

The Cornerstone

October 2026

St. David's Episcopal Church
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From John's Desk

I'm excited! I get to go on a new adventure with you for the next few months. We will explore together what it means to be priest and congregation in Laurinburg today.

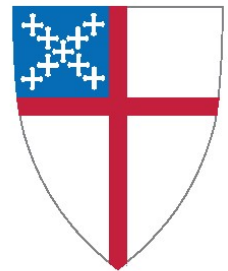
I began my journey in 1964 ago in Dallas, TX where my father was in seminary studying at SMU to become a United Methodist minister. I can imagine life for a family of a newborn in a studio apartment in a Dallas summer - and I am surprised we all made it! As my dad's career as an UMC pastor progressed his bishop moved him from church to church and town to town. I tend to tell people that I'm from either Goldthwaite, TX (where we lived from '72 to '76) or from Austin, TX (where I went to High School). But in reality I'm from Gordon and Clarice Talk's best efforts at making a home in the midst of transition.

I went to college at Centenary College of Louisiana in Shreveport, LA in part because my parents and all my aunts and uncles went there (and evidently I had no imagination) and in part because I received a scholarship for my tuition. While there I didn't think of myself as particularly studious - yet somehow I graduated with 60 more hours than was required through the simple expedient of maxing out my hours every semester and going to summer school every year. After all, if they were paying for it, why not take advantage of it?

Graduating from college I knew (but did not accept) that I was called into ordained ministry. I also knew that I was not part of the United



Methodist Church any more. I of course took a sharp turn and went to Law School. While there I was given the gift of a friend who was an Episcopalian. George introduced me to Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Houston where I found home. Even today I couldn't tell you what attracted me to the church beyond that simple phrase. I had found home. Even though I had found my people I was still deeply resistant to God's idea that I should be ordained. I could find almost any reason not to go to seminary. Yet, eventually and through various twists and turns Bishop Herbert Thompson of Southern Ohio put his hands on my head and ordained me priest. As his curate he appointed me to two jobs, first as a full time chaplain in a low income senior and disabled persons housing project a ministry of the diocese owned, and second as a quarter time vicar at St. Mary's church in Waynesville, Ohio.



St. Mary's was trying to figure out who they wanted to be. Waynesville was a little bit off the beaten path, a town of about 2500 people with it's own culture and history that was slowly becoming something it hadn't been before - a distant suburb of Cincinnati and Dayton. While I was there we started to experiment trying different things out simply to see what would happen. Some of the things we did were less than successful - a Blessing of the Motorcycles when none of us rode motorcycles! Other projects - becoming the storage and distribution space for the town's clothing bank were.

While there Shelly and I were married. I was suddenly a husband and a stepfather to four daughters. Soon enough I was also the father to our son. Financial exigencies required my career

progression! So off I went to three other rectorships and an interim position.

Now I come to you for a period of exploration and experimentation. The Vestry of St. David's and I have decided to spend the next six months working together to see what a quarter time vicarage might look like in Laurinburg today. How can we work together as a community and priest to further God's kingdom? What does an active commitment to love, grace, and forgiveness look like in this time that seems so divided?

I don't know, but am excited to find out.

In Peace,
John+

Words from the Senior Warden

I am pleased to announce that after our years of patience, our call has been answered. We have a ¼ time Vicar. Please welcome the Rev. John Talk from Southern Pines and his wife Shelly. His Sunday schedule will be to be with us on the Second and on the fourth Sunday of each month. Please read his introduction on the first page. Let's welcome them at coffee hour on 10/11. Anyone willing to bring something to share and help Donna Wilson at coffee hour is encouraged to do so.

Carolyn Beranek
Senior Warden

THANK YOU

Mechille Chavis for doing altar for September
Carol Whitehead and Carolyn Beranek for taking care of our Sunday linens
Our coffee hour hosts who draw us to fellowship after worship on Sundays
All who participated in The Day of Caring for Scotland County on 9/11
Lee Harris for assembling the bell tables in the office building for rehearsals

Disclaimer:

The views expressed in these newsletter articles are those of the author only.

Happy Birthday!

October 7 Anne Goodwin
October 8 Erin Moore
October 16 Kevin Moore
October 18 Teresa Wilcox
October 26 Velvadena Chavis
October 30 Skip Cark, Lattie Glenn
October 31 Gary Tremblay

Contributions for The Cornerstone

The Cornerstone deadline is the 19th of each month. All articles are invited. Please email articles to bonnieglenn@gmail.com. The Cornerstone editor is Bonnie Glenn.

What's New Around Our Church?

1. Our parish hall floor has been cleaned, waxed, and polished.
2. Our office printer died, so we purchased a new one.
3. The bells are now rehearsing in the "Youth Room" (formerly the nursery).
4. Our "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You" signs are updated at Church St. and
5. Covington St. at Main St. The sign in front of the church is updating soon.
6. The front window lights (facing Azure St.) are installed.
7. The organ is completely in place.

Carolyn Beranek



St. David's Donation

On September 9, 2026 Mechille Chavis presented a donation of \$615.00 on behalf of St. David's to Kristy Ruscoe of Family Promise of Scotland County.



Volunteers Needed

1. Person(s) needed to wash and iron communion linens (training provided).
2. Person(s) needed on altar guild to help prepare altar for Sunday worship.
3. Since Jan Soles died, we are short a person. Training provided, and can work as part of a team to learn.
4. Person(s) needed to lead Compline over Zoom on Wednesdays. Carolyn will open the Zoom link and the volunteer would lead the service from the Book of Common Prayer.

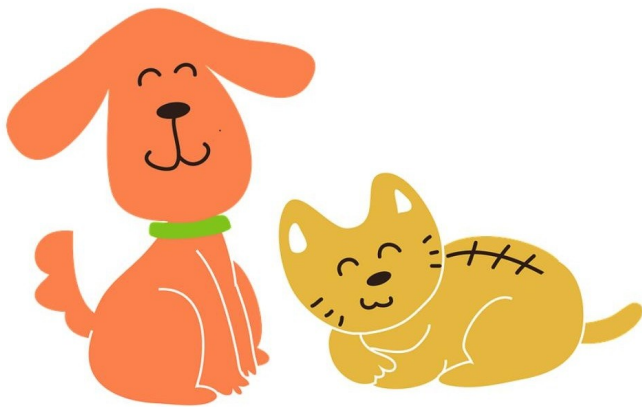
Carolyn Beranek

Dates to Remember

October 11, 18, 25 – Holy Eucharist, 11am

October 4 - Blessing of the Animals, 3pm

October 24 – Lunatic Society Meeting, 6pm



Lunatic Society Meeting

Come join us on October 24, 2026 for the Lunatic Society Meeting. The evening will begin with a potluck dinner followed by the entertainment you present. The theme for the evening is "What Soothes You?" This is your invitation to an evening of fun fellowship.

Bonnie Glenn

Pet Blessing

Our 40th (plus) Pet Blessing will be on the labyrinth on Sunday afternoon on October 4 at 3pm. Please bring all animals on a leash or caged. In case of rain, we will go into the Parish Hall. Rev. Linda Nelson and Rev. Kellie Gallagher will be leading the service.

Carolyn Beranek



October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Friday Highland Fling, McDuffie Square, 5:30-9pm	3 Scotland County Highland Games, 8am-5pm
4 Christian Formation, 10am Morning Prayer, 11am Blessing of the Animals, 3pm	5	6	7 Compline via Zoom, 7pm	8	9	10 John Blue Festival, 8am-5pm
11 Christian Formation, 10am Holy Eucharist, 11am Welcome Coffee Hour for Rev. Talk, 12noon	12 Indigenous Peoples' Day	13	14 Parish Potluck, "Fall Flavors" 6pm Compline, 7pm	15	16 Sky High Expo, Laurinburg/Max ton Airport	17 Sky High Expo, Laurinburg/Max ton Airport
18 Christian Formation, 10am Holy Eucharist, 11am	19 Church Newsletter Deadline	20	21 Compline via Zoom, 7pm	22	23	24
25 Christian Formation, 10am Holy Eucharist, 11am Vestry, 12:30pm	26	27	28 Compline via Zoom, 7pm	29	30	31 Halloween



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