

"THE ILLUMINATION"

From the Interim Rector

"Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant"

Linda Thomas, Director of Communications, to Retire

Many people think that it is the progression of *rectors* in a parish that mark a parish's "eras" in its history. And there is an element of truth to that view.

But much more often it is those faithful, effective *church staff* workers behind the scenes, day to day, crisis to crisis, year to year, who make the most profound difference in the life of a parish. And their leaving is the occasion of great, great thanksgiving and gratitude for the many gifts they have given over the years.

For over twenty-two years, Linda Thomas has been such a person in the life of St. David's. Outlasting three rectors (and two interims!), she has held together the central "nerve center" of the parish in an infinite number of ways.

There are those church employees whose "jobs" are more accurately described as "vocations," or the work that God calls them to do. For Linda Thomas, her vocation these past years at St. David's has come from a place of deep, deep love for this parish. And for that extraordinary ministry, we give our deepest, most profound thanks.

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, March 15, a time that St. David's will give all of us an opportunity to say "Thank you" to Linda. And, in the days and weeks ahead, your Vestry and I will be updating you on future staff plans, and on other ways that you might wish to say "Thank you."

For now, however, please join me in giving thanks to God for this wonderful servant, whose vocation has graced St. David's these many years.

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Sunday Evening Chapel Mass Schedule

Chapel Mass will meet monthly in Grace Parish Hall, at 6:00 p.m., following this schedule:

- March 8
- April 26



SAINT DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Illumination

Twice Monthly Newsletter
of St. David's
Episcopal Church



Interim Rector

The Rev. C. Dean Taylor
dtaylor@stdavidchurch.org

Newsletter Editor

Linda Thomas
linda@stdavidchurch.org

1015 Old Roswell Rd.
Roswell, GA 30076

770-993-6084 (office)
770-993-8504 (fax)

Church Office:

M-Th 10:00am - 5:00pm
Friday 9-11:30am

Church office Email:

office@stdavidchurch.org

Church Web Site:

www.stdavidchurch.org

St. David's Preschool

Peggy Fallon, Director
770-993-1258
Preschool Fax: 678-585-9069
preschool@stdavidchurch.org

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency
after hours, call the church office at
770-993-6084, follow the voice
prompt, hit the #6 on your keypad,
leave a message, and the Priest on call
will return your call.



The next issue of the
newsletter will be mailed
on Feb. 26. The deadline
for submissions is Friday,
Feb. 21, 2020.

CALENDAR

○a.m./●p.m.

JFH=Jeffords Fellowship Hall, PH=Grace Parish Hall

Saturday, Feb. 15

- 8:30 Men's Bible Study-PH
- 10:30 AA Mtg.-House
- 4:00 Quinceanera-Rodriguez

Sunday, Feb. 16

- 11:00 EpiscoPALS
- 12:00 Hispanic 1st Communion
Class—Bethany
- 5:00 EYC—House

Monday, Feb. 17

- 10:30 Yoga class-JFH front half
- 12:00 Chair Yoga
- 6:15 EFM-Bethany
- 6:30 Scouts—House
- 7:00 Ballroom Dance

Tuesday, Feb. 18

- 6:30 Bible Study at IHOP
- 9:30 Preschool Planning Mtg.
- 1:00 DOK Discernment class
- 3:15 Dutch School
- 6:30 Vestry Meeting-Bethany

Wednesday, Feb. 19

- 9:45 iPhone/iPad class-Bethany
- 10:00 Covenant Group-Hope room
- 10:30 WOW—St. Gabriel
- 11:00 Roswell Bridge Club-JFH
- 11:00 Women's Bible Study-PH
- 1:00 Path to Shine-JFH classrooms
- 1:15 Cottage School Cooking class

Thursday, Feb. 20

- 10:00 Ladies Thurs. Bible Study
- 1:00 Path to Shine-JFH classrooms
- 6:00 Al-Anon—PH
- 7:00 Finance Comm. Mtg.
- 7:30 Choir Rehearsal-choir loft

Friday, Feb. 21

- 11:00 Roswell Bridge Club-JFH
- 11:00 Prayer Shawl Mtg.-Bethany
- 1:00 Six Mercies—Library

Saturday, Feb. 22

- 8:30 Men's Bible Study-PH
- 10:30 AA Mtg.-House

Sunday, Feb. 23

- 11:00 Children 1st Communion
- 12:00 Hispanic 1st Communion
Class—Bethany
- 2:00 CPR class— Swanson Hall
- 5:00 EYC—House

Our church calendar is continuously updated
on our website at www.stdavidchurch.org.

Worship Schedule

- 7:45 a.m. H.E., Rite I
- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast in Jeffords Hall
- 9:00 a.m. H.E., Rite II
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:15 a.m. H.E., Rite II
- 1:15 p.m. Mass in Spanish

Lectionary for Feb. 16

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

Lectionary for Feb. 23

Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9



Connections Café is a class for new members, visitors, and all who would like to know more about St. David's. The classes will be held in the St. Gabriel Room from 10:15 am to 11:00 am and will consist of 3 segments on March 1, 8, and 22. All classes are stand alone, so if you are not able to attend all three classes please attend as you can. Come take a tour of the church, hear about all our ministries, and enjoy special guest speakers. Please contact Jan Georges (770-993-1094, ext 118) with any questions.

59 & Holding March Program

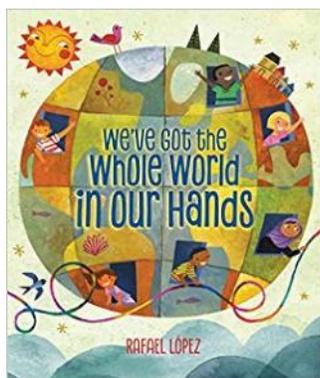
Please join us on Tuesday, Feb. 4, in Swanson Hall. Fellowship starts at 11:30, followed by lunch and program at 12:00. Spring will be here before we know it. Katie Wilson Ross will share with us her love of native plants and how adding them to our outdoor gardens will not only add beauty but also promote a healthy environment. Katie has worked in the plant and nursey industry for many years. She and her husband Edward own Night Song Native Nursery in Canton, GA. Please make reservations for our catered lunch no later than Thursday, February 27, by:

- Signing-up in the mailbox hallway
- Sending an email to seniors@stdavidchurch.org
- or calling the church at 770-993-1094, ext. 125, and leaving a message.

Donations for lunch are greatly appreciated.

VBS 2020

Save the Date! June 8-12. Registration opens April 1st! Questions? Contact Director of Children's Ministry, Judy Hine, at children@stdavidchurch.org or the Asst. to the Director, Micky Trifanescu, at micky@stdavidchurch.org.



Hunger Walk/Run

Every year, the Episcopal Community Foundation invites us to participate in the Hunger Walk/Run on March 15th, which raises money and resources for the Atlanta Community Food Bank. This year, we want to invite everyone to participate with our team, St. David's Struts for Christ, as we walk, run, and pray through action against Hunger. Please visit <http://www.acfb.org/> to get more information about the Hunger Walk and the Atlanta Community Food Bank.



Altar Guild Needs You!

We need a few new people to join our Altar Guild. All we ask is that you help for an hour a month to set the altar on Sunday for Eucharist prior to each service. You will serve on a dedicated team with other well trained volunteers. No prior experience or expertise is required. Just a reverence for what is sacred and an attention to detail. If you're interested in serving in this ministry please contact The Rev. Michelle Ortiz at mortiz@stdavidchurch.org, Ellen Irwin at eirwin1513@yahoo.com, or Stacey Milam at smilam1@gmail.com for more information.



Free Concert— Alpharetta City Band

Family and Friends Concert at St. David's on Sunday, March 22, 3:00 p.m., in Jeffords Hall. The Alpharetta City Band will be presenting their annual "Family and Friends Concert." We welcome all to this Free Concert. The Alpharetta City Band is an on-going adult recreation program of the Alpharetta Parks and Recreation Dept.



Caregiver's Support Group

Did you know that St. David's has a support group for people who are caring for a loved one (spouse, parent, child) who is at home or in a facility. Meetings are confidential and informal. We share concerns and experiences, and many find that it helps to know that "we are not alone on this journey". We meet in the St. Gabriel room from 7:00--8:30 pm on the 4th Tuesday each month. Next meeting will be February 25. For more information contact Barbara Mulcahy 770-642-4074 ammabmmb@aol.com.



LENTEN QUIET DAY

Saturday, March 14, 9am-12pm, in Grace Parish Hall

"Belonging to God: Praying the Lorica (Breastplate) of Saint Fursa."

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." Romans 12:1 (NSRV).

Focus of discussion will be on using Fursa's Lorica as a daily prayer practice for Lent (and beyond). Led by Betty Cunningham, Spiritual Director (15 years; graduate of Omega Point Spiritual Direction program). St David's: Speaker at Women's Retreat and Quiet Day; Eucharistic Minister and Lector (25 years); Chair of Healing Ministry; member of Retreat Committee; DOK; EfM mentor for 11 years; Vestry.



OUTDOORS MINISTRY

Outdoors Ministry - Cumberland Island – March 13-15, 2020

Outdoors Ministry is offering a camping or day trip to Cumberland Island. Whether staying on the island or in St. Mary's the group is taking The Land and Legacies Tour, a motorized guided tour visiting the north end of the island with its natural and cultural landmarks including Plum Orchard, the Settlement and First African Baptist Church. Campers staying one or two nights, will enjoy the wilder side of the island under a canopy of Spanish moss, live oaks with 17 miles of secluded white sandy beaches. The island is one of the largest undeveloped barrier islands on the Atlantic coast with one of the largest maritime forests remaining in the United State. Please email mdelucciaveal@comcast.net if you are interested.



NEW BOOK STUDY IN MARCH

Join us for all or part of the four week class (March 8, 15, 22, and 29) in Grace Hall during the Sunday school hour at 10:15 -11:00 a.m. to explore and discuss Diana Butler Bass's book: **Grateful**. What is gratitude? Have you felt grateful this week? Is there a relationship between gratitude and grace? We will examine these questions and more, as we together discuss this book. Diana Butler Bass holds a PhD in religious studies from Duke University and is the author of ten books on American religion. She lives in Alexandria, Virginia, with her husband, daughter, and dog. The Book Study will be led by Janet Conrad, The Reverend Michelle Ortiz, and Tom Erdmanczyk.

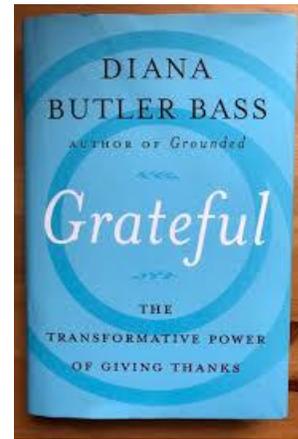
Here's what you can do:

Buy and read the book

Join the book study

Share your views in the book study discussion

Group discussion is an important component of the class. And coffee. And donut holes. See you there!



CENTERING PRAYER

“Silence is God’s first language. Everything else is a poor translation.” Thomas Keating



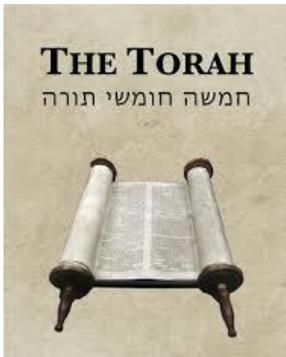
St. David's Centering Prayer group is beginning again!

Centering Prayer is a deeply rewarding prayer practice that seeks to open the mind and heart to experience the presence of God through silence and stillness. It is a spiritual

discipline that takes practice to empty the mind from distractions, including thoughts, words, and even emotions. It moves prayer from a conversation with God to being in communion with God. In today's busy world this type of prayer is richly rewarding as it invites the practitioner to stop and simply be present to God presence. Centering prayer can be done individually but it often helps to begin with a group for support and accountability. More information can be found online at <https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org>

Centering Prayer meets from 10am-11am, in the St. Gabriel room downstairs at the end of the mailbox hallway. Future dates are:

2/26, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22, 5/6.



Adult Education... *Sunday Mornings thru Lent* *10:15-11:00 a.m., Swanson Hall*

From Genesis to Jesus: What Can the Torah Tell Us About Christ?

For centuries, Christians have made the grave error of seeing Jesus' life, teachings, and even resurrection as "separate" from the Hebrew Scriptures that he himself read and followed. What are those connections that we must make now? What new discoveries in history, literary analysis, and even archaeology, shed light on the most ancient texts in the Bible?

Topics include, "Was Adam a Neanderthal?" "Adam and Eve: the first Love Story"; "Cain and Abel: 'Mom always liked you best!'" "Isaac to Abraham: 'Um, Dad, where did you say that sacrifice was?'" and other themes until, by the end of Lent, we will explore the major ways that we have viewed the Crucifixion and Resurrection itself.

Join Interim Rector Dean Taylor as he explores these timeless, sacred stories in a new way!

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!

Tuesday, February 25
6:00—7:30 p.m., Jeffords Hall

Meal cost: \$6/adult, \$1/child (no reservations needed—just come)

NEW THIS YEAR!!!

- New time: 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- New to the menu: We will have the traditional pancakes and toppings, but we're adding **JAMBALAYA!** Yum!
- New kid's activities and games
- New LIGHT PARADE!! Kids (and adults) wear your light-up shoes. We'll celebrate the light of Jesus with a light parade around the campus. **But, please leave bikes, trikes, scooters, and ride-on-toys at home.** This will be a walking parade filled with light and Spirit.

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105.

ADULT CONFIRMATION OFFERING

St. David's Adult Preparation Class for the Sacrament of Confirmation Or Reception into the Episcopal Church 2020

Sunday Mornings in February, Feb. 2—Feb. 23, 2020
10:15—11:00 a.m. in back half of Swanson Hall

We will gather as a community to discuss what it means to join the Episcopal Church of the USA. Topics will include The Book of Common Prayer, The Meaning of the Sacraments, History of the Church, the Priesthood of all believers.

This class will provide preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation or Reception into the Episcopal Church here at St. David's on Sunday, April 19, at the 11:15 a.m. service. The Rite of Reception is for Christians who previously have been confirmed in another denomination, including Roman Catholic and Methodist churches.



Everyone is welcome including those who wish to attend a “refresher course.” If interested, just come to the class on Feb. 16. If you have questions, please contact The Rev. Michelle Ortiz at mortiz@stdavidchurch.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN LENT

Looking Ahead—Wednesday Evenings in Lent

March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, Swanson Hall

6:00 p.m. Simple Meal

6:30-7:30 p.m. Program



“Joseph and the Way of Forgiveness Is Forgiveness Really Possible In Our Lives?”

Dinner Menu for 3/4

**Adults: \$7.00,
Children: \$4.00**

Meat loaf
Mashed potatoes
Squash casserole
Salad
Rolls
Dessert

Dinner Menu for 3/11

Grilled pork tenderloin
Mac and cheese
Vegetable
Cole slaw salad
Corn bread
Dessert

It's one of the most beloved stories in the Bible—Joseph and his brothers. And, it's surely one of the most difficult of all the spiritual tasks that Jesus commands of us—forgiveness to those who have hurt us.

- What can we learn from the ancient story of Joseph and his forgiveness of his brothers, who betrayed him?
- What can we learn from the latest research in the field of psychotherapy?

Join us on this Lenten Journey, with the Rev. Dr. Stefanie Taylor, Priest Associate at St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church in Dunwoody and Chaplain for St. Martin's School, and her husband, Dr. Arthur Taylor, psychotherapist, who has written his Doctoral Thesis on the subject of Forgiveness. **Help us to be good stewards. Dinner reservations are a MUST by calling 770-993-1094, ext. 118! There is also a sign-up sheet in the mailbox hallway to make your dinner reservation. Email sarah@stdavidchurch.org for Childcare reservations.**

A Lenten Journey with a Priest and a Psychotherapist

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT SUNDAY

Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday on March 1

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church, encourages congregations and supporters to support the ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE campaign through observance of Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday on March 1, 2020.

Globally, 155 million children under the age of six are not reaching their full potential due to inadequate nutrition and healthcare. ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE is a three year, \$3 million grassroots Church-wide fundraising campaign dedicated to expanding Episcopal Relief & Development's programs for children up to age six. The campaign launched in September 2019 and will run for 1,000 days until May 31, 2022.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES



Wednesday, February 26

7:00 a.m. H. E. & Ash Wednesday Liturgy

12:15 p.m. H. E. & Ash Wednesday Liturgy (with nursery)

6:30 p.m. H. E. & Ash Wednesday Liturgy

8:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish & Ash Wednesday Liturgy