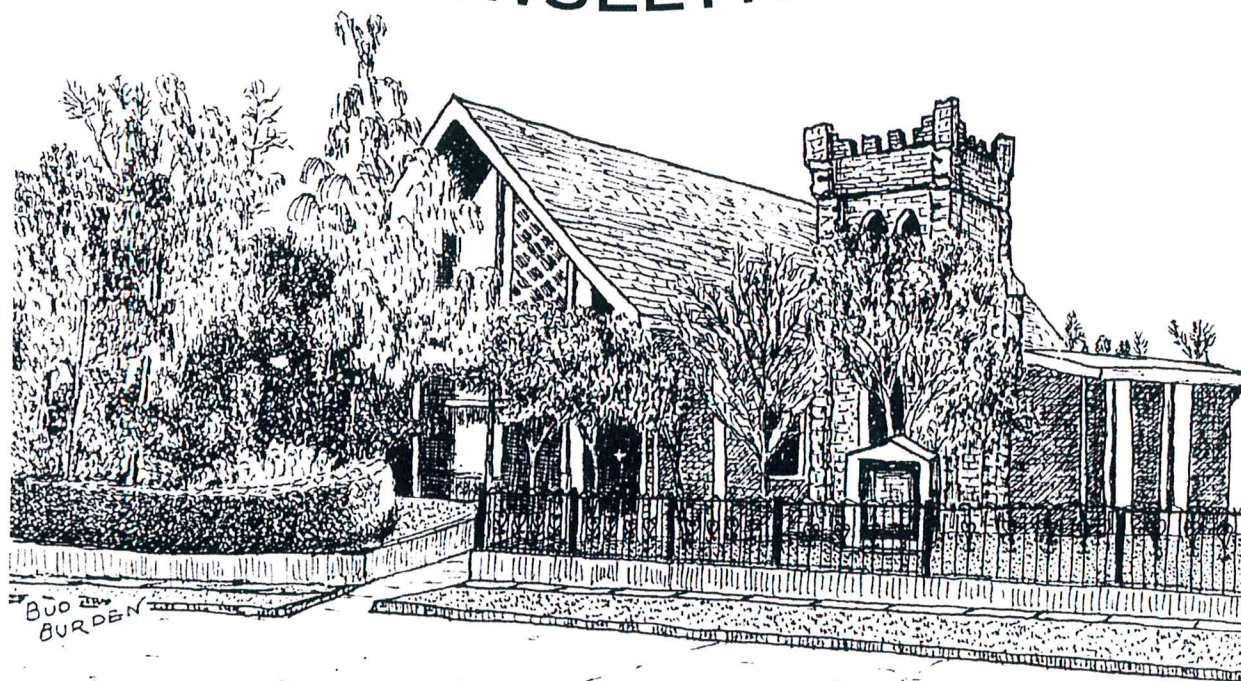


THE
Parish Grier



Saint Barnabas
NEWSLETTER



SECOND EDITION
FALL 2019

The Blessing of the Animals

*O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom, you have made them all;
The earth is full of your creatures.
Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
Creeping things innumerable are there,
Living things both small and great. (Psalm 104:24-25)*

I must admit, the annual Blessing of the Animals service is among my favourite worship services of the year. There are a variety of reasons for this. Perhaps the root of my enthusiasm lies in the fact that it provides a unique “energy” or atmosphere, a mix of unpredictability, goodwill and openness that is generated by the addition of cats, dogs, lizards, birds, fish, favourite stuffed animals, joyful pet owners and congregation to the sanctuary.

It is satisfying to give the creatures their due as beloved members of God’s world. So often we are preoccupied with the affairs and priorities of the human community that we neglect to appreciate the fact that we are indeed only one species, and that we share this planet with those beings which are “small and great”.

The Blessing of the Animals service has also afforded us many opportunities to connect with members of our neighbourhood who have visited us for the first time because they wanted to bring their pet to St. Barnabas to be blessed. What a wonderful possibility to extend the hospitality of the church to those around us!

Over the many years that I have been conducting these services, there are moments which stand out, and particular creatures which will remain forever in my memory: Monty, the beagle who would lie prostrate in front of the altar; Farrah the ferret, who would poke her head out of her owner’s backpack to receive a blessing; the Bichon Frise who nipped my finger; the cat who flipped onto her back and offered her tummy to be blessed.



There was one parishioner in my previous parish who was so taken with this service that, when her baby was ready to be baptised, she asked if this could coincide with the Blessing of the Animals.

Instead of the font, we borrowed a birdbath, and when the child was baptised and “marked as Christ’s own forever,” we presented her to the congregation with applause from the humans, and excited barking and mewing from the animal guests.

This fall our Blessing of the Animals service will take place on September 29th at 10:15 am. I look forward to sharing this experience with you, and giving thanks to God for the rich variety that makes up our world!

Kersi

Saint Barnabas Anglican Church

Reverend Kersi Bird - Incumbent
Harry Maharaj – Rector’s Warden
David Parker - Assistant Rector’s Warden
Angie Martinac – People’s Warden
Lisa Mitchell – Assistant People’s Warden

Parish Council Members:
Archibald Adams, David Dickinson, Joy Halvorson
Matthew Jones, Rick Wards

Newsletter Editors
David Dickinson, David Parker, Gloria McCracken

Continuing History of St. Barnabas:

The Turbulent War Years

We are now at the year 1912 and the parish of St. Barnabas is thriving under its new rector.

The Rev. E.E. Winter, who had been curate-in-charge, retired and it was some months before the Rev. H. Montgomery was appointed rector and took charge in March 1913.

With the outbreak of the World War I, attendance at St. Barnabas rapidly declined with a large number of parishioners enlisting for service. At a vestry meeting in August, the rector reported that 105 men of the parish were away serving in the armed forces. Soon after that, the rector was appointed Garrison Chaplain and was later sent overseas.

In 1916, the Rev. I. P. Dingle served as interim priest until 1917, when the Rev. H. Tully Montgomery was placed in charge.

Among those lost in active service was Thomas Riley, eldest son of Ezra and Harriet Riley. He died on October 26, 1917 at Passchendaele. (A plaque inside the church on the west wall commemorates his service.)

In early 1919, the Rev. W. Simpson was appointed rector and had the task of building up the parish once again following the effects that the war had taken. Soon after, he was appointed Western Field Secretary to the General Board of Religious Education. He relinquished his incumbency at St. Barnabas but continued to reside in the parish and willingly gave his services on many occasions.

The Rev. W. Simpson was succeeded by the Rev. H.M. Henderson in early 1921. It was during his time that the mission of St. Cyprian was established and became an affiliated institution to St. Barnabas, however, with the growing development of the Capitol Hill district, St. Cyprian eventually became a separate parish.

On June 11, 1929 the Rev. George A. C. Biddle was inducted rector of the parish. With the continued growth of the Hillhurst district, demands on St. Barnabas increased and more adequate facilities for the Sunday school and weekly activities became of greater importance. In September 1932, the lower floor of the new parish hall was opened. With this much needed extra space, various organizations grew and flourished.

The first parish hall was constructed in 1910 and served the old church. No documentation is available. It was demolished in 1932 to make way for a new structure which was officially opened in September, providing facilities for the Sunday school and Scout activities.

The new parish hall was constructed, strangely enough, underground. Money was tight around this time and it was thought that the excavation would bring some revenue from the sale of the sand thought to be under the proposed site. As sand was scarce in Calgary, the sand could be sold to the local building industry, bringing in some much-needed revenue to the parish. Most of the deposit created by the river contained too much loam to be of any use.

The only sand quarry was northwest in the area known today as Shaganappi. Access to the hall was through a door at the northwest end. There was no access from inside the church, so parishioners were forced to walk outside from the church and enter through a separate door. The first level was reached via a few stairs which contained washrooms and the furnace room. To reach the hall, one continued down a few more stairs to the ground. The floor was constructed of concrete and forms the present-day parish hall floor. The roof of the hall was flat and tarred.

The founder of St. Barnabas, Ezra Hounsfield Riley, passed away on January 5, 1937 at the age of 70 and is buried in Union Cemetery.

Another member of the Riley family who should be mentioned at this point is Margaret Louise Riley, daughter of Ezra and Harriet Riley, who joined the Calgary Public Library in 1930 and became the assistant librarian in 1930. In 1949, she published two children's books, "Mystery Horse" in 1950 and "Train for Tiger Lily" 1954 and a novel for adults, "One Happy Moment," in 1951. Louise passed away in 1957. In her honour, the branch of the Calgary Public Library at 14 Avenue NW in Hounsfield Heights was named.

In 1933 after a period of four years, the Rev Biddle was succeeded by the Rev. J. M. Roe who remained at St. Barnabas until 1941. These were the years of the Great Depression. Parishioners experienced great anxiety and attendance fell, causing the parish to suffer heavily. Despite difficulties, however, the spirit of fellowship prevailed. As if things were not bad enough, another great disaster was to befall the world, the outbreak of World War II.

At the beginning of the war, the Rev. Roe joined the chaplaincy service of the armed forces.

The vacancy in the parish was filled by the Rev. R.J. Pierce who was at the time in the Diocese of British Columbia. While his stay at St. Barnabas was short, he did a great deal to gain interest among the young people. It was largely through his efforts that in 1942 the parish installed a pipe organ in the church as a memorial to the faithful members of the parish

now departed.

The two-manual organ, which continues to provide music accompaniment each week, was manufactured by Casavant, of Quebec.

Unfortunately, we lost the Rev Pierce when he accepted the position of warden of St. John's College, Winnipeg and later became the Bishop of Athabasca.

In 1941, the parish purchased its first permanent rectory which was on 13 Street NW.

In 1942, the first Scout hall was built to accommodate the 6th Calgary St. Barnabas of Scout Group. Canada. With increasing membership because the Scout group at Hillhurst United Church closed, however, the Scout hall quickly became inadequate. In 1950 the building was sold to the Langevin community and a new, much larger, two-level hall was constructed. Membership was in excess of 200. The upper part of the new Scout hall was used as the Sunday school.

In 1943, the Rev. Canon J. E. Birchall was appointed as incumbent to St. Barnabas and under his direction the church continued to progress. Both of his boys, Rodney and Frankie, were enrolled in Scouts.

Following World War II, the whole city was confronted with tremendous development. The area north of the Bow River and west of Centre Street more than doubled in population and, due to this growth, the parish was faced with many new problems, mostly from the lack of space. The Sunday school quickly outgrew the available accommodation in spite of auxiliary branches.

In 1947, oak panelling with matching reredos was installed as a memorial to the members of the congregation who gave their lives in World War II. At the same time, a gift of an altar, lectern and pulpit were given by Mrs. Maude A. Riley in memory of her husband Harold W. Riley.

Eventually in 1952, a generous grant from the Government of Alberta provided funds which enabled an upper storey to be built onto the parish hall. It was thought at that time that this would provide adequate space for junior activities within

the parish.

In 1955, as though to signify the end of an era, the original bell given to the church by the late Ezra H. Riley in memory of his brother William became cracked and ceased to function. A plan to replace it with a set of carillon bells was suggested and supported and were dedicated on St. Barnabas Day, June 11, 1956.

Half a century has passed and the Riley family would very pleased to see how St. Barnabas has grown. At the 50th anniversary, the parish roll listed 600 families, a population of 2,500 with a Sunday school enrolment of over 500.

Scouts had been with us since 1925 and were well established at close to 200 registered members. Girl Guides under Mrs. W. Young and Brownies under Mrs. A.E. Crooks were now included in the parish organizations

On Sunday June 10, 1956 special anniversary services were held beginning with 8:00 am communion followed by Matins at 11.00 am. The guest preacher was the Rt. Rev Reginald Pierce, Bishop of Athabasca, previously rector at St. Barnabas from 1941 to 1943.

At the same time in the parish hall, an anniversary service was held for all Sunday school departments associated with the parish. At 7:30 pm, a festive evensong took place.

On Monday June 11, St. Barnabas Day, celebrations continued with Holy Communion at 7:00 am and at 7:30 pm a special evensong and the dedication of the carillon bells took place. The Rt. Rev. George R. Calvert, Bishop of Calgary, was present.

To be continued....

David Dickinson

Special thanks to William Butt for providing information pertaining to Scouts.

Tulip Time

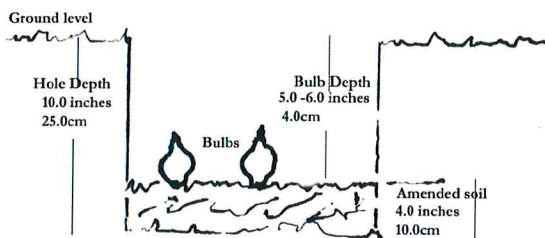
I write this article following several discussions with people who have either had failure or disappointing results with spring tulips. Success will bring that

spring colour which so many of us enjoy after a long winter. This is my method; I hope it works for you.

Location: If you chose a sheltered sunny location your bulbs will produce flowers earlier than those in a shady open exposure. Bear in mind, plants in a full sun location will have a shorter life than those in a partially shaded location.

Choose the bulbs: Purchase a pre-packed bag of imported Dutch bulbs. The image on the package will show you the flower the bulb will produce. If you select from open bins they may have been picked over and not be as illustrated. Pre-packed bags will usually contain six bulbs. Tulips always look better in groups of the same variety than planted at random.

Prepare the ground: Dig a circular hole 10 ins (25 cm) deep and about 9 ins (22 cm) in diameter, this will accommodate six bulbs comfortably. Save the soil to a wheelbarrow for easy amending. Mix into the saved soil some good compost approximately 10%, I use Sea Soil – Original, available at garden stores for around \$10.00 per 35 lb bag. Place some of the amended soil in the bottom of the hole to a depth of 4 inches (10 cm) Next, add a couple of handfuls of bone meal and cover with a thin layer, approximately 0.5 inch (1 cm) of your amended soil.



Carefully press the bulbs, the correct way up into the soil around the bottom outside edge of the hole approximately 4 inches apart and one in the centre. Pressing them into the soil will prevent them from falling over when you back fill the hole.

Now use the remainder of your amended soil to fill the hole. Firm lightly and water well.

It is important that the bulb establishes a root system before the ground freezes, so plan on planting by mid-September.

Note: Don't make a hole with a trowel or with a small auger that nurseries sell. It is essential that the bulb has good drainage and good nutrition.

At five to six inches deep, the bulb will be safe from predators, however, in the spring when the shoots appear, you will need to protect them from predators with a net or wire mesh.

Bulbs planted the way I have described may remain where they are for three years after which they will need to be divided and replanted. Good Luck.

David Dickinson



Who's sitting in the pew over there?

Joan Wilson can be found almost every Sunday sitting in the same pew, enjoying a St. Barnabas service with the same demeanour she has shown throughout her long time as a parishioner. She began attending the church in 1954, which makes her one of the longest active members of our congregation.

Joan has an interesting family history as she was born in Calgary, moved with her parents and six siblings to England, and returned as a war bride.

Her late husband David, who passed away in 2009, joined the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals during the war and met his future wife while serving in England.

Joan grew up in the village of Bromham where her father was sidesman at the Church of England. She went to school in Devizes where she also started her nursing during WWII, and then went on to Bath Hospital to earn her SRN.

She made the big decision to



become a war bride and joined David in Calgary in 1948 and they were married in St. Stephen's Church. They moved to the North Hill and attended St. Michael's. It is our good fortune that, after buying a house in Briar Hill, where Joan still lives - at the huge sum at the time of \$13,000 - they made the move to St. Barnabas.

They had two children; one is a retired Calgary lawyer and the younger lives in Vancouver where he followed his father's footsteps and works as a cameraman in the performing arts industry.

Asked if she was ever "involved" in the church Joan replied with a smile, "I was on the Altar Guild for 45 years."

David worked at the Jubilee Auditorium for 35 years, starting his career as a projectionist and finishing responsible for stage management. One of the perks was complimentary tickets and Joan has enjoyed a good number of the productions staged at the Jubilee over those many years. Asked for a favourite, she says she loved many, but "Les Misérables" tops the lot.

Joan beams as she says she has enjoyed a good, long life and loves her church. "I have been at St. Barnabas for 65 years, and it doesn't matter to me who the rector is - pause to tell how much she appreciates Kersi - what order of service is held, what kind of music is sung, I'm here to worship and enjoy the church community."

Commonwealth Day

St. Barnabas celebrated Pentecost and the 70th anniversary of the formation of the Commonwealth of Nations on June 9 in a memorable service that began with our organist Margaret Kosa playing an inspiring selection accompanied by Chris Morrison, lead trumpeter of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra.

The procession was led by children carrying the St. Barnabas banner - made by Susan Marasco's grandmother Elsie MacDonald some years ago - and a new quilted banner, crafted by Angela Wards using a gold crown surrounded by a circle of red, white, and blue to represent the Union Jack, and a

border featuring colours from the 53 commonwealth countries.

Among the many highlights of the service was a message from Lt. Gov. Lois Mitchell, "An introduction to the Commonwealth" presented by Deanne Dare, scripture reading in French by Dona Filewych (granddaughter of Rev. Eric and Amelia Haffenden) and some joyous singing by the members of the African United Methodist church who worship in our upper hall. We were all moved by the rendition of "Amazing Grace" in their local Zimbabwean language.

Our congregation was asked to wear their national costumes, with Kemi Ayodele looking wonderful in her colourful Nigerian dress.

The service was followed by a great lunch comprised of dishes from many different countries, followed by entertainment by the Scottish Dancers who have been using the church hall for practice since 1963.

Many thanks to Deanne Dare and her helpers for organizing such an impressive celebration of the Commonwealth of Nations, an association of independent and sovereign states totalling 2.4 billion citizens of the world's largest, smallest, richest, and poorest countries.



The Memorial Corner

Our church honours those who gave their lives during WWI, WWII, and the War in Afghanistan with plaques and memorials. This section of our newsletter is dedicated to providing some insight into those we commemorate so we can know them a little better.

Born in Southampton, England, Henry Fletcher was living in Calgary working as a clerk when World War 1 broke out. He enlisted in February 1916 and served as a private in the Alberta Regiment, as part of the Canadian Infantry - 50th Battalion. In April

1917, the four divisions of the Canadian Army came together under Canadian command for the first time, to launch the offensive to take and hold Vimy Ridge. On April 10, Henry's battalion attacked and achieved all objectives, despite heavy and strong enemy resistance. Henry died that day, one of almost 11,000 casualties suffered by the Canadian Army over the four days of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. He was single, the son of Beatrice Fletcher of Calgary. Henry was 20 years old.

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."

Doug Noullett



In her first sermon after summer vacation, the Rev. Kersi told us about a sign outside a church she attended that read: "We are spiritual and religious." We should all take the opportunity to experience other churches while on vacation, good to experience other forms of worship.

My wife and I had the pleasure of worshipping in the Roman Catholic cathedral in Bayonne, France, although we do not understand French, and then in the massive cathedral in San Sebastian where we had a double dose. After participating as best we could in the mass - in either Spanish or Basque - it was raining so hard we sat through a second. Passing of the Peace was a treasured moment and to sit between walls soaked for centuries in prayer was really moving.

We'd like you to share your experiences of visiting other churches.

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Excited about England winning the Cricket World

Cup had me thinking about David Sheppard, Anglican Bishop of Liverpool, opening batsman who played in 22 test matches scoring 24 centuries and was elevated to captain his side in 1954.

Particularly involved in the church's social justice he said, "The one thing in scripture about judgement which is absolutely clear and without dispute, is that God judges us on how we treat the anawin: the poor, needy, destitute, downtrodden, and marginalized."

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Many people want to serve God – but only as advisors.

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The death of a great Canadian, Jean Vanier, earlier this year resulted in a huge amount of media coverage; I hope many people read the excellent printed obituaries. The son of a Governor General of Canada might have been expected to live an establishment life, but he spent a half century helping to improve conditions for the intellectually disabled and founded L'Arche in France as a home he lived in with two former residents of an asylum. A devout Roman Catholic, observers described his theology as one of simple, tender acts. Today there are some 147 L'Arche communities in 35 countries.

Vanier was quoted as saying, "The most important thing is not to do things for people who are poor and in distress, but to enter into a relationship with them, to be with them, and help them find confidence in themselves and discover their own gifts."

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"Once I believed there was a God, I saw no other course than to serve him." – Charles de Foucauld



Lift Dedication

Our new lift was dedicated in memory of George Kurian, lovingly remembered by his family. We thank Susannah and the late George Kurian for their generosity in providing this necessary piece of equipment to make our parish accessible for everyone.



Education for Ministry

Congratulations to Jim and Susan Norwood who graduated from the EfM program in June.

Welcome to St. Barnabas

We welcome the Rev. Jerrod McCormack to St. Barnabas as a new honorary, non-stipendiary priest who will be worshipping with us and taking an occasional service.

Jerrod came to Calgary four years ago from Tennessee where he was a pastor in the United Methodist Church. While serving as youth minister at St. Peter's in Calgary, he completed his training as a hospital chaplain and for the past year has worked as chaplain at Alberta Children's Hospital. Jerrod's hobbies include hiking in our beautiful Rocky Mountains and photography.

On June 22, 2019, Jerrod was ordained into the Anglican Church of Canada by Archbishop Greg Kerr-Wilson. We look forward to getting to know Jerrod, so please say "Hi" and introduce yourself when you see him.

Save the dates!

September 29 - Blessing of the Animals at 10:15 am; bring your furry, feathered, or finned friend to be blessed

October - Harvest Lunch following the 10:15 am service, date TBD

November 3 - The Feast of All Saints

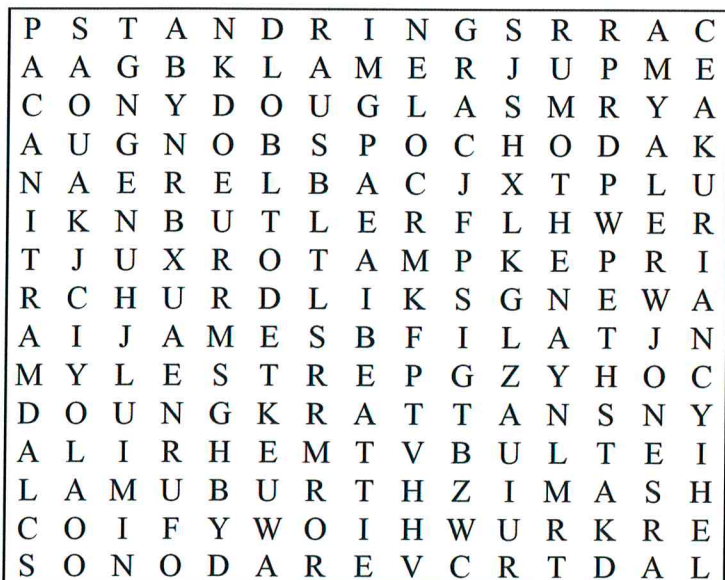
November 10 - Service of Remembrance at 10:15 am

November 24 - Confirmation at 10:15 am

St. Barnabas Website

Our website has been re-vamped, so have a look: www.stbarnabas.ca. We are also on Facebook, so please "like" and follow us!

Word search puzzle created by Margaret Klarholm



The last names of parish members are hidden in the puzzle. Look horizontally, vertically and diagonally to find them.

BEATTIE

BIRD

BUTLER

CARR

DARE

DOUGLAS

FURNEAUX

HODAK

JAMES

JONES

KOSA

KURIAN

MARTINAC

MYLES

OTHEN

PANNETT

RATTAN

SONODA

STANDRING

WILSON