

Good morning everyone,



Feb 5 – Pastor Larry

11 - Colin

12 – Laura P

16 – Kaaren F

18 – Al K.

Pastor Larry is celebrating a milestone birthday this year! 90 years of a most interesting life that he has shared so lovingly with us for the past many years. Happy Birthday, Pastor Larry! Lots of love from us all!



and

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## **REMINDER:**



Annual General Meeting - Our AGM has been set for March 7, 2020 and will be held via Zoom. The time of the meeting will be announced soon.

If the Health orders change by then, we will hold the meeting in house with the option of joining via Zoom.

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**Our Epiphany Sermon Series** provided by the ELCIC National and Synod Bishops continues this Sunday.

Rev. Sid Haugen, Bishop of Saskatchewan is guest preacher on Feb. 7, and Rev. Michael Pryse, Bishop of the Eastern Synod concludes the series on Feb. 14.

You can hear them all, by tuning in to our Sunday worship broadcast. The link is sent out every Sunday morning at 8:00am. If you miss the livestream, the videos are posted on our church homepage every Sunday afternoon by 2PM. Just visit [www.gloriadei.ca](http://www.gloriadei.ca)



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### ***Joy in the time of COVID:***

( continued from last week's newsletter)



I was walking at English Bay last week on a sunny day and was surprised and overjoyed to see the whole side of the hill at Sunset Beach was covered in blooming daffodils! ~ Lin P

It brings me joy to lay my hands on my patients and help to heal them. Particularly, in the midst of a pandemic. I am grateful for a job that allows me the joy of touch and the connection with others through my hands. I am so appreciative for this work that God called me to do. ~ Dawn S

This is one thing that has brought me joy these past weeks: I get up before daylight each morning. I look out my windows and even now, after the **Christmas** holidays, I see all the trees for several blocks up lower Lonsdale Avenue strung with bright lights. What a cheerful "Good Morning." ~ Carolyne R

For me, during this time of pandemic I have received joy from the beautiful trees and the North Shore Mountains. Despite the turmoil that is occurring in the human world, they are still as beautiful and magnificent as always. Also, the ability of my children to attend in person school without feeling too concerned about their safety and the positive benefits this has on their and our wellbeing. ~ Jason A



Playing the piano brings me joy. When I am immersed in making music, I don't think about anything else! ~ Pat S.

A Thank you from the Family Services of the North Shore for the Christmas baskets

## THANK YOU!

This past holiday season, our North Shore neighbours, who were already struggling, had an even more challenging time. With your support, we were able to take care of our most vulnerable. We are so **proud** of the way our community rallied from the start of the pandemic. Some comments from a volunteer and client:

"This experience has been a profoundly bright spot in an otherwise dark year. Many of these people are isolated and lonely and we are able to show them in a small way they're cared about. That they matter."

- Christmas Bureau Volunteer

"I found it a comfort that someone was taking the time to check in with me - it made me feel like I was not forgotten about, that I was part of a community of caring people."

- Christmas Bureau Client



Bishop Susan Johnson and Bishop Linda Nichols together "wholeheartedly endorse the global celebrations of WIHW, and encourage the members of our churches to embrace its vision and aims as a faithful expression of their love of God turned outward into love for all others." There are still ways to do this in a pandemic: Pastor Vida and Candace Storm sent a letter of friendship to our neighbors at the JamatKhana, and here are a couple of more ways you can participate and grow in your understanding of other faiths:

- **Encountering People of other Faiths** Reflect on the principles and suggestions contained the ELCIC's resource [Encountering People of Other Faiths](https://elcic.ca/Documents/documents/EncounteringPeopleOfOtherFaiths-InterfaithGuidelines.pdf) - <https://elcic.ca/Documents/documents/EncounteringPeopleOfOtherFaiths-InterfaithGuidelines.pdf>
- **Storytelling: Resilience Through Faith** - Tonight, Feb. 4, at 7PM watch online on YouTube at <https://bit.ly/387pwhh> Organized by the Surrey Interfaith Council, individuals from various faith backgrounds will share virtual messages of how their faith helped them to turn their personal trials and experiences of racism and hatred into something positive.

## Glossary of Terms from our neighbor's Ismaili faith tradition

**JamatKhana** - The word means "the house of the community" and is an amalgamation of the Arabic word *jama'a*, which means group or community, and the Persian word *khana*, meaning house. It is commonly associated with the activities of Sufi groups, but has also evolved into the principle space of worship for Shia Ismaili Muslims.

**Mukhi** - Every Jamatkhana has an appointed guardian who is called a mukhi - a word derived from *mukhiya* means *foremost*. The mukhi is a lay official responsible to officiate over the daily rituals at the Jamatkhana.

The mukhi acts as a representative of the Imam, which for Ismailis is Prince Shāh Karim al-Husayni, otherwise known as his Highness the Aga Khan IV - the spiritual leader of the world's 15 million Shia Ismaili Muslims.

**Liakat Damji** is the current Mukhi of the Lions' Gate JamatKhana

Bishop Susan and Bishop Linda invite the members of the ELCIC and Anglican Church in Canada to pray with them in both our private and gathered prayers, during the week of Feb. 1-7, 2021, using these or similar words:

*O God, Creator of all, you have made us in our great diversity out of the abundance of your love. For the sake of that same love, you invite the whole of creation into your welcoming embrace through your beauty and wisdom made manifest in the world – the same beauty and wisdom made known in the person of Jesus Christ. Grant that those who seek to draw closer towards his humble and hospitable way may also draw closer to our neighbours, that together we might share more fully in the peace and harmony that is your will for each one. Amen.*

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And now for something completely different:

## **North Van City Mosaic** An invitation

The North Van City Mosaic is a community public art project developed by the members of the Mayor's Healthiest Small City Social Resiliency Collective and facilitated by local visual artist Sandrine Pelissier and expressive art therapist Sophie Babeanu.

We invite anyone who lives, works, or plays in the City of North Vancouver to contribute to an online digital mosaic. Go on line and enjoy the description and then add your voice, and your art, to the mosaic. The heart shape is being filled with thousands of pixels, each pixel is composed of a photo or a drawing or painting by each person submitting. You get to tell a brief story about how Covid 19 has affected you and how this image reflects an experience or idea which has helped you cope with Covid 19 related challenges or something inspired for you by this extraordinary time. The project is open to individuals in both the City and the District of North Van. Open to all ages, including children and seniors.

Submit an image of a drawing, painting, print or photograph, along with an optional description, to represent your experience living in the time of COVID-19!

**Submissions are open until Fall 2021.**

Here is the link to Robb Watt's write up:

<https://www.saint-catherines.org/news/north-van-city-mosaic>

Peace,

Lin

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From our Facebook page last week:

