Kitchens
 7 Lauren Woodworth
 17 Angie & John Aumage - Anniversary
 18 Adie Smith
 22 Sandy Ridenour
 23 Verne & Phyllis Sindlinger - Anniversary
 23 Dave & Roberta White - Anniversary
 26 Richard & Jan Halliday - Anniversary
 30 Richard Halladay

SEPTEMBER

3 Ralph Linscott
 4 Len Glosque
 7 Ed McCabe
 11 Jennifer Heller
 11 Ben Herr
 13 Margie Hill
 13 Juniper McCabe (Ed & Cori's daughter)
 16 Jan Benham
 24 Louis and Laura Wenzler - anniversary

OCTOBER

4 Marilyn Day
 7 Bob Olinger
 7 Jonathan & Linda Lee Gosser - Anniversary

10 Marge Steiner
 11 Westley Smith (son of Ben & Adie Smith)
 11 Jim Drum
 18 Adie & Ben Smith - Anniversary
 25 Gene Niednagel
 26 Jonathan Hutchison
 26 Yvonne Olinger
 26 Laura Wenzler
 31 Jonathan Gosser

NOVEMBER

9 Joan Amati
 9 Tim & Laurie Stant - Anniversary
 10 Ed & Cori McCabe - Anniversary
 11 David Sindlinger
 12 Jan Holloway
 12 Jane Herr
 13 Andrea Barber
 15 Ben & Lauren Woodworth - Anniversary
 20 Ralph & Maggie Linscott - Anniversary
 23 Kate Nolan
 28 Carol Ruffin
 29 Roberta White
 30 Pat Bolinger

Don't see your birthday or anniversary - drop me a line at jane@rjherr.com

Newsletter Submissions?

Please send your news items, stories of spiritual growth, book reviews, jokes, cartoons, recipes, etc. to Jane Herr (812)320-2340 or 4923 Stevens Rd., Nashville, 47448 or (the preferred method!): jane@rjherr.com

Next deadline for submissions:

Advent: Sunday November 14, 2021

St. David's Episcopal Church
 PO Box 1798
 Nashville, IN 47448

SERVICES

Sunday 9:30 AM Morning Prayer

Wednesday 5:00 PM Evening Prayer

St. David's Events

Thursday	August 19	Rising Tide: The Crossroads Project 7 pm	BCHC Auditorium
Sunday	August 22	Brendan O'Sullivan-Hale speaks on stewardship at coffee hour	
Wednesday	August 25	Pop-up Drive-thru Food Distribution 4:30-6pm	Parkview Church
Wednesday	September 8	Pub Theology	6:30 pm Brown County Inn
Sunday	September 19	Marge Wright memorial service <i>(reception 2-4 pm)</i>	9:30 St. David's
Sunday	September 26	Church Service & Picnic	9:30 Waycross
Sunday	September 26	Bean Blossom Music Series	7 pm St. David's
Sunday	November 14	deadline for Advent St. David's newsletter	