

**Report of the Music Director**  
**St. David's Episcopal Church**  
For Annual Meeting, 29 January 2023

The Music Ministry at St. David's has been greatly paired back since the Covid lockdown, which began in March of 2020, due to several factors. Attempts to continue the youth choir failed in the face of aging participants and difficulty scheduling sufficient rehearsal time. The hand chime choir was discontinued with the lockdown. While the choir has returned after a yearlong hiatus, their participation has been limited to hymn leading and offertory anthems as of now. As of this writing, the music ministry is functioning, but needs some new energy in the form of additional members as soloists, ringers, and choristers.

The choir is present at the 10:30 AM Sunday Holy Eucharist and at all special services from Labor Day weekend through Pentecost Sunday (except for the third Sunday of each month). Membership is holding steady at 11, down from its pre-Covid numbers. This is due, in large part, to illness and death among its members, as well as members moving from the area. Attempts are being made to recruit new members and bring back pre-Covid members who have not returned. The choir has been blessed, on several occasions, with several visiting singers who have sat in and continue to do so as they are able.

Dana and Kirsten Book continue to provide the offertory anthem on the third Sunday of each month year-round. This valuable, and greatly appreciated ministry allows our choir members who serve on the altar guild to fully participate in that ministry. Additionally, St. David's has greatly benefitted from the added participation of Susan Farmer and Ann Palmer, who have provided special music and run the recorded hymns and mass settings when business and/or family issues have called the music director out of town. The congregation has been blessed, during the summer months and prior to the return of the choir, with several talented vocal and instrumental soloists. These blessings have come from within the ranks of the choir and from the parish at large. Occasionally, we have enjoyed guest soloists from outside our parish, as well.

The children/youth music ministry is on hold at present, as current numbers and levels of interest do not support such a ministry at this time. However, the need and desire to resume this program will be regularly assessed in hopes of being able to restart in the future. Likewise, plans to resume the hand chime choir are in the works. Scheduling of rehearsals and level of comfort continue to be issues, but hopefully, the group can be underway again in the next few months.

The music program at St. David's is coming back, albeit slowly. Rebuilding what has been lost in the last three years will take time, energy, and a lot of hard work. It is, however do-able with the right kind of support. Any parishioner who might be interested in any form of musical involvement should contact Dr. Baker-Lampe or the church office. All are welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Kristi Baker-Lampe, Director of Music  
St. David's Episcopal Church