

# CONNE<sup>X</sup>ION



The Quarterly Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

Number 20



## St. Mary's Church

1973 Cultra Avenue,  
Saanichton, BC V8M 1L7

### Worship Services

#### Sundays

9:00 am Choral Eucharist & Sunday School  
1st Sunday Service of the Word

#### Third Sunday

7:00 pm Evening Prayer in the style of Taizé  
(September - June)

#### Wednesdays

10:00 am Holy Eucharist  
10:30 am Friendship Coffee  
11:00 am Bible Study  
(September - June)

Office: 250-652-1611 Hall: 250-652-7942

Email: [stmarys.saanichton@shaw.ca](mailto:stmarys.saanichton@shaw.ca)

Web: [www.ParishCS.ca](http://www.ParishCS.ca)

**Pastor:** The Reverend Robert Szo

**Deacon:** The Reverend Gil Shoesmith

## St. Stephen's Church

7921 St. Stephen Road,  
Saanichton, BC V8M 2C3

### Worship Services

#### Sundays

11:00 am Holy Eucharist  
and Church (Sunday) School  
4th Sunday Praise & Worship in the Hall

#### Mondays

7:00 pm Bible Study  
(September - June)

#### Tuesdays

11:00 am Prayer Group

#### Thursdays

Praise & Worship every fourth Thursday

Office: 250-652-4311

Email: [ststephens1862@shaw.ca](mailto:ststephens1862@shaw.ca)

Web: [www.ParishCS.ca](http://www.ParishCS.ca)

## September 2016

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**[www.ParishCS.ca](http://www.ParishCS.ca)**

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

St. Mary's Church

St. Stephen's Church

## Dates to Note

Our Parish website – [www.ParishCS.ca](http://www.ParishCS.ca) – is the best place to keep in touch with what is going on, but here are significant dates to note for the next three months:

- **Soup's On** is back on Fridays at noon at St. Stephen's Hall, starting on Sept. 9.
- **Evening Prayer** in the style of Taizé will be at St. Mary's at 7 pm on Sept. 18, Oct. 16 and Nov. 20.
- **Dinner** and **Alpha** will be on 11 consecutive Wednesdays at St. Mary's from 6 pm to 8:15 pm, starting on Sept. 21. Talk to Rob or register online at [www.ParishCS.ca](http://www.ParishCS.ca)
- **Fall Thrift Sale** at St. Mary's on Sept. 24 from 9:30 am to noon.
- **Shared Ministry Conference** at St. Andrew's Church in Sidney from 5 pm on Friday Sept. 30 through to noon on Sunday Oct. 2. See Leslie and/or Tracy for details.
- **Sunday Serenade** on Oct. 2 ("Sweet Scarlet") and Nov. 27 ("KlaVIERhands") at 2:30 pm at St. Mary's.
- **Garlic Gala** at St. Stephen's Hall on Oct. 8, starting at 6 pm.
- **Bible Study Series** – 'Spiritual Gifts' - presented by Rev. Dr. Brett Cane at St. Stephen's on Monday evenings at 7 pm on Oct. 24, Oct. 31 and Nov. 7, AND at St. Mary's on Wednesdays at 11 am on Oct. 26, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9.
- **Holly Fair** at St. Mary's on Nov. 26, starting at 9:30 am.



## 2016 - 2017 Season

October 2, 2016	<b>Sweet Scarlet</b>
November 27, 2016	<b>KlaVIERhands</b>
February 26, 2017	<b>Capriccio Vocal Ensemble</b>
April	<b>TBA</b>

### Ticket Prices

**Sponsor:** \$100

(Entire Series Plus a \$40 Income Tax Receipt)

**Series:** \$60 (All 4 Concerts)

**Single** Concerts: \$20

Contact Sue Smith for more information:

[sueandjohn@shaw.ca](mailto:sueandjohn@shaw.ca) or 250-652-5392



*“Instead of listening to my voice, I really want the people of this diocese to listen to the voice of Scripture, which is the authoritative word of God”*

You are likely well aware of the events at the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada this past July. During the gathering of delegates from all the dioceses in Canada, a motion was passed to change the definition of marriage from one man-one woman to two people. In order for the definition to be officially changed in our Anglican teaching here in Canada, the motion needs to be passed again at the next General Synod in 2019. In the meantime, some diocesan bishops have decided to move ahead with same-sex marriage without waiting for 2019. They are doing this for what they call ‘pastoral reasons.’ Bishop Logan has indicated his desire to have a special one-day Synod to discuss and presumably decide on this same course of action.

During this time of theological innovation, I am constantly reminded that my voice matters, and that my evangelical Anglican perspective is important in the life of this diocese. It is normally positive to be told that your voice matters, but in this case, I don’t want anyone to listen to my voice, although I hope you’ll finish reading this article!

You see, I don’t really trust my voice. Too often my voice speaks out of anger, frustration, emotion, confusion and self-interest. My voice speaks what’s in my heart, which as Jesus says in Mark 7:20-23, is what defiles me and makes me a person in need of the Saviour. At times I may say the right words, but still, human words and human emotions shouldn’t be definitive when we consider such a massive and unprecedented change in Christian teaching and practice. When it comes to changing the definition and practice of marriage, my voice and your voice are too tainted by our own personal experiences, emotions and agendas.

Instead of listening to my voice, I really want the people of this diocese to listen to the voice of Scripture, which is the authoritative word of God. I really want this diocese to not only listen, but to be obedient to the word of God and to not adopt this theological innovation. Scripture is the voice that truly matters, the voice that trumps our opinions, experiences and agendas.

When we listen to and study Scripture with intellectual honesty and humility, when we read it faithfully with the great writers and thinkers of church history, and when we read it on our knees in prayer, we should see that the voice calls us to a distinct Christian holiness. When it comes to sexuality, this holiness is counter-cultural and not always in alignment with public opinion or government policy. This holiness speaks to the sexual practices of both homosexuals and heterosexuals.

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*“When a new interpretation is dramatically inconsistent with 2,000 years of Christian teaching and practice, one has to question and doubt the accuracy of such interpretations”*

Part of being holy is living within the boundary of sexual expression the Lord has set out for us in Scripture. This boundary is heterosexual and monogamous. It does not promote same-sex blessings or marriage, nor does it promote sex outside marriage for heterosexuals. Many Anglicans find this too restrictive and repressive, but this boundary is consistent in both Old and New Testament. This is the consistent voice of the Lord Jesus, the apostles and the prophets.

There are other ways to interpret Scripture, and these ways are often used to justify this new innovation. But when a new interpretation is dramatically inconsistent with 2,000 years of Christian teaching and practice, one has to question and doubt the accuracy of such interpretations.

If we trust the Lord and his word, surely we have to trust that he will bless us richly even if we don't express our sexuality in marriage. I'm not suggesting that a single, celibate lifestyle is easy, but if God has revealed this standard through Scripture, it is the right course of action.

The best pastoral response we can offer to LGBTQ2 Anglicans is to uphold the teaching of Scripture and to support them in their struggle to live according to the teaching. We must walk with them and love them in friendship, we must pray for them, and support them as we would love and support a single or married heterosexual struggling to be faithful to the biblical standard. Biblical standards aren't easy, but the Holy Spirit is with us to help us live holy lives. When we're tempted and when we fall, the Lord is there to help.

When we gather for Synod, we should recognize that the most important voice in the church is the voice of God speaking in Scripture. When we ignore this voice or twist its word beyond recognition, we commit a fatal error. I see a fatal error coming and I despair.

Peace in Christ,

**Rev. Rob Szo**  
**Pastor**

# The Parish in the Community

## Wine Fest

Report by  
Lynda Clifford

The 2nd annual Wine Fest was a resounding success, and this is another opportunity to give thanks for the tireless volunteers! We worked so well together for this Parish event, and we are so blessed to have the perfect location at St Stephen's. The leadership from Sandra Scarth and Derek Osman was again excellent. We raised a considerable amount of money to be shared between the two churches for local community outreach.

We greeted many people from the community, more visitors than parish members this year, and there was fabulous food, wonderful wine, spirits, cider and beer! We were able to continue this year as a family event, with fun for the children. Our local and imported friendly and talented musicians provided wonderful background ambiance. Interest was shown again in the cemetery tours, led by folks who are a valuable asset with their knowledge of local history. It was a great and fun day for all! Rest easy till next call!



# The Parish in the Community *continued*

## Refugee Program

Report by  
Sandra Scarth



Photo by Carlie Connolly  
Peninsula News Review

### RAPID program sponsoring churches:



**T**he family arrived June 29th after a long wait in Turkey. The family is comprised of the father, his wife and two children, a daughter aged 16 and son aged 14. They lived in a village on the outskirts of Damascus, where they were buying a house when the war broke out. The bombings started in the villages, so they moved to Damascus and in the next three years, moved about thirteen times for safety, sometimes living with a large number of people in one house. This was very difficult.

On October 29, 2014 they left Syria and travelled to Adana, Turkey where they were accepted as refugees. Within two weeks the father approached the Ministry of Education to see if he could teach Syrian refugee children who were not attending school. The Ministry provided a school and asked him not only to teach, but to be the principal of the school for more than 700 children.

It has been a culture shock coming from a big, sophisticated city like Damascus to Saanichton village. The decision to leave Syria was not easy, but with the ongoing war, the parents felt they had already lost their history, culture and access to free education. Sadly, many family members remain in Syria where "Nowhere is truly safe." They made the decision for the sake of their children.

Given the big changes in their lives, they are settling into Canadian life very well. Much of the first month has been focused on completing paper work required for health coverage and permanent residence status, getting banking, phone and internet service organized and doing some shopping for basic needs.

They are very clear that their highest priority is to learn English and become a part of the local community. They take English lessons at least twice a week from committee members who have ESL experience, work on homework and practice the other days, and are learning quickly. The daughter, who arrived with sufficient English, has just returned from a three-week leadership course at Pearson College where she met youth from Canada and several other countries. She loved it and now has friends and a Facebook page so they can keep in touch. The son is a chess player, a swimmer and loves to play table tennis. He misses his friends in Turkey and is looking forward to making new friends here. Both will attend Stelly's high school in the fall.

# The Parish in the Community *continued*

## Refugee Program Fundraisers

Report by Sue Smith



Flight Path to Freedom participants

This past spring and summer saw the Parish engaged in several events to raise funds used to provide “extras” in supporting our sponsored family.

The first, on April 24, was when the **Greater Victoria Police Chorus** performed at St. Mary's last Sunday Serenade concert of the 2015-2016 season. Through their commitment to fostering a positive image of the police in communities they serve and their generosity in waiving their usual performance fee, the Chorus helped us to raise over \$3600.

In conjunction with the St. Mary's **Spring Fling** on May 14, a successful sale of colourful garden planters made by Nancy Choat, Shirley Rainey and Sue Smith brought in over \$650.

Despite clouds and rain, about 40 walkers and cyclists turned out on June 18 to support the **“Flight Path To Freedom”** walk, travelling mostly on the 3.5 and 5 km routes, but some accepting the challenge of covering the 9.2 km distance on the path around Victoria International Airport. Thanks to the Parish for making this event a success. We recognize particularly Holy Trinity Church for the use of their parking lot and hall facilities, Save-on-Foods for a \$25 gift certificate, Leslie Pedlow for administrative and registration support, Peter Simpson for producing the signs, Lynda Clifford for organization and handling the children's sponsorship forms, Lynn Fallan for organizing the refreshments, all those who baked and donated refreshments, Mike & Josie Dyer for set up and assistance on the day of the event, Nancy Choat and Anne Wing on registration, and Len Fallan our “official” photographer. The real stars of this event, however, were 4 girls from the parish – Tarissa, Kaitlin, Maddison and Baillie – whose initiative and perseverance in getting sponsor pledges resulted in an amazing \$1263.85 of the almost \$2000 raised.

Thank you all for the contributions you have made. These extra funds will go a long way in allowing us to support our family in special ways and make their introduction to their new life in Canada a positive experience.

# The Parish in the Community *continued*

## Blessing of the Animals

Report by Al Gerenser



**O**n Sunday, August 7, 2016, St Stephen's Anglican Church celebrated what St. Francis of Assisi started almost 800 years ago: blessing our animals. The outdoor service included music, prayers, and readings from scripture, as well as the blessing of each animal. The Rev. Robert Szo together with The Rev. Canon Penelope A. Kingham of Holy Trinity and Fr. Rolf Hasenack of St Elizabeth's led the service and blessed the animals.

St. Francis is one of world's most popular saints. He preached to the birds; blessed fish that had been caught, releasing them back into the water; and communicated with wolves, brokering an agreement between one famous ferocious wolf and the citizens of a town that were terrified of it. As a result, Francis is the patron saint of animals and the environment.



**O**n June 1, St. Mary's welcomed Cathy Quicke as our new Music Director. In conjunction with this, she and her husband Bob also moved from Vancouver—taking on a new job and a move are both up there in terms of stressful life events! It took them a while to find their new home, but they are very pleased with their apartment in Brentwood Bay, and Cathy is excited that all of her six African Violets survived the move!

Cathy is looking forward to getting to know everyone at St. Mary's and to find out what musical talents you may have been hiding—whether playing an instrument or singing, or perhaps you have a “radio voice” that would be great for narrating!

Cathy is proud of her Mennonite upbringing in Saskatchewan, being the youngest of five siblings. As if that wasn't enough, Cathy faced other challenges because of her visual impairment that started in childhood. She began her education in a three room school, but when her father moved his family to the city of Swift Current, there was a better support network in school that enhanced her learning experiences.

By the age of five, Cathy was playing piano by ear. She began singing lessons immediately after the move into the city. She recalls singing in the Sweet Bye & Bye when she was eight at her Gramma's (second) wedding. Cathy continued with piano and voice studies at Regina University, graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree, majoring in Voice Performance.

Cathy is an avid reader using audio recordings of books and enjoys mysteries, historical fiction and biographies. She recently completed the biography of Stephen Harper, and enjoys the mystery works of Anne Perry. Thanks to advances with digital technology, there are many books now available for her to choose from.

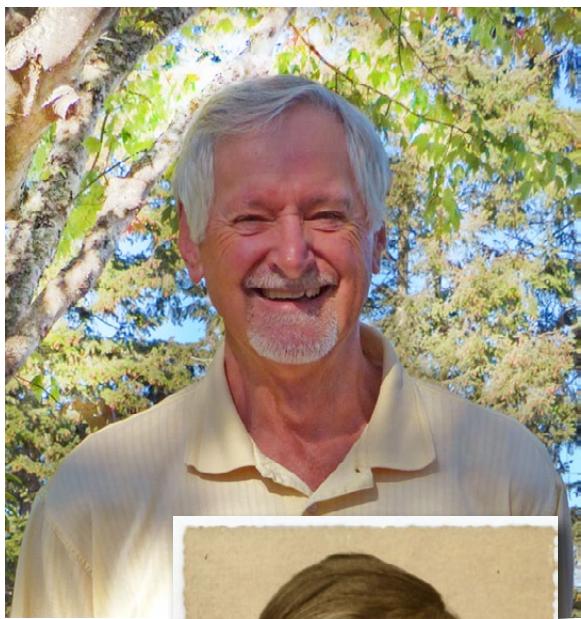
Cathy is proud of the accomplishments of her children. Her daughter, Heidi, lives in Vancouver and runs her own business in the Arts as a tour, production and stage manager. Her son, Sean, just graduated from UVic and helps out leading music on the first Sunday of the month at St. Stephen's. Recently, Cathy, Sean, and Lindsay Pedlow sang for us at a St. Mary's service, and Sean also played his guitar.

Cathy's husband Bob also enjoys singing, and recently resolved that nasty whine in the sound system at St. Mary's. Not long after they made the decision to move to Victoria, Bob was driving a mini-bus as well as giving custom sightseeing excursions to cruise passengers. Bob finds it particularly rewarding that, thanks to Knight Limousine Service, he gets to transport mobility-challenged people from local care homes.

Others describe Cathy as having a strong faith in Christ and being familiar with different denominations. She has strong music skills and is a “fixer”. We are pleased that Cathy has chosen St. Mary's as the place to share her special skills and talents.

Cathy, welcome to St. Mary's!





**M**y life has been a kaleidoscope of experiences that most people have not had the joyous privilege to encounter. This is how Richard West describes his life, and when you hear of his many experiences you will agree with him. And he's not done yet! Another aspect of his life is the number of times serendipitous events have taken him in a new direction.

Richard was born near Southampton, England near the end of WW II. As his father was a police officer, they had a telephone in the house – the only phone on the street. So, when his father was away, it fell to Richard's mother to do the job of a policeman's wife, which was to stay at home (unpaid and unrecognised) and deal with emergencies. Another aspect of life in a policeman's home was that they were always moving – there were half a dozen moves before settling in Fareham near Southampton when Richard was ten. His father was by then a Chief Inspector and a 'Mr. Big Detective' who was critical of authority - "It was him against the hierarchy" - and he eventually left the force to run a country pub with his wife (sounds like a good plot for a British TV series to replace Foyle!). His father said he got no pleasure from convicting people who fell into crime because they were uneducated or poor.

Although his parents didn't go to church, Richard says they lived exemplary lives observing Christian principles. Richard's first recollection of a perception of God is when at the age of six his mother told Richard that in the evacuation of over 330,000 men from Dunkirk in an armada of small boats ill-equipped for the usually turbulent English Channel, the sea was like a millpond, and she said, "Some will try to tell you there is no God."

The Church in Fareham was looking for boy choristers, and ten-year-old Richard found to his delight that he would get paid for being a choir boy. So he was at the church four times a week making enough to pay for his passion- fishing! When he was 14, his voice broke and he got work as a gardener at a local hotel to pursue his (by then) two passions, "fishing and girls". He would go in a hotel rowing boat almost to the busy shipping lanes of the Solent with its wicked tides (he never told his parents) and would catch enough fish to feed the street.

Another passion was (and still is) travel. When still a young teenager he went to Paris with two school friends, and also on a school trip to Venice where he found the girls on the beach way more interesting than the architecture.

In 1960 Richard followed his older brother John into the apprenticeship program at Farnborough Technical College, where

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## Parishioner Profile *continued*



Richard has enjoyed a wide variety of outdoor pursuits for many years



Richard on the bus



he spent six years studying aviation engineering and electrical engineering. Although not one of the top academic apprentices – “I was lucky to get in” - he became the chair of the association looking after the needs and issues of 450 apprentices – “I was their sort of Union Rep”. While there, Richard got a motorbike and after the third accident (“It was Christmas Eve, I came off at 50 mph and my crash helmet was destroyed – there is a God, and I’m a living miracle!”), his mother, who was also his best friend, gave his bike away.

Then Mom’s brother showed up. Edward Hillier owned and ran E. Hillier & Son Engineering, a company in Reading in the aircraft and electronic parts business. He was charismatic and monied. Richard used to stay with them on holidays as a companion to their son. But after Farnborough came a job offer, which to a 22 year-old was a dream come true. So Richard moved to Reading and worked in the factory in quality control. It wasn’t easy being the boss’ nephew, and he worked hard to earn the respect of his colleagues. When his uncle began to call on him to drive him home from the pub or wherever, or to listen to harangues about the business, Richard realised it was time to move on.

Richard’s friend Michael had emigrated to BC and was living in Oak Bay, sending Richard messages about the wonderful life there. One day Richard was going to a soccer game in London with friends, and, realising he was outside Canada House in Trafalgar Square, “popped in” to ask about emigration. Half an hour later he emerged with all the papers needed to emigrate. Before he did so, he had to extricate himself from his uncle, persuade his family (brother John was also working for Hillier), and, incidentally, get married – a marriage which did not last long after the move to Canada.

So Richard arrived in Victoria in 1973 and, after an 18 month stint doing quality control with a chainsaw company, established “RM West Electronics” where “I built interesting stuff and went fishing two days a week”. The Arab oil embargo in the mid-70s badly affected Richard’s business, and he realised that the security blanket provided by his family was not there anymore.

For six months he engaged in ‘mopology’ at the Hospital (aka ‘Janitor’), and then again, on the urging of a neighbour, “popped in” to BC Transit (then BC Hydro), reluctantly filled out a form, and was interviewed by ‘Big George’, who, after a driving test where Richard showed he could double clutch, said he could make Richard a bus driver in a year. George was right, and as a result Richard was a happy Victoria bus driver for thirty years. He has lifetime friends from that career. Richard enjoyed the variety of the ‘Spare Board’ where each day was different, with different schedules and routes,

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## Parishioner Profile *continued*

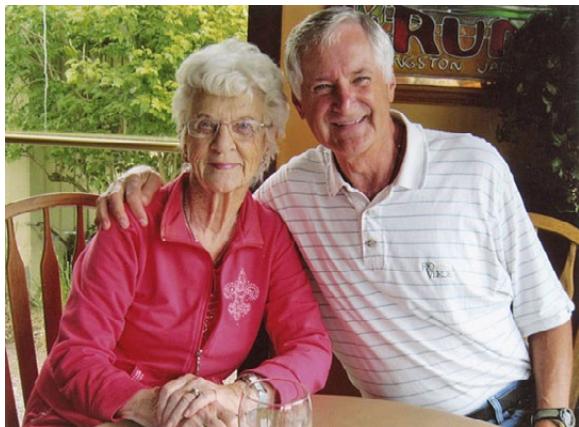
and the money, with overtime, was better. Sometimes he got lost: "I have turned round through more gas stations than most drivers." Sometimes Richard would say to a 'regular' rider, "I'll drive, and you navigate." [This is where a good 'bus driver story' would normally go, but Richard just laughed when asked for one. Evidently a bunch of Spare Board drivers get together on occasion to play golf and swap bus driver stories – perhaps there will be a book one day.]

At around the same time Richard became a bus driver he also got married at St. Stephen's, Ivan Futter officiating. There soon were two lovely daughters, Andrea and Sara that Richard dotes on. Despite Richard's efforts to establish and maintain a stable family life for them, this was sadly not to be, and although the marriage came to an end, Richard continues to have a loving relationship with his daughters and his grandchildren.

On his retirement Richard moved to Sidney where he met Sylvia Richter, who reintroduced him to St. Stephen's, and he knew right away that he would fit in. There have been gaps in Richard's church attendance – in his youth he loved going to Winchester Cathedral, but after that he was not a regular church-goer until arriving at St. Stephen's. Before long he was helping Rick Townsend with the grounds work, and this now occupies much of his time. He also has started attending Bible Classes. Richard now lives in Summergate, and allocates his time so that he can do what he loves – things for St. Stephen's where his friends are. So Richard is retired, single and happy. He still loves outdoor activities and has friends to enjoy them with, including skiing, camping, hiking, fishing and, recently kayaking with the Stubbs in the Broughton Archipelago.

Another passion that can't be left out is Richard's love of travel. In addition to visits to England at least once annually, he has been to South Africa, many States of the US (including Texas, New York, Arizona, Colorado, California, Alaska and Hawaii), Iceland, the beaches of Normandy, Australia and New Zealand twice. On his latest New Zealand trip he injured himself surfing and was immobile for over a day in a hostel where he was alone. He tells that he saw Jesus – "When you meet him you know who he is – it was the face of love".

Richard's home-spun philosophy is founded on his belief that life is a glass neither half full nor half empty – "it is half a glass of water, and God looks after the rest". He wonders if he was maybe a better Christian when bus-driving, when every day he was helping someone. I don't know about that – it seems that every day at St. Stephen's, Richard can be seen helping someone. Richard is Christianity in action.



**Above:** Sylvia Richter, who introduced Richard to St Stephen's



**Below:** Richard and the grandchildren

# Outline and Highlights of my 2016 Spring/ Summer Trip



**Below:** Hagia Sophia, Istanbul



*Dear friends in the Parish of Central Saanich,*

**M**any, many thanks for all your prayers for me during my extended trip abroad, April 16-July 28. This is the first of two articles on my experiences. In this one, I outline the highlights of my trip. The next will describe the opportunities and challenges facing the Anglican Church in Ethiopia where I spent just over three weeks ministering and touring.

Outline of trip: During my 104 days away, I visited (or at least set foot in!) 16 different countries, slept in 36 different beds, and flew on 25 different flights! The purpose of the trip was two-fold:

## Ministry

- Helping lead a tour of the Holy Land for students of the Bristol theological colleges where I served in a chaplaincy role from 2012-2015
- Taking Sunday services for four weeks at St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, during the chaplain's annual leave

## Touring

- Visiting family and friends in various locations beginning in Canada and then in Egypt and the UK/Europe, including attending five ordinations of former students and a former parishioner
- Sight-seeing trips (notably Istanbul, Armenia, Georgia, Gambella and Tigray regions of Ethiopia, Germany, Switzerland, France and Austria)

## Highlights

- **Hagia Sophia in Istanbul:** this is probably the most significant Christian building (architecturally) in the world (ask me why sometime). The first time I visited (2007), I was thrilled to see it, having waited some 50 years from my days as an architectural student, but half the interior was obscured by scaffolding. This time, there was still scaffolding, but covering the other half!
- **Bethlehem Bible College:** I had been to the Holy Land four times before but this was the first time meeting folks at this outstanding Christian institution and hearing of their ministry of equipping the Palestinian church in its work of evangelism, discipleship, social action and peacemaking under most stressful circumstances.

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**From the top:** Gambella children; Baptistry of Ethiopian mountain church from ledge 200m above ground!; Dallol sulphuric acid pools, Ethiopia

- **Congregation of St. Matthew's, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia:** meeting and ministering with this diverse congregation from all over the world was a real joy and privilege.
- **Rispin School in Bishoftu:** an enlightening overnight visit to this elementary school in a provincial town an hour away from Addis. The Rispins are an amazing couple who are members of St. Matthew's and have been involved over decades in setting up and operating English schools to address the gap in education for middle-class Ethiopians.
- **Ethiopian family evenings:** I and others were honoured guests at two sumptuous dinners in the home of a middle-class family in Addis where we heard of their experience of daily life and perspectives as Ethiopian Orthodox Christians.
- **Visit to Gambella:** Being with my friends Bishop Grant and Dr. Wendy LeMarquand enabled me to see the life and work of the Anglican Church in this challenging and stressful multi-ethnic region. I enjoyed a visit to a rural church where I was greeted by lots of children and members of the Mothers' Union singing.
- **Challenging climbs:** Ethiopian Christians specialize in building churches on hills and mountain tops! Failing on a 50-foot climb on a rope up a sheer cliff to a monastery was a bit humiliating but succeeding in a climb up a 20-foot cliff and negotiating a 600-foot high ledge to a rock-hewn church (that G.W. Bush got to by helicopter!) was most rewarding.
- **Hawzen Market:** this fascinating display of wares by extremely hard-working farmers and craftspeople in this northern Ethiopian town was doubly impacting when I found out their marketplace had been bombed by the Derg on June 22, 1988, killing upwards of 2,500 people.
- **Sulphuric acid pools:** Touring these multi-coloured mini-geysers in the oppressive heat of the Dallol desert was a major challenge but an amazing experience.
- **Ordinations:** I thought that in attending five ordinations of a parishioner and former theological college students I might be tired of so many, but each was special and deeply moving.
- **Colmar:** Revisiting this fairy-tale town in Alsace and seeing the famous Isenheim altarpiece was even more exciting and stimulating than before.

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## Cane's Corner *continued*



Above,  
from the top:  
Colmar, Alsace;  
Mount Säntis,  
Swiss Alps

- **Swiss Alps:** Ascending Mount Säntis in a dramatic gondola ride (2005m) was breathtaking.
- **Safety:** Looking back, I am grateful to God for being kept safe during the entire trip, especially when there were four violent attacks in southern Germany during my time there; we escaped by 90 minutes the Munich transit system shut-down due to the shopping-centre attack!
- **Spiritual encounters:** I was privileged to engage in many spiritual conversations and/or times of ministry with people during tours, on planes or waiting in airports, and with friends/former students.
- **Final flight blessings:** Getting voluntarily bumped off my scheduled (overbooked) flight home to the next day, and being compensated with free hotel and meals and €600 and then, the next day, getting bumped up to business class (kudos to Lufthansa) were the icing on the cake for a wonderful journey!

### Slide show evenings

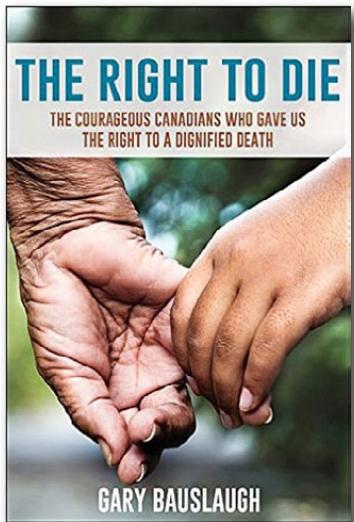
People will have opportunities to hear more and see (extensive!) slide shows on my trip in the coming months. Details will be announced in the bulletins of both churches and will focus first on Ethiopia, then the Caucasus, and (if desired) Europe. I also have a presentation on the Holy Land, which is an amalgamation of photos taken during past trips with additions from this year, should there be a demand.

Thanks again for your many prayers through which I was able to minister, be kept safe and healthy and make all my travel connections!

Yours in His service,  
**Brett**

## The Right To Die

Author: Gary Bauslaugh



In his recent book 'The Right to Die – The courageous Canadians who gave us the right to a dignified death', Victoria investigative journalist Gary Bauslaugh writes about the cases and the people involved in them which took the law of Canada from treating assisted suicide as a criminal act (for which you could be imprisoned for 14 years) to recognizing assisted death/suicide as a constitutional right in defined circumstances. The book does not deal with the recently enacted federal legislation, which was passed as the book was being published. The issues discussed in this book have, I suspect, been talked about a lot in our church halls and homes, and some helpful light is thrown on the subject by a historical walk through the cases and decisions that led up to where we now are in Canada.

From the Title, you know on what side of the ethical issue Bauslaugh stands. However, the book is not a polemic so much as a compassionate look at the men and women who fought for recognition of the right to have assistance to die without criminal consequences. None of them sought notoriety, and it was always dreadful circumstances which drew them into the fray. Others have written about some of them, but this book gathers their stories together in a unifying bond of unintentional heroes.

You will know many of their names: – Sue Rodriguez, an ALS sufferer (involving Svend Robinson and UVic's Eike Kluge), who famously asked, 'Who owns my life?', and whose request for assistance to die was rejected by the Supreme Court of Canada in a split 5-4 decision; Robert Latimer, whose act of mercy was subjected to the prescribed legal punishment (the title of his chapter is 'Justice gone awry'); Henry Morgentaler; Evelyn Martens, described as a "Death Zealot" by opponents to euthanasia, who was tried for assisting Monique Charest of Duncan, BC to die, and was found not guilty; Gloria Taylor, another ALS victim, who was given special permission by the court to exercise the option of physician-assisted suicide while what became known as the Carter case proceeded to the Supreme Court of Canada, but who died 'naturally', and whose heartfelt affidavit about 'when enough is enough' touched everyone; and the Carter family, who took their mother to Switzerland to die.

Then there are others you will not have heard of – such as the accused father of Christopher Ramberg, who at the age of two had inoperable tumours in both eyes and was in constant agony; and Gillian Bennett, who, from her bed on Bowen Island, wrote a beautiful farewell called 'Dead at Noon'. You will by now have noticed how many of those involved are B.C. people. The BC Civil Liberties Association played a pivotal role throughout this story.

Much of the book deals, of course, with the Carter case, and the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court of Canada, which held that physician-assisted death should be allowed for competent adults who clearly consent to the termination of life, and have a grievous and irremediable medical condition that causes enduring suffering that is intolerable to the individual in the circumstances. Front and centre was Joe Arvay QC, himself in a wheelchair (and

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## Book Review *continued*

another Victoria connection), who opened the Carter case with; “This is a momentous occasion, for my clients, for society, for this court. This case quite simply concerns matters of life and death.” He had to persuade the Court that its decision in the Rodriguez case was no longer appropriate, and he did.

Although this book has to deal with a number of technical issues such as terminology (assisted death/suicide, euthanasia, etc.), the principle of adherence to precedents in court decisions, the weight of evidence about what is done in other countries, and how our Constitution is to be interpreted, the book’s focus is on the people facing death – either their own or that of a loved one, their harrowing journeys, the decisions that had to be made, and their simple heroism.

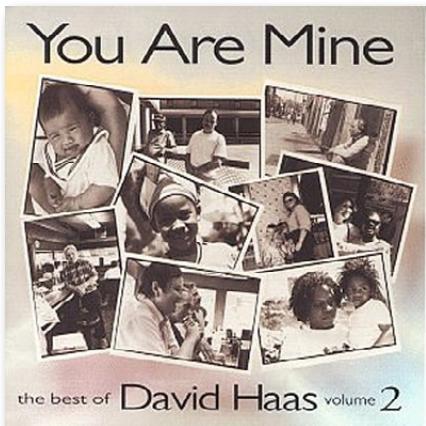
I would be happy to lend my copy of ‘The Right to Die’ to anyone interested.

## Music Review

by Ruth Lorette Hickling

### You Are Mine

The Best of David Haas  
Vol. 2



**I** don’t think I have ever listened to the first song “You Are Mine” on this CD without it evoking either goosebumps or tears. It is a beautiful song which references one of my favourite pieces of Scripture; Isaiah 43 1-7.

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.”

In fact most of the songs in this album are inspired by scripture from the Old and New Testaments. Both vocals and instrumentals on the CD are clear and lovely.

Delightfully, there is also a song written and adapted to a very old and beautiful Hawaiian piece of music “No Ke Ano Ahaiahi “ sung partly in Hawaiian.

All compositions and arrangements are by David Haas who lives in Minnesota. He serves as the Director of The Emmaus Centre for Music, Prayer and Ministry and as an animator for the Cretin-Derham Hall Taizé Prayer Community in St. Paul. Also an author, he is highly regarded as one of the preeminent liturgical English speaking music composers of the world. He was nominated in 1991 for a Grammy award for the recording “I shall see God. “

“You Are Mine” is one of the most tender, soothing, loving and inspiring CDs in my collection. A special thank you to Barb Baillie for her suggestion and loan of the CD. It is available on Amazon.ca.

*Just when you think you have nothing to write about for Around the Parish, all sorts of news comes forth, some exciting and some sad but it's important to share with parishioners the news, both good and bad, from St Mary's and St Stephen's! Let me know of any stories to be told.*



Seen at the parade



**Above:** Nancy Choat and Isabella Kennedy

**Right:** celebration of Rob's 20th anniversary of ordination



This summer we have enjoyed many activities around the Parish and beyond. And we have been blessed with wonderful weather to enjoy the outdoors. It has been a busy time, starting with the wonderful **Wine Fest** held on the beautiful grounds of St. Stephen's in early July and ending with the **Blessing of the Animals**, also held on the St. Stephen's grounds in August. You can read about these events elsewhere in ConneXion.

Thanks to **Rachel Moss**, the mastermind behind putting a Parish float in both Brentwood Bay Days and the Canada Day Parade in Sidney, the Parish was well advertised to Peninsula residents. The St. Stephen's Praise Band, led by Rachel, with her husband **Gary** as drummer, played on the float to the delight of bystanders as fellow parishioners walked along side, carrying signs advertising Parish activities. Well done Rachel!

June is a time of graduation and the presentation of awards. **Marianne Szo**, Rob and Christine's daughter, received an award for having one of the highest marks in French for a Stelly's student in grades 11 and 12. **Michael Pedlow**, son of Leslie and Ken, graduated from Parkland Secondary. Congratulations, Marianne and Michael. And at the Awards Ceremony at Stelly's, Nancy Choat presented the St Mary's bursary to **Isabella Kennedy**, a Metis graduate at Stelly's. Each year, St Mary's offers a \$1,000 bursary to a qualified Indigenous Stelly's graduate.

Both churches celebrated Rob's 20th anniversary of his ordination as a priest on Sunday June 26th. To honour this significant date, parishioners were asked to put in writing a personal commitment to the Parish that supports the Parish vision of committed learners, friendly inviters and sacrificial givers. These written, unsigned commitments were then given to Rob, to be read at his leisure.

Island View Beach was the site for a special occasion on a perfect Sunday, July 24 — the Baptism of **Rainy Macleod**, **Brad Watson** and daughters, **Tarissa**, and **Kaitlin**, and the renewal of **Ian Macleod's** baptismal vows. Rob officiated, with guitar accompaniment for the hymns provided by Rachel. Over 40 parishioners from both churches walked out to witness and

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## Around the Parish *continued*



**Above:** Baptism at Island View Beach

**Below:** New Zealand Secondary Students' Choir



participate in this ceremony. It was a perfect day and a perfect setting! Everyone reassembled back at St Mary's to enjoy hotdogs, hamburgers and cake. It was indeed a joyous occasion!

A sold out choral concert was held at St Mary's on a warm evening in July. The New Zealand Secondary Students Choir consisting of approximately 60 students entertained an audience of 200 with Maori and familiar songs. This national, auditioned choir is made up of students aged 13 to 19. Ours was the last full concert of the tour, and we were privileged to have the chance to hear these talented teens. Parishioners were asked to billet members of the choir. **Bob and Barb Baillie, Marjorie and Stephen Denroche, Pat Duke, Mike and Josie Dyer, Joy and Nick Hunter, Jenny Jenner, Derek and Betty Osman, Audrey Quackenbush and Sue and John Smith** opened their homes. Thank you, along with a big Thank You to **Sue Smith**, the main organizer of this event!

We welcome home, **Brett Cane**, one of our clergy, after his three and a half month, 11 country trip! We will be hearing about his travels through sermons, ConneXion and Bible Study—looking forward to it, Brett!

**Don Wilson**, the Parish's General Synod representative, attended the Council of General Synod (COGS) meeting in Toronto in July. These national meetings are held with members of the clergy and parishioner representatives discussing, reporting and voting on items referred to it by the Primate or General Synod.

Our Deacon, **Gil Shoesmith** and family are enjoying their annual family reunion/vacation in Parksville, something they look forward to every year. Sounds like a fun time.

And **Rob Szo, Christine**, along with **Timothy and Marianne** are spending three weeks in Fredericton, visiting family as well as touring around PEI! As for their dog Max, he's going to Lynda Clifford's where he'll enjoy being pampered along with a trip to Salt Spring. Lucky Max!

There is news of the arrival of our Refugee family elsewhere in ConneXion but it is worth noting that Brad Watson's daughters, **Tarissa and Kaitlin** raised over \$1000 canvassing on their own to contribute to this worthy cause. Well done, girls. You have done us proud!

On June 12th, a special Evensong was held at the Cathedral to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. Several members of the Parish attended this joyful event, including **Cathy and Bob**

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## Around the Parish *continued*

**Quicke, Lynda Clifford, Susan Alexander, Jessie Kelly, Nancy Choat, Catherine Wing, David Cooper and John Smith.** Sue Smith sang in the St Christopher's choir, which participated in the Evensong.

The second Alpha course was held in April. This 12 week course about Christian basics was held at St. Mary's over the noon hour with a light lunch being provided by parishioners.

### News from St Stephen's



The flower garden at St Stephen's



The much beloved vineyard can no longer be maintained due to dwindling numbers of people able to assist with its upkeep and management. **David Scarth** told me that **Brian Waller** is now helping in the process of removing the grape vines, cutting off the canopy, pulling out the trunk stumps, removing trellis wires and the irrigation hose along with pulling out the posts. A huge amount of work. Thank you for that update, David.

**Katie Huston**, daughter of **Diane Hackett**, married **Hugo Foussier** on Friday August 5th at Saint Ann's Academy Chapel. Our rector, Rob Szo officiated and a reception followed at the Victoria Golf Club. The couple will be living and working in France. We wish them well.

On June 17, a memorial was held at St Stephen's for **Sylvia Richter**, a well known and long time parishioner of St Stephen's.

**Don and Susie Wilson** have been blessed with another grandchild. Congratulations to Don and Susie!

**Sandy Ormiston**, although unable to make it out to Sunday services is receiving home communion.

**Pat Macrae** has returned from her teaching position in Winnipeg. Welcome back, Pat!

And a special welcome to a new parishioner, **Hilary Eastveld-Walker**.

A big thank you to those young people who have been helping out over the summer to give the faithful Sunday School teachers a break.

**Gary and Tracy Stubbs**, along with **Richard West** and **Terry Hartley** enjoyed a kayaking trip north of the Island. Tracy has since done a trek on the Cape Scott Trail with her daughter, **Krista**. Tracy has since reported that the Cape Scott Trail was much tougher than the West Coast Trail. Way to go Tracy!

A successful summer girls Camp was held from August 9 to 12 on the St. Stephen's grounds, called GEMS – 'Girls Everywhere Meeting the Saviour'. Fifteen girls from eight to thirteen had fun

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## Around the Parish *continued*



GEMS activities



developing relationships and a greater understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. Activities included an obstacle course, a scavenger hunt and decorating cupcakes for a cupcake war. The Camp ended with a BIG sleepover - the 'sleep' part an exaggeration according to **Katherine Carlson**, organizer and leader of the Camp. Other leaders were **Karalyn Schuetze** and **Chantel Prouse**, and **Terry Hartley** and **Carol Peaker** contributed food. Everyone left happy but exhausted. A big thank you to all who helped – we are glad it was such a success, Katherine.

St Stephen's Gardening News: A special note of recognition and thanks to the **Pollards**, who are well known for their own lovely flower garden and for providing flowers for the church. **Bob and Charlotte Nichols** spend time in the St. Stephen's garden and are now growing vegetables and herbs for Elsie's famous Soup Pot (for Friday Soup's On). The dahlias are reaching their peak in colour and size. **Don Wilson** has reported a bumper Garlic crop in readiness for the famous Garlic Fest in October. **Diana** (on her ride-a-mower), **Richard, Gary and Mike** are dedicated grounds keepers. Thank you from all parishioners and visitors alike.

### News from St Mary's



Nancy Jackson

**Nancy Jackson** turned 90 on Sunday June 12 and was able to enjoy reaching this milestone with Parishioners. And **Gladys Otto** turned 94 in late June. Congratulations to Nancy and Gladys.

We welcome **Joy and Nick Hunter** as parishioners. Joy is an ordained minister and was the pastor for the Saanich Peninsula Hospital. We are fortunate to have Joy join our lay ministers team of Sue Smith and Ken Pedlow at St Mary's. Welcome!

We were saddened to learn of the death of **Ted Bagshaw**, husband of **Sybil**. This has been an especially difficult time for Sybil as she lost her daughter earlier this year. A memorial service will be held at St. Mary's on September 15th.

**Joe Lott**, husband of **Rita**, in his 93rd year passed away in June. A Memorial service was held at St Mary's in August with over 200 people in attendance, followed by a reception at The Deep Cove Chalet.

**Cathy Quicke**, our Music Director and her husband **Bob**, have found an apartment in Brentwood Bay, and have settled in comfortably.

The **Fallans** are enjoying an August family camping trip here on the Island.

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## Around the Parish *continued*



Sue and John Smith,  
together with Brooke,  
seen here, are off to  
Alaska

By the time you read this, **Sue and John Smith**, along with **Brooke**, their year old Newfoundland dog will be driving in their revitalized camper to Alaska for 3 weeks. Don't worry. They've done this before with Tallis! Enjoy the journey, Sue and John.

**Ken Brind** was recently interviewed in July by CTV Island News for the program 'Sign-Off'. His wartime story, "Worth Fighting For" was available on the Parish web site for a brief time. It was well worth watching. Ken, a Royal Air Force Captain, flew 30 aircraft missions. He mentioned that his shrine will be his 26 descendants now living... five children, nine grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. Now THAT is quite a legacy! Thank you, Ken for sharing that story.

## Recipe Page

### Olive Cheese Puffs

**Thanks to Inez St. Dennis**



Here is a recipe that was a winner at the Wine Fest!

#### Ingredients

- 2 cups shredded old or sharp cheddar grated
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup flour
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 36 olives

#### Directions

1. Drain olives
2. Grate the cheese in a food processor or using a grater
3. Measure 2 cups of grated cheese (do not pack too firmly as if there is too much cheese the dough will not keep its shape when baking.)
4. Add flour, butter and paprika, blend thoroughly until mixture forms a ball.
5. Pinch off 1-2 tsp of cheese dough and wrap it around an olive. Roll with hands to form a smooth ball
6. Drop on baking sheet and cook for 10 minutes at 400 degrees. May be reheated at 350 degrees for 5 minutes.

These freeze well. You may also make them with pickled onions.

## "Three Minute Retreat" App



While browsing through the "Loyola Press" website on Ignatian Spirituality, I came across their "Three Minute Retreat." It is a lovely enhancement to prayer with quiet and soothing music set to beautiful pictures from nature. Starting with a short reading from the Gospel, it takes you through a few minutes of meditation and contemplative devotion. One of its best features is that you can cue it along as your own prayer enfolds. Although iPad Safari cannot download it, there is a free app available for iPads, iPhones and Android devices. Just punch in "Three Minute Prayer" and it should come up. It is a very gentle way to start, end (or interrupt) your day.

The Loyola Press website in itself is extremely well done. Also found on their site, are a series of free online daily meditation retreats quite lovely in themselves. The retreats are twenty to thirty minutes long and have wonderful links to very deep and enlightened writings on Christian faith. Although I started with their "Ignatian Adventure" series, there is a special series which started Ash Wednesday for Lent. If you like idea of guided, imaginative prayer, the Loyola Press website is well worth checking out.

## From the Editors

We are starting a new series of articles, called 'Cane's Corner,' written by Brett. We will first read about his epic journey, and after that, who knows? 'Around the Parish' continues to grow – Nancy Choat is always looking for scrumptious tidbits. And another new and hopefully ongoing 'column' is 'The Parish in the Community' which will highlight things we do which involve our community.

As always, thanks to the many parishioners who make ConneXion happen; comments and articles are always welcome – this is YOUR newsletter.

Finally, please read Rob's article carefully – this issue requires thoughtful prayer, whether you agree or disagree with Rob, or are undecided, or even if you think it is unimportant or irrelevant.

*From your Editors.  
John Smith and Sandra Scarth*

# Anglican Parish of Central Saanich Directory

**Pastor:** The Reverend Robert Szo 778-679-8074 [robszo@telus.net](mailto:robszo@telus.net)

## Parish Council: Ex Officio

**Rob Szo** [robszo@telus.net](mailto:robszo@telus.net)  
**Gil Shoesmith** [gshoesmith@telus.net](mailto:gshoesmith@telus.net)

## Rector's Wardens:

St. Mary's  
St. Stephen's

**Nancy Choat**, [nchoat2@telus.net](mailto:nchoat2@telus.net)  
**Don Wilson**, [dwwilson@shaw.ca](mailto:dwwilson@shaw.ca)

## People's Wardens:

St. Mary's  
St. Stephen's

**Derek Osman**, [derek.osman@shaw.ca](mailto:derek.osman@shaw.ca)  
**Lynda Clifford**, [lgcliff@shaw.ca](mailto:lgcliff@shaw.ca)

## Treasurers:

St. Mary's  
St. Stephen's

**David Cooper**, [drecooper@shaw.ca](mailto:drecooper@shaw.ca)  
**Jen Buscall**, [jenbuscall@shaw.ca](mailto:jenbuscall@shaw.ca)

## Members:

St. Mary's  
St. Stephen's

**Karen McColm, Ken Pedlow, Susan Pullan**  
**Margaret Bedard, Allan Carlson, Greg Robinson**

## Synod Delegates:

St. Mary's  
St. Stephen's

**Nancy Choat, Ken Pedlow**  
**Don Wilson**

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**Leslie Pedlow** is at the St. Mary's office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 12:30

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**Tracy Stubbs** is at the St. Stephen's office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 1:00

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