

# Weekly Announcements September 3

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## Saint David's Episcopal Church

Elkhart, Indiana

1964

*3 September 2017*

# Weekly Announcements



## Weekly Reflections

### Water of Death - Water of Life

*"In the beginning, when God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep, and the Spirit (the wind) of God was moving over the face of the waters." (Gen 1:1-2)*

**Our story of creation begins with chaos in darkness and waves of endless waters. But God took steps to subdue the chaos. First, the light was introduced, then the waters swelled and fell with the pull of the moon. The waters were then separated by land and sky, where the springs, and rains, the ice, and dew, began to give life to the world. Waters of death became**

**waters of life.**

**Last Wednesday, as part of our Renewal of Ministry we reaffirmed our vows in the baptismal covenant and were sprinkled with the waters of the font. The waters of baptism represent the waters of chaos subdued by God in creation, the flood, the parting sea. They represent the death of Christ and our death in him. But it is from that death that life springs forth. We now move with the power of living water. We are refreshed and blessed from the overflowing spring of grace and the love of God through resurrection into new life.**

**Over the last week, Hurricane Harvey has wreaked havoc over much of the western and central Gulf coast, Texas, and Houston reeling most in the aftermath. The Philippines too are being drowned by this year's devastating monsoon season. Over the last few months, our country and our world have on countless occasions seen best, through hatred, fear, and anger, to divide, cast a shadow, and harbor chaos in the darkness. The waters are waters of death. But now is our opportunity to bring light into the darkness, live into our vows, and allow God to use us to turn waters of death into waters of life.**

**As I have checked in with friends each day in Houston, many of whom have lost everything, I see glimmers of light through the storm clouds. Though tired and confused themselves, they are working to support those worse off. Refusing sleep to make sure others are taken care of seeking ways to bring order to the chaos. Brethren helping each other, and enemies coming together, setting aside differences and working for the common good. This is a vision of holiness; when we realize that we are all one; when we gird our loins, grab towel and basin, and become servants to each other.**

**In these early days, the best we can do is offer our prayers and love, while channeling what we have to those places it may be put to the best and quickest use. To that end, I commend to you, as has our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and Diocesan Bishop Doug Sparks, to give to Episcopal Relief and Development. The clean up will be long, and for many, this will be a time of learning to live in a new normal. Over the next few weeks and months, I will be in discussion with my contacts in the Gulf and the Diocese to find other ways we may offer our resources and support. But for now, I encourage you to give and keep the faith. Love one another and do not fear.**

**May the peace of Christ be with you all, as we work together to expand the heavenly vision, calming the seas, seeking light in the darkness, and bringing order to the chaos. Amen.**

**Joshua+**

### **THIS WEEK AT SAINT DAVID'S**

***Wednesday, 6 September  
6 pm Community Meal***

***Wednesday, 6 September  
7 pm Mid-Week Mass***

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***New Schedule:*** Sunday, 10 September, we will return to the academic year

**NEW SCHEDULE.** Sunday, 10 September, we will return to the academic year schedule. This will include 8 AM Mass (no music); 9 AM Choir, and Christian Formation, 10 AM Mass (with music).

\*\*\* note: Sunday 24 September: We will only have ONE Mass at 10 AM out at Cobus Creek Park, immediately followed by our annual parish picnic.

**RENEWAL OF MINISTRY & INSTALLATION OF PRIEST-IN-CHARGE:** Thank you to all who participated in and provided for the special mass on Wednesday night. It was a night full of joy and anticipation as we officially begin a new season in ministry together with Fr Joshua as Priest-in-Charge.

**St John's Food Pantry:** Last week we delivered nine full bags of collected food items to the mission at St John's Food Pantry. Let us continue to support this ministry, watching as God makes much of little, as we give in return what has come from His hands.

Special thanks to JoAnn Vance for her work in the parish office, and to Cynthia Guzzo and Mike Jacka for work on repair and cleaning in the nave.

### **ON THE MORROW**

#### **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 10 September**

8:00 am: Mass

9:00 am Christian Formation

10:00 am Mass

#### **Tuesday, 12 September**

6:00 pm: Vestry Meeting

#### **Wednesday, 13 September**

7:00 pm: Mid-Week Mass

Eve of Holy Cross

## **IN OTHER NEWS**

### **ACOLYTE, SERVER, AND READER SCHEDULE**

We are looking into developing a Rotating Schedule, or ROTA for Sunday services in the months of September, October, November, and December. According to the Book of Common Prayer and the Catechism, **THE PEOPLE** are the First ministers of the Church. With this in mind, it is important to encourage active involvement in



the liturgy and our weekly worshipping life together. There are many opportunities to serve in the Liturgy, and it is not healthy to rely only on the services of a few individuals. Please discern whether or not you may feel called to one of the following:



**Crucifer**  
**Server**  
**Lay Reader**  
**Prayers of the People (Read at 8 AM, Sung at 10 AM)**  
**Chalice Bearer**  
**Torch Bearer**  
**Thurifer**

If so, I encourage you to follow the [LINK](#) and fill out the corresponding google form or speak with Fr Joshua directly in the next few weeks. You do not need to have had experience in the various modes of service, we will be happy to teach you.



**MASS ON THE MOOR & PARISH PICNIC**  
***Sunday, 24 September 2017***

On the XVI Sunday after Pentecost, our community of Saint David's will meet at Cobus Creek Community Park at 10 AM, where we will celebrate the Holy Mass in the midsts of God's glorious creation, followed by the annual Parish Picnic. Click on the link for more information about what is available to us at [Cobus Creek Park](#) and click on the picture of the pavilion for directions from the church. Family and Friends are welcome.

*GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD*

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