

ST. DAVID'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

1032 Musselman Road – Hanover, PA 17331

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JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

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Ministers:	The People of St. David's Lutheran Church
Pastor:	Rev. LaDonna E. Thomas
Parish Administrator:	Pam Kemper
Music Director:	Jeff Good
Sexton:	Cindy Blum
Communications Coordinator:	Jennifer Sterling
Treasurer:	Joan Barnes
Financial Secretary:	Sharon Blouse
President:	Mack Warner
Vice-President:	Kevin Barnes
Secretary for Council:	Linda Rohrbaugh

February newsletter deadline is January 24th.



January 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1 Happy New Year	2
3	4 Pastor's Day Off	5 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir	6 7:00 P.M. Study & Conversation Zoom	7	8	9 8:30 A.M. P.A.L.
10 8:00 & 10:45 A.M. Worship 9:25 A.M. Adult Sunday School Zoom	11 Pastor's Day Off	12 6:00 P.M. Laundry Love 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir	13 7:00 P.M. Study & Conversation Zoom	14	15	16
17 8:00 & 10:45 A.M. Worship 9:25 A.M. Adult Sunday School Zoom	18 Pastor's Day Off 7:00 P.M. Council Meeting zoom	19 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir	20 7:00 P.M. Study & Conversation Zoom	21	22	23
24 8:00 & 10:45 A.M. Worship 9:25 A.M. Adult Sunday School Zoom	25 Pastor's Day Off	26 7:00 P.M. Bell Choir	27 7:00 P.M. Study & Conversation Zoom	28	29	30
31 8:00 & 10:45 A.M. Worship 9:25 A.M. Adult Sunday School Zoom						

Does Trying Count?

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Trying counts when you're a young child and your parent or caregiver coaxes you into a "no thank you" bite of a new vegetable that has been put on your dinner plate. You can take a tiny bite of a brussels sprout or broccoli and prove you don't like it. Or, perhaps discover you do, like brussels sprout or broccoli. Either way, trying counts!

Trying counts in high school musicals where students "try out" for various parts. Not everyone will get chosen, but trying counts a lot, if you realize the practicing and preparing and, of course the courage and vulnerability it takes to put yourself out there for a part.



Trying counts in our ministry here at St. David's. In particular, I'm thinking about a few things that were planned in December that had to get cancelled because of the surge in COVID. They were all holiday related activities that many of us were looking forward to. They held the possibility of permitting some time-honored traditions to happen. How hard it was, for me, on behalf of our congregation council, to put out the word that they were cancelled. How hard and heart-breaking it was for you hear that news.

But, trying counts. Our Fellowship, Worship Committees, and Confirmation Youth worked together to plan the campfire, carols and living nativity. Even though we couldn't hold the event, it's worth noting what still did happen. Two committees worked together to generate creative ideas. They recruited others to help, which meant phone calls and texts between people that probably hadn't had much contact over the last nine months. Our youth were able to be together and rehearse the Christmas story, complete with costumes and their own creative flare. Joyce Arndt and Melissa Miller came along side of the youth to direct and help them pull it together. Kevin Barnes lent his gifts of computer assisted drafting and designed a way for people to gather around socially distanced campfires. We didn't get the chance to pull this all together in a final product. But trying counts because there was still meaningful work and connections going on.

Trying counts. It counts in the work our handbell choir has put into rehearsing, even though we had to hear them on Christmas Eve through YouTube, rather than in-person. Their trying counts because of what is happening in that small group as they spend 30-40 minutes rehearsing each week. I had the privilege of standing at the sanctuary door one night when they were rehearsing and the way in which they were in sync with each other as they played was stunning! Eight individuals played as one, with an ease and comfort that only comes with time and practice. They were preparing for Christmas, but there was a miracle happening right there as they played as one. Trying counts.



As we enter into the year 2021, our ministry will continue to adapt and change as we live with COVID and it's restrictions for a bit longer. We look for every creative opportunity to serve Christ and community. Some of those opportunities will come to fruition and result in some wonderful activity, event, or service project. Some may get planned and canceled because of whatever is happening with the virus. None it will be perfect. By trying counts. Trying counts because there is often a hidden blessing in the way we work together in the trying, reminding us again and again that together we are the body of Christ.

May these words of St. Paul in his letter to the church in Galatia encourage you as we live into 2021:

So let s not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don t give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith. (Galatians 6:9-10 from The Message)

In the joy of serving Christ and community with you,

Pastor LaDonna



WE THREE KINGS

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Digital Worship 24/7 at our YouTube Channel [<https://youtu.be/DzFjEtodAcI>]

Worship in the sanctuary remains suspended due to the high COVID rates at this time. **BUT**- you can worship in-person at our parking lot service on Sunday January 10 & 17 at 10:45 A.M. Holy Communion will be celebrated. The service will be led from the covered drop-off area and put through an FM transmitter to your car radio. You can worship (and sing!) from the warmth and comfort of your car. Plan to arrive a little early to get parked and to get your radio to the right station.

FAITH BUILDING CONVERSATION Join in for some faith-building conversation and study on Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M. The zoom link (computer or other device with camera and microphone needed) is

<https://zoom.us/j/4941025850?pwd=Y2JkdDRURXViOVJTc1pKekFUenp5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 494 102 5850

Passcode: Jesus

To join from any phone (no camera required): 301-715-8592.

Meeting ID: 494 102 5850 Passcode: 452046

Adult Sunday School

9:25 to 10:15 A.M. by Zoom

Join the class from a computer, laptop, or smartphone with this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/99817498832?pwd=ZDZYdjB1Qm03aUwxV3dsMkY1VU5zdz09>

Meeting ID: 998 1749 8832 Passcode: 017867

Jan.3rd – Jan. 31st – “Present Over Perfect” by Shauna Niequist

Are your thoughts always racing ahead to the next thing on your "to-do" list? Let Niequist take you from frantic to free! Liberating you from the pressure of perfection, she invites you to be open to God's unconditional love, focus on the present moment, and experience a deeper sense of grace, space, and connection. Shauna Niequist invites you on a journey that changed her life. She will walk a path with you, a path away from frantic pushing and proving, and toward your essential self, the one you were created to be before you began trying to prove and earn your worth.

Shauna will help you begin leaving behind busyness and to rediscover the person you were made to be. ***Present Over Perfect*** is a hand reaching out, pulling you free from the constant pressure to perform faster, push harder, and produce more, all while maintaining an exhausting image of perfection. She offers an honest account of what led her to begin this journey, and a compelling vision for an entirely new way to live: soaked in grace, rest, silence, simplicity, prayer, and connection with the people who matter to us most.

Join Shauna Niequist in this five-session, video-based Bible study that offers an invitation to a new way of living - full of grace, space, and connection.

We will meet via Zoom every Sunday morning about 9:25 to watch the video and discuss the lesson together as we grow together in our Christian journey. Please look for Zoom information on the weekly church updates and consider joining us each week for this exciting study.

COMMUNION-AT-HOME BY CONFERENCE CALL will be offered on **Sunday, January 10th at 9:45 A.M.** Prepare by setting a small table or "holy space" near your phone, with a small amount of bread and wine/juice for each person. Call this toll-free number: 844-855-4444. Then enter this access code: 3533716. Pastor LaDonna will join you on the call. She will offer a brief devotion and then bless the elements for communion.

Dear St. David's Members,

On Monday, December 27th, Pam Kemper arrived at work to discover a water leak in her office. Steps were taken to stop the leak and clean up the water that was found in Pam's office, the work room, into the hallway, and the gathering area. Our insurance company was notified, and a restoration company was contacted and began the clean-up process later that afternoon. An independent adjustor from the insurance carrier did an onsite review. The drying level of the rooms and carpet has been monitored daily. We are expecting a carpet cleaning to occur on Monday and the office will hopefully reopen on Tuesday January 5th.

We want to thank Harold Utz, Kevin Barnes, and Mack Warner for taking the lead on this situation. We were actually fortunate that the damage was not more severe.

Sincerely,
Mack Warner
Council President

COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS

At Council's December meeting, the following council members were elected to serve as officers for 2021.

Officers:

President:	Mack Warner
Vice President:	Kevin Barnes
Secretary:	Linda Rohrbaugh

Appointed by Council:

Treasurer:	Joan Barnes
Financial Secretary:	Sharon Blouse

PINK ENVELOPES FOR 2021

January – March	Pastor Discretionary Fund
April – June	Summer Lunch Program
July – September	Laundry Love
October – December	P.A.L.

Pink Envelope giving for this month benefits the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund. This fund is used to help members and those in our community when they need help paying a bill or obtaining basic necessities that are not provided by any other community agency. Disbursements are made at the confidential recommendation of the pastor and approved by the congregation council.

Monthly pink envelopes are in your offering boxes. If you use online giving or wish to give online, go to our website - www.stdavidshanover.org and click on the “donate now” button.

A note from the treasurer:

As we head into 2021, I reflect back on 2020 and am amazed at the generosity of our congregation. Your financial support has not only kept our staff employed and the church lights on, but it also allowed our church to continue its work with important community missions, such as Laundry Love, Summer Lunch Program, Adopt-A-Family, etc. And for that I thank you all.

I also want to give a special thanks to those who contributed towards the air purifiers for the sanctuary. Although we had to suspend in-person worship again for a time during this winter season, having the purifiers helped bring some of us back to in-person worship this fall. As one of those congregants that benefitted from that experience, I thank you!

Some reminders for 2021:

- If you have not updated your Vanco account recently, now is a good time to review and update any donations that are automatically withdrawn.
- For those that do not wish to have your offering automatically withdrawn, please remember that Vanco has the option to submit one-time payments. This can be done through the church website or the church app.
- For anyone looking to open a new bank account or change banks: Any member of St David’s can benefit from the church having an account with Members 1st Credit Union. At the time of opening an account, when asked if you are affiliated with an organization that has a membership with their credit union, simply reference our church: St David’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1032 Musselman Rd, Hanover PA 17331.

Thank you and God bless,
Joan

RESULTS OF OUR “VIRTUAL” CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We are pleased to report that the ballots received so far (as of 12/22/20) for our annual congregation meeting have supported our 2021 budget, as well as the election of council members, nominating committee, and audit committee. We have received 61 ballots thus far and we are still awaiting the return of a few “snail-mail” ballots. Many thanks to those who took the time to respond and care for the business of our congregation!

The specific results are as follows:

1. The congregation council recommends the adoption of the 2021 budget, published in the December Newsletter and distributed via email, in the amount of \$295,190.00.
66 yes 7 no 1 abstention
2. The congregation council recommends the election of Allyson Donovos to the congregation council for a three-year term.
65 yes 0 no 2 abstention
3. The congregation council recommends the election of the following people to the Audit Committee: Deb Kronsteiner – Year 3 of 3 Maynard Becker – Year 2 of 3 Bob Waskiewicz – Year 1 of 3
64 yes 0 no 3 abstentions
4. The congregation council recommends the election of the following people to the nominating committee: Mary Bixler, Lori Green, Tim Hartman, Joyce Arndt, and Jackie Lake.
65 yes 0 no 2 abstention

As we move into our 2021 ministry year, we do so approving a spending plan increase of 8.6% over 2020. This an act of faith, based upon what we believe God has called us to do in ministry over the next 12 months. This might be good time to evaluate whether each of us is in a position to increase our annual giving in support of this new budget. We are each blessed in different ways and it is up to each of us to prayerfully consider how we will respond.

ST. DAVID'S WINTER WEATHER POLICY:

For Sunday and weekend activities, cancellations will be communicated via our email database and through WGAL (8) television station. For weekday activities, our closure policy follows that of the Southwestern School District as long as it is in session. If the district is closed or dismisses early due to snow, all activities at the church are cancelled that day.

P.A.L. (PROVIDE-A-LUNCH)

Volunteers are needed to cook, serve the meal, and clean up after the meal on the 2nd Saturday of each month for the Hanover Area Council of Churches (HACC). Our next Saturday to serve is January 9th between the hours of 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Come for all or part of this outreach ministry. The location is 136 Carlisle Street, Hanover. Please contact Mary Bixler if you have any questions.



JANUARY ITEMS ARE: Sauerkraut, large cans of green beans, canned sweet potatoes, pasta sauces, single serve fruits, canned pears, scalloped potatoes boxes, corn bread mix beef and chicken broth, and Ziploc sandwich baggies

LAUNDRY LOVE

We have had a successful year. Every second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 P.M., our team meets at Suzi Suds on North Carlisle Street, Hanover. We greet customers and offer to pay for their laundry to be washed. While the washing is being done, there is time to visit with patrons, share some snacks, and do activities with the children. It is nice meeting our neighbors in a different way by talking to them and learning about them and their needs. We are just meeting to give everyone their money right now during COVID.



CHURCH STAFFING DURING “STAY AT HOME ORDER”

Our office administrator, Pam Kemper’s office hours will be Monday & Thursday 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and Tuesday and Wednesday 7:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. with Fridays off.

- Pastor LaDonna day off will be on Monday’s.

SPONSORSHIPS FOR ONLINE WORSHIP

Sponsorships for online worship are now being accepted. The cost is \$60 (while we are only partly worshipping in person in the pavilion, this replaces the sponsorship for bulletins, communion and worship supplies). You may sponsor as much as you want to. You can sponsor \$10, \$20, \$30. Or \$60. Sponsors will be noted in the weekly announcements and in the online worship. Please call the church office (717-632-1922) or email (stdavidlutheran@yahoo.com) to become a sponsor. These are the weeks available into the new year: January 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st.

NEW ADDRESS

Paige Adams, 324 Manor Street, Hanover, PA 17331

Charles & Barbara Sickles, 22 Eastwood Drive, Hanover, PA 17331

In Loving Memory of Alice Y Routsong

May 26, 1926 – April 13, 2020



The family of Alice Routsong would like to honor Alice in a meaningful way but we are unable to hold a celebration of life in our church because of COVID restrictions. Please take a few minutes as you read this tribute to remember Alice and the impact she had on your lives.

Alice was a compassionate and vibrant woman who always went out of her way to help others. Her caring and nurturing was seen by her family and by colleagues and patients during her nursing career. She was also known for a wonderful sense of humor.

Our mother taught us many things that remain with us today– good manners, respect and sound moral values.

Her love of the Lord guided her every day.

Her favorite scriptures were: Psalm 23 and 1Corinthians 13: 4-10.

She loved music, especially the hymns: “How Great Thou Art”

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling” “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

She wished to have this reading at her service:

Do Not Stand At My Grave and Weep

Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn's rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.

Let us pray:

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister in Christ, Alice Routsong. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. Created in your image she reflected your love, as a mother, nurse, administrator, friend and neighbor. We praise you, O God, for her witness of service, respect, laughter and joy. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(adapted from the funeral liturgy in Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved)

Alice had a request for her church choir at Bendersville United Methodist Church to sing her favorite closing song:

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

She will be missed by her family and friends, but live on in our memories.

May She Rest In Peace,

Her loving family:

Judy and Bob Fulton

Michael and Gail Routsong

Mark and Harriet Fulton

Kristin, Matt, Levi and Caleb Bevil

Ryan, Tesia and Emberlyn Fulton

Michael, Rebecca and Leah Routsong

Lois Ann Smith

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

01/02	Edna Rickrode	01/15	Jackie Lake
01/02	Eric Zwolinski	01/16	Bob Fulton
01/04	Athena Good	01/16	Kelly Honeycutt
01/04	Dave Bixler	01/22	Kathy Meckley
01/07	Joe Wise	01/23	Bob Waskiewicz
01/09	Diane Wensel	01/24	Carolyn Rodenhaber
01/09	Melissa Munk	01/25	Gladys Shearer
01/10	Nevin Garrett	01/28	Jessica Robison
01/11	Laura Zwolinski	01/29	Albanie Hersh
01/14	Ronald Hare		

THANK YOU TO:

- All who helped with donations for the Adopt-A-Family Program.
- All who have been helping with Laundry Love.
- Thank you to Joyce Arndt, Jackie Lake, Tim Hartman, Lori Green, Mary Bixler for serving on Council the last 3 to 6 years.
- Special thank you to the 2020 executive committee: Mack Warner, Charlie Evans, Linda Rohrbaugh, Joan Barnes, Sharon Blouse, and Pastor LaDonna.

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Family and Friends,
Thank you for the prayers and cards since my surgery.
Merry Christmas to you all.
Thank you
Shirley Garrett

(continued on next page)

Gre-(at)titudes

Grateful am I for "souper" leaders to shoulder the kitchen command for we shall have tasty soup. [Thank you, Deb and Michelle]

Grateful am I for vegetable cutters, chicken choppers and ham handlers for we shall make hearty and nutritious soup. [Thank you, Becky, Kevin G., Dave B., Mary, Angie, Ellen, Sue]

Grateful am I for egg peelers and dicers for tackling tedious tasks. [Thank you, Deb & Pam.]

Grateful am I for bread makers willing to loaf until late hours in the night for the result is worth the time. [Thank you, Jackie and Cindy]

Grateful am I for merry mixers and lovely ladlers for all shall be fairly fed. [Thank you Diane, and other aforementioned elves]

Grateful am I for soup runners, order pickers, and money handlers for all shall run smoothly.

[Thank you, Sandy & Larry, Dave K. and Joan]

Grateful am I for the willingness of youth to pitch in and help for they are the future of things to come. [Thank you, Christy and Jillian]

Thank you to all who purchased soup and bread - we had a successful sale and raised a nice sum of money for our "Adopt a Family" program.

Cindy Blum, Christmas Bazaar Chairwoman

Dear Family & Friends,

Dave and I would like to thank you for the cards, prayers and phone calls while Dave was off for hand surgery.

Dave & I would also like to thank everyone for Christmas cards, candy, cookies, money and gift cards for Christmas.

Dave & I hope that each of you had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Years.

Thank you

Dave & Pam Kemper

The Utz Family would like to Thank everyone for all the cards and Birthday wishes for Margie's 90th Birthday. She loved her porch visits also..

Thank you again

Miss you all

The Utz Family

WE ARE PRAYING FOR

- **PRAYING FOR** our teachers and children that are attending school.
- **COMFORT AND PEACE FOR** the family of Robert Sullivan, who died Saturday, January 2nd. Robert is an uncle to Sandy Wildasin, Julie Shadle, and Marilyn Redding.
- **COMFORT AND PEACE FOR** Faye Ann Swayze's family, who died on December 29th, cousin of Pam Kemper
- **COMFORT AND PEACE FOR** Sharon Blouse and family on the passing of her grandmother.
- **COMFORT AND PEACE FOR** the family of Lee Jolley, who has passed away.

FOR THOSE RECEIVING PASTORAL VISITATION AT HOME:

Ethel Meckley, Gladys Shearer, Millie Miller, Tony Laughman, Edna Rickrode, Ada Mancha, Kiki Beyer, Joyce & David Plank, Ann Hempfing, Dorothy Grogg, Mary Wildasin, Clyde & Reda Gotwalt, Charles & Barbara Sickles, and Margie Utz.

FOR HEALING & STRENGTH

Cindy Blum, Jackie Lake, Mary Kessler, Dave Kemper, Jim Wertz, Ann Seitz Brown, Patsy Stevens, Doris Saltzgiver, Shirley Garrett, Brian Kopp, Arlene Kopp, Angela Kieny, Frank & Hazel George, Kim Laughman, Harold Utz, Dave & Darlene Barnhart, Deb Klinedinst, Melvin & Marjorie Wentz, Hilda Schuchart, Suzie Luks, Kaleb Trump, Travis Trump, Tom Phillips, Sunny Blouse, Ryan Laughman, George Hesse, Brock Beckham, Allison Trump, Tim Kurtz, Tim Lawrence, Sherry Bentzel, Diane Baumgardner, Dan Webber, Debbie Halleran, Bea Reynolds, Andrew Staub, Alicia Gauger, Vanessa Mummert, Rosemary Gamber, Tom Landis, Harold & Shirley Kessler, Millie Lester, Brian Donovan, , Moira Parkin, Larry Lee, Russ Zumbum, Sue Cannon, Anita Talbott, Peg Bennett-Elder, Vikki Rhodes, Julie Smith-Meyer, Mariacalica Laffan, , and George Hauck.