

Notices for Sunday, June 14, 2020

Hello lovely people of St Philip's, how are you doing this week?

Some of my Facebook friends will know that I shared a sickening story reported in the Vancouver Sun about a friend of mine who had experienced a racist incident while out walking in Pacific Spirit Park. Pam is one of our community of Asian descent. I know her because she is a member of the infamous St Philip's Kettlebell fitness group that used to meet in the Garden Room every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, of which I am one!

She describes an incident where she and a white friend were walking in the woods when they came across a middle-aged white couple walking in the opposite direction. The couple stopped and moved to the side and as Pam and her friend walked by the man made a comment towards Pam that she in particular should be more socially distanced. Pam and her friend stopped and questioned the man and a heated exchange ensued, but it was clear what he meant, it was the 'Asians' who had caused the Pandemic and she needed to be more careful. This is one instance of a disturbing and growing trend of anti-Asian racism in BC and it should concern us all.

Equally disturbing was the story I heard from a Police Officer friend who told me that many of his colleagues are experiencing increased verbal abuse from the public echoing what is happening in the USA following the death of George Floyd. People are calling officers 'fascists' to their faces.

In our Gospel reading this week, we are told that Jesus saw the crowds who were following him and he 'had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.' The actual translation is more like he had compassion in his guts for the people.

Many people are feeling harassed and helpless today. Compassion at this time is going to be key as we all learn the lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic and the fall out after George Floyd's death. Perhaps that is why things are particularly troubling right now in the USA as many people, particularly those in the Black community, don't see compassion from their President, which only goes to fuel anger and increase tensions.

We are all beginning to see the full extent of the inequalities in our society. If we are going to effect real and lasting change then not only will our leaders need to look compassionately on those they serve: we too will need to do the same. The structural problems that are being laid bare by the two pandemics of virus and racism affect us all in negative ways. It was Gandhi who said to his followers, even in the light of the many massacres and daily abuses that occurred in India during his time, that they must continue to love the British and avoid violence because they were as oppressed by their white supremacist racism as were those who were victims of it. Challenging injustice with compassion is by no means easy. Jesus sent his disciples out warning them that they would be like sheep in the midst of wolves. But Jesus and Gandhi both realised

that unjust structures impact all negatively, all are victims in differing ways, hence all need compassion in order to effect change positively.

The way of loving compassion, the way of Jesus, is needed now more than ever. Even in our lockdown we can all walk in Jesus's way. We can pray for our leaders, for wisdom and for compassion. We can all challenge our own long held views and stereotypes and, whenever we do venture out, we can all go out of our way to greet and acknowledge those in our community whom we meet on the street or in the shops, particularly those who look different to us.

Love and prayers,

Stuart

WEBSITE WORSHIP

Join Stuart Hallam and others in Sunday morning website worship and follow along with the order of service emailed to you on Friday. The services are recorded, posted by Saturday evening, and you can watch and revisit them at your convenience. Enjoy seeing and hearing the different parishioners involved in the service each week as readers, intercessors, singers and announcers. Go to our website where there is much to find in worship, news, and music.

<https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/blog>

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers at this time: Jenny Sheldon, Ken and Greg, Maura and Brian, Nancy, Tracy and family, Larry Hoad, Mike Lane, Brenda Harrison, Sarah Burns, Richard Fenner, and Rebecca and Jamie who mourn Dorothy Cately. Joan Hume died recently: let us remember her fondly in our prayers. Let us pray for Elizabeth Knox, whose younger sister Jenny Sheldon has died.

MILESTONES

Laura Millman and Stuart Hallam recently celebrated their 17th anniversary! Dani Amestegui and Walter Brynjolfson announce that they are expecting their first child in November! Let's share life's goodness with our parishioners as we recite the final prayer together.

COFFEE HOUR: Sunday June 14, 11:00 AM

We usually see about sixteen people who drop by to share coffee and their news. We look forward to seeing some new faces, too! Click the blue link to Zoom at 11:00 am, using your computer for best results. <https://zoom.us/j/454815164>

RE-OPENING THE CHURCH

You received on June 3 a summary of Phase Two linked to a brief survey asking for your position on re-opening for in-person worship. St Philip's will reopen only when we are ready with all precautions in place, after capturing each parishioner's voice in the survey, and discussing the findings at Parish Council. Please complete the survey by Monday June 15.

Please answer for each member of your household; for example, a family of four has four voices. Find the summary and survey here: <https://forms.gle/r7nhBjLG9fXmshmHA>
Meanwhile and ongoing into the future, we have engaging website worship, weekly online Zoom gatherings, and the option to keep in touch with each other with a phone call.

MUSIC

Michael Murray has asked for favourite hymns. Inundate him: michaelmurrayorgan@gmail.com

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY: Donate at St John's, 1490 Nanton Ave. until further notice.

Please drop off your donations of food, hygiene sundries and clothing at St John's Shaughnessy while St Philip's is a work site. We need new or gently used clean clothes for men. Omit rummage sale items, gifts, and worn out goods. Thank you for your help in this ongoing need.

The Neighbourhood Ministry's Annual Meeting will be held on Zoom on Tuesday June 16 at 7:00 PM. Keen NM supporters might like to attend to hear plans, and to say thanks and farewell to Vicki and Pitman Potter as they retire. RSVP ministrymcu@gmail.com to receive the link to the AGM.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

is postponed to Tuesday June 23 at 7:30 PM due to the above AGM on June 16.

LIVE-STREAMING

As St Philip's website worship and organ concerts reach people at home or far away, we want to capture this potential for the future. Stuart is researching camera and sound equipment so that with improved capabilities, we will be able to bring worship, concerts, celebrations of life, events and weddings to people who cannot attend in person, and to groups of over 50.

NEW ROOF

Click on NEWS at www.stphilipsdunbar.com to see project photos, and an account of a celebration on June 3 to honour Penfold's hard-working six-man crew.
At this point, stucco work, gutter replacement and final clean-up are still to be completed.

GARDENS

Volunteer gardeners can safely return to the gardens soon. Stay tuned...

I CAN HEAR CLEARLY NOW. THE LOOP IS INSTALLED



The Loop System has been installed under the church floor that directs sound to hearing aids. If you benefit from hearing aids, contact your provider to learn how to turn on the Loop feature. Enjoy the choir's musical version of this announcement near the end of the May 31st service.

OUR REFUGEE FAMILY

Schools have reopened. The girls will attend one day a week, but Majd and Ahmad have permission to attend five days a week as elementary school students in need of learning and

social support. Debbie Matheson is seeking jobs for Lama, Sedra and Ward (26). Do you need a painter or cleaner? Contact debbiematheson53@gmail.com

SHARE THE PEACE

Stuart wants to share with the world the true faces of the people of St Philip's. Young or old, record a short video (5 seconds or so) of you sharing the peace: "Peace be with you". Express your personality to share the peace with us and with the world! Send your short clip to: Revhallam@hotmail.co.uk

ST. PHILIP'S RINGERS are volunteers who have rung every parishioner. If you or someone else feels in need of support, leave the name and number on 604-224-3238, ext.304. **We're here.**

PRAYER LIST AND LIFE'S MILESTONES

Please send your prayer requests and milestones to Beth so we can celebrate with you in spirit, in prayer or with a phone call. manager@stpdonbar.com or 604-224-3238 ext 301

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

As businesses and services move into Phase Two, support them if you can. Enjoy a take-out meal, a haircut, or visit a local shop. Jobs and livelihoods depend on our patronage.

RECYCLE, AND SUPPORT ST PHILIP'S

From juice boxes to gin bottles, Return-It will take all your recycling. You can credit St Philip's Church for your donation of recycling to our Express recycling account number 604-224-3238, which is our phone number. Try the Vancouver West Return-It Depot at 1253 W. 75th Ave for ease of drop-off. Go to return-it.ca for the information about what to recycle and how.

DONATE to St Philip's this June and give them a chance to WIN \$20,000!

Every \$1 donated to St Philip's or any Canadian charity on CanadaHelps is an automatic chance to WIN. This year's grand prize money for the winning charity has been doubled to \$20,000! Right now, many charities are receiving fewer donations and need your help. To give to St Philip's, click on the red link below and search for Parish of St Philip, Vancouver.

[**DONATE NOW**](#)

GRATITUDE CONFETTI

Heap gratitude confetti on those who make this uncertain time brighter, safer and more hopeful. Let us show gratitude to all who are carefully re-opening businesses and services, from check-ups to haircuts, while ensuring stringent health precautions.

Staying Close While We're Apart,

Stuart Hallam (Rector), Debbie Matheson, Brian Mix, Diana Bragg, and Suzi Noetzel (Wardens)