

A New Rector for a Place Where Faith, Love & Purpose are Lived Out

The Induction of the Reverend Canon Jonathan LLOYD as Rector of St. Stephen's, West Vancouver

RANDY MURRAY

Communications Officer & Topic Editor

The long wait ended for the congregation of St. Stephen's, West Vancouver on the evening of Monday, October 17 when Bishop Melissa Skelton inducted the Rev. Canon Jonathan LLOYD (the Welsh spelling of LLOYD with two uppercase L's) as rector and ordained leader of their shared ministry together.

Canon LLOYD was selected late last spring by the canonical committee and subsequently approved by Bishop Skelton after an extensive search process that had seen the ministry position posted all around the Anglican Communion.

The previous rector, the popular and charismatic Rev. Trevor Fisher retired from fulltime ministry on September 1, 2014, following a five-year incumbency.

The Rev. Roberta Fraser served as interim priest-in-charge for most of the time between rectors and was a consistent ordained leadership presence during this period when the St. Stephen's community underwent a time of self-reflection and discernment.

This period led to the development of their current parish profile and a priority listing of the attributes that they would like to see in their new rector.

The successful applicant, the Rev. Canon Jonathan LLOYD is from the Church of England. He was born in Somerset in the southwest of England and lived in Canterbury from the age of 10. Canon LLOYD was educated in Sussex, Surrey, and London. Before he was ordained at Southwark Cathedral in 1990, he trained and practiced as a psychiatric social worker. Most recently he served in rural ministry in the diocese of Canterbury, with responsibility for nine churches just south of the city of Canterbury. He had returned to his childhood home to care for his elderly mother, one of the first women to be ordained priest in the Church of England. She died in 2015. From 2009 to 2014 his ministry took him to Continental Europe, serving as Archdeacon of Germany and Northern Europe and Chaplain of St. Alban's in Copenhagen, Denmark, a beautiful mid-19th century Gothic Revival style structure located in a peaceful park setting in the city. The archdeaconry covered 30 Church of England parishes across nine countries. Canon LLOYD admitted that he spent much of those five years on planes and in airports. Prior to his time in the Archdeaconry of Northern Europe he was, Rector of St. Stephen's, Bath (2004–2009); Senior Chaplain at the University of Bath (1997–2004); and Director of Social Responsibility, diocese of Southwark, and Priest Vicar of Southwark Cathedral (1991–1997).

Canon LLOYD had briefly been in Vancouver a few months prior for the interviews, however, he, and family members did not arrive to begin this new chapter of life in Canada until Saturday, October 15, so it was a tired but excited new rector who was installed by Bishop Skelton just two days later. When asked if he had experienced previous visits to Vancouver or had prior knowledge of the diocese of New Westminster, Canon LLOYD answered, "I visited my great aunt in Vancouver several times, who lived here for 60 years. And I still have a cousin here. I participated in a global multifaith conference of university chaplains at the University of British Columbia (UBC) 15 years ago, and fell in love with the city... I have known about the diocese of New Westminster for a long time. At school we had a list of famous old pupils on the wall, which included the fourth Bishop of New Westminster (Sir Francis Cooke Caulfeild Heathcote)."

There was a good-sized congregation present including many of the priests from the Archdeaconry of Capilano. Regional dean, the Rev. Clarence Li had made the journey from Sechelt on the Sunshine Coast and the Archdeacon, the Ven. Lynne McNaughton who was the preacher for the liturgy were both in attendance to greet their new colleague. Also vested and present was Pastor Birgitte Saltorp of the Danish Lutheran Church of Vancouver located in Burnaby. Canon LLOYD later said that he was delighted that she had attended the worship.

The service was a standard Celebration of New Ministry Eucharist. Archdeacon McNaughton took the Gospel, *Luke 4: 14–21* for her text, unpacking the story of Jesus, filled and energized with the Holy Spirit following his encounter with evil, making his appearance in a Synagogue and choosing to read his edit of the Isaiah passage:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



The Rev. Canon Jonathan LLOYD smiles as he is welcomed as rector by the enthusiastic applause of his new faith community. PHOTO Randy Murray



LEFT The Rev. Lucy Price, deacon of the word and table for the liturgy reads the Gospel, *Luke 4: 14–21*. RIGHT The Ven. Lynne McNaughton, Archdeacon of Capilano and rector of St. Clement's, Lynn Valley was the preacher. She chose the Gospel reading for her text and particularly Jesus' use of the word "TODAY" as a signal and a symbol of the new ministry that Canon LLOYD will bring. PHOTOS Randy Murray



The Wardens present the new rector at the beginning of the Covenant in Ministry. At this point the Executive Archdeacon, the Ven. Douglas Fenton is explaining the process by which the new rector was chosen. PHOTO Randy Murray



Bishop Skelton asks the parishioners of St. Stephen's to stand during the Covenant in Ministry and says, "Do you, the people of the parish of St. Stephen, West Vancouver, commit yourself to share with Jonathan in the ministry of this parish?" PHOTO Randy Murray



TOP The Eucharistic Prayer.

BOTTOM Administering the Body of Christ. PHOTOS Randy Murray



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

Archdeacon McNaughton said that after this long time of waiting, Jonathan will be an inspirational leader, who is outward looking... who likes to work as part of a team and understands that "all ministry belongs to God." And that the clergy are here to be helpful "to the whole people of God" so that the laity can be the Church, "a place where faith, love and purpose are lived out."

The liturgy continued with the Covenant in Ministry, which included the Oaths and Subscriptions, the reading of the bishop's license by the Executive Archdeacon, and Bishop Skelton asking the congregation gathered, "Do you, the people of the parish of St. Stephen, West Vancouver, commit yourselves to share with Jonathan in the ministry of this parish?" This was followed by the Presentation of the Symbols of Ministry: Bible, water for baptism, oils of Chrism and Unction, the Canons of the diocese, the keys to the buildings, prayer and hymn books, and the bread and wine—the elements of the Eucharist culminating in Bishop Skelton's announcement, "I present Jonathan as the leader of your ministry, and invite your welcome."

The Covenant in Ministry was followed by the intercession, the exchange of the Peace, and the Eucharist. Always a profoundly moving time during a Celebration of a New Ministry when the priest administers Holy Communion to the community for the first time as the rector or vicar of the parish.

One of the many benefits of attending worship at St. Stephen's apart from the unique interior design of the building is the opportunity to enjoy the music in worship, especially the piano playing of Peter Vanderhorst. Peter's ad libs on hymn tunes are appropriately meditative but also inventive and creative.

Following the Celebration of a New Ministry Eucharist, Canon Lloyd was asked to recall his most memorable ministry event, he answered: "Whilst exploring my calling, I worked with Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, CR* in South Africa. In 1975, I was arrested by the apartheid secret police and deported back to England. I then worked for several years with refugees from Southern Africa in England. In 1993, I returned to South Africa as a peace monitor with the World Council of Churches, in the run up to the first democratic elections." Canon Lloyd was then asked to share his vision for St. Stephen's, West Vancouver, he said, "to listen to where God is calling the parish, to proclaim and live the Gospel and serve the community in the tradition of Stephen the Deacon."

May God shower blessings on the Rev. Canon Jonathan Lloyd, his wife, Sue (an Occupational Therapist), daughter Sarah (Sustainability Designer) and pet Labrador, Bella, and the people of St. Stephen, West Vancouver as they embark on this exciting new chapter in the life of the parish. ✠



Associate Wardens present a copy of the Canons of the diocese of New Westminster. PHOTO Randy Murray



The Rev. Canon Lloyd holds the keys to the buildings presented by the Wardens. PHOTO Randy Murray

* Community of the Resurrection