



THE *Lamplighter*

Anglican Parish of St. Mark Quarterly Newsletter • Number 2 • March 2021



Our Church in COVID Times

- by Terry Roberts, People's Warden

*W*ell here we are in 2021 and so far it looks a lot like 2020! We continue to follow the guidance of Dr. Bonnie and the Diocese which has resulted in the closure of the church to services at least until April 12. Although the rate of new COVID infections has gone down in the last month in BC, the rate of infection remains too high to justify significantly loosening the present restrictions on activities.

Despite these constraints, the parish and Diocese have continued to adapt and adjust their activities to meet the needs of our members and the communities we serve.

The Diocese has worked very hard this year to provide good guidance to the parish during the pandemic. As well as the regular guidance provided in

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Our Church in COVID Times (cont'd from first page)

areas such as financial reporting, asset management, insurance and communication through the Diocesan Post etc., the Diocese has done additional work, above and beyond the call of duty, in providing guidance for our COVID closure and response; coordinating the applications for wage subsidies from the federal government; and providing guidance for conducting our Annual Vestry Meetings virtually to name a few examples.

Two other initiatives that were implemented by the Diocese during the pandemic are worthy of mention. The Diocese decided to pay for automatic water shut-off valves with a sensor located where the main water lines enter diocesan buildings. When a sensor detects a leak it sends a signal to cell phones carried by designated parishioners who can then respond immediately to the problem. An automatic leak detection system was installed in St Mark in November. The other initiative was the provision of a grant of up to \$500.00 per parish to upgrade the office computer to better manage the demands brought on by the pandemic and beyond. A new computer for St Mark was purchased which was largely paid from this grant.

These initiatives will provide benefits long after the pandemic is over.

The work in the parish is proceeding on many fronts despite our inability to meet face to face. The parish has welcomed our third refugee family to Oceanside. Hesham, Nour and their children Fatima and Mustafa arrived on December 9th and have settled into an apartment in Parksville. Mom and Dad and the children are going to school and beginning to make friends and to take their place

in the community. The parish is working to reduce homelessness and addiction in our community by participating in the formation of the Oceanside Paths to Recovery Society. OPR has as its key objective the creation of a secondary recovery facility for individuals

from our area who are recovering from alcohol and substance abuse. Our church committee and wardens are calling the congregation on a regular basis to update everyone on our parish list about church activities and to ask if anyone is in need of prayer.

Elizabeth and Andrea, with help from Barb Hicks and others, continue to provide virtual services twice per week for the congregation and friends across Canada. These services have been shown on Facebook and posted on our website up to now. The parish is now developing the groundwork for the use of Zoom to watch the church services and to conduct other church activities such as Christian teaching sessions, (perhaps even musical events?) and our Annual Vestry Meeting (February 28 at 11:30 am). Zoom allows multiple people to view and participate in an event, to speak to a motion or a presentation, and to vote if voting is required. I am excited about Zoom as it does provide a way for us to connect in a way that has not been possible up to now with the COVID restrictions. If you are not comfortable with the use of Zoom, I urge you to watch the YouTube video that was prepared by Pam Brown's daughter Leslie and posted on our website at stmarkqualicum.ca.

The last wonderful event I want to mention was the consecration of our new Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee on January 30th. I look forward to her visiting the parish. A speaker at her consecration service said there are two kinds of Bishops, Shepherds and Fishers. As a good personal friend of Anna, he thought that she was going to be a Fisher. I hope he is right. We all have to be open to God's will and I hope Anna will lead us to a better recognition of what God wants us to be and do at St. Mark and in our personal lives.

We can grieve about the pandemic and the state of the world but we must continue to look for opportunities to do God's will.

Thanks be to God!

ELIZABETH'S QUIRKS & QUARKS

The Front Door

In the neighbourhood where I live in Qualicum, there seems to be a movement to paint the front doors a variety of colours. If you travel up Fifth Ave. West, you'll see a yellow door, an orange door, a blue door and a red door ... mine however, is white! It says something about the tenant, I think, if your front door is a colour other than white. I'm just not sure what it says.

And speaking of front doors, what about the front door that is on a house (as you drive on the old Island highway towards Bowser) where the front door is on the second story of the house - but there are no stairs that would allow you to access the door. What does that say?

And finally, a church door story. In a church far away, I was going to visit for the first time, but I couldn't find the front door. There were many doors, but none seemed to indicate "this is the front door of the church where good Anglicans meet." I walked around the church and found 5 doors, but only one that was open. "Obviously," the Parish administrator said, "the one that's open is the front door." However it did not look particularly welcoming, although it was tucked in behind a lovely flowering winter viburnum.

Front doors are important because they give some indication of the welcome that awaits the seeker. Here at St Mark, there is no doubt about where the front door is located. It's a spectacular wooden piece of art - that indicates artistry, welcome and warmth to any who would approach. It is sad, in these days of COVID, that we're not able to enter freely into our home parish. However we await the day when we will be able to join in safety - and will raise the rafters with our songs of praise once again.

In conversation with our new Bishop Anna, she made a comment that really spoke to me, and made me sit up and take note. She said that these days of COVID have offered an opportunity for all the churches to refocus on a



"new front door ... the internet." This may be surprising to you, but consider for a moment that each week we see over 100 people "being reached" through the "on line" presence of St Mark worship. In other words, the woman who stopped me in the grocery store, shouting that she recognised me from the "web service on Christmas Eve"... people are tuning in to worship and God's word, without ever venturing close to our "regular" front door. How amazing it is that our new front door welcoming the new seeker is the technology that keeps us in touch with the wider Oceanside community.

You may well ask, "what does that say about our community?" I believe that our "on line" presence offers a warm welcome with the Word of God's love that is abundantly given and gratefully received. God's Word can never be silenced, because *"... if they [people] keep quiet, even the stones would cry out"* (Luke 19:40)

PARISHIONER PROFILE: **JACK WREGGITT & CYNTHIA PREYSER**

- by John Smith

*I*ntriguingly, scuba diving keeps coming up when chatting with Cynthia and Jack. The other recurring impression is how passionate they are about the things they have done. From music to HF radio to family history to church projects, they are committed and resourceful. And this is a couple who says they aren't interesting!

Cynthia was born in Cape Town. Soon after she and her first husband David were expecting their first child, they decided to escape/emigrate. "It was an adventure; all the young people were going somewhere." They applied to Australia and Canada, and the Canadian papers came first. They started in an apartment building in Toronto, but the fire-alarm kept going off, so they bought a house. But they missed the mountains, the sea and the beaches.

So Cynthia and David found their way to Terrace, where, with the help of Cynthia's mother, they brought up their daughter and two sons. David was a plumber and gas-fitter; in fact, he did the water and gas installations for the new St. Matthew's church in Terrace. But he was also a master scuba diver; he bought Cynthia scuba diving lessons as a birthday present. Cynthia, with a background in finance, worked at the Northwest Community College (now Coast Mountain College), eventually becoming the College Controller.

David's early death was a blow to the family, taken particularly hard by Cynthia's son Steven. "He became my nemesis," sighs Cynthia. One day she said at choir practice, "Does anyone want to buy a fifteen year old?" And Jack said, "I will." So Steven went to work for Jack. Eventually, Jack became a second father to Cynthia's children, as well as having four of his own.

Cynthia already knew Jack, who had also lost his first spouse, through church and his guitar playing. What clinched things was that, stemming from his love of



Jack practising with friends from St. Mark.

Cousteau's book 'The Silent World', Jack was also a scuba diving enthusiast and ran a scuba diving charter business. Although he and David had been friends at church, they had never discussed the fact that they were both scuba divers. David had started Steven on scuba diving lessons, which Jack took over.

Jack was born and raised as the oldest of four children on a farm near Drumheller. When the family moved to Calgary, Jack found the city to be a different world. While studying to become an electrician, he found the school had up-to-date military transmitter/communications equipment, and so discovered the thrill of HF radio; he still has a ham radio license. For many years he also had a pilot's license and his own plane. He has always loved flying in the far north, though he admits to having been nervous when others were at the controls.

So Jack became involved in the development and installation of Canada's radio communications system throughout the Yukon and the Northwest Territory as far east as Norman Wells. His first wife Patricia was equally at home in the far north, having, amongst other things, hunting rifle skills to an Olympic level.

Another of Jack's lifelong passions is music. An accomplished guitar player from his youth – "My uncle gave me a guitar to keep my hands off his violin" - Jack also played the cello (more about that later). But it was his guitar playing and his innate ability to pick up a tune, sometimes just by looking over the pianist's shoulder when he had no charts of his own, that got him dance band gigs in Vancouver when he was living in Surrey. During the sixties and seventies, he could be seen and heard in clubs like Isy's Supper Club on Robsonstrasse in Vancouver, playing with the likes of Guy Mitchell and Vaughn Monroe. He also played in bands as far afield as Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik.

After they were married, Jack and Cynthia continued to be very involved in the music at St. Matthew's. Also, a cross made by Cynthia's son Steven is on the front of the church, and David was the first parishioner to be buried there.

In 2010, Cynthia came back from a trip to South Africa feeling that it was time to think about retiring. After thirty years in Terrace, a busy schedule at the College, and some issues at their church, Jack and Cynthia began to look elsewhere. Having been to meetings on the Island, she had heard that Qualicum Beach was "a quaint little place". So, while they vacationed at Pacific Shores, Cynthia and Jack went house-looking, though Jack was more interested in whether there were trees in the yard to put antennas in.



Cynthia on Table Mountain lookout in Cape Town.

They ended up building a house here, but it was a bit out of town. When they got an offer for it which they couldn't refuse, they rented a house on Maple Street for a short time, and then – "we aren't renters" – they bought their home in Qualicum Woods, where they are very happy.

When Jack and Cynthia first arrived in Qualicum Beach, they were a bit cautious about church, and intended to go 'church shopping'. But this all got swept away by the warmth of the welcome they got from Alan Naylor and the folks at St. Mark's. And when Jack saw Richard de Candole playing the guitar up there with the choir, he was overjoyed!

So they quickly became involved in St. Mark's activities, Jack playing his guitar with the choir, and Cynthia serving as a crucifer and altar assistant during and beyond Susan Brown's time there. In the difficult period between Susan's departure and Elizabeth's arrival, Cynthia, as Bishop's Warden (there being no incumbent rector), was part of the lay team which is so important in keeping things together during times of change. Cynthia was so grateful for the support of Ansley Tucker, Dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria.

A more recent interest for both of them is their ancestry. Encouraged by his daughter, Jack is researching his Welsh name through FamilySearch, and has traced his family back to the 16th century. Cynthia says royalty, like the Queen of Norway, is involved, "which makes me jealous! I think I come from slaves!"

Although they are well settled here, Jack and Cynthia still have connections with Terrace – "We had a swath of friends there." Also, Jack was very involved with the Pacific Northwest Music Festival. Cynthia's daughter Courteney is a music teacher there, plays the trumpet, and has on occasion conducted the Terrace Symphony and the Community Band. Jack gave her his cello, and arrangements have been made to fund a scholarship at the Music Festival through proceeds from rental of the cello to music students. Now isn't that a great idea!

So, this is a snapshot of a couple who say they aren't interesting! We can't wait for Covid to be over so that we can see them again at church.

FROM THE KITCHEN

Our Newsletter features a recipe from one of the many wonderful cooks that St. Mark's Church is blessed to have. In this issue we give thanks to Susan Pecho for this 'timely' recipe for March.

Irish Soda Bread

Originally from "Five Star Food" recipe book, but modified by Susan (as she does every recipe!)

Ingredients

- 2 cups - whole wheat flour
- 1 1/2 cups - all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups buttermilk
- 2 large eggs
- 4 tablespoons vegetable oil

Directions

In a large bowl, combine flours, brown sugar, baking powder and baking soda, salt. In another bowl, whisk together buttermilk, eggs and oil. Add this to the flour mixture and stir just until dry ingredients are moistened.

Turn dough out onto a floured surface and knead gently about 7-10 times or until smooth. Shape into 8 inch round and place on a lightly greased baking sheet. With a sharp knife, slash top with an "X" about 1/2 inch deep.

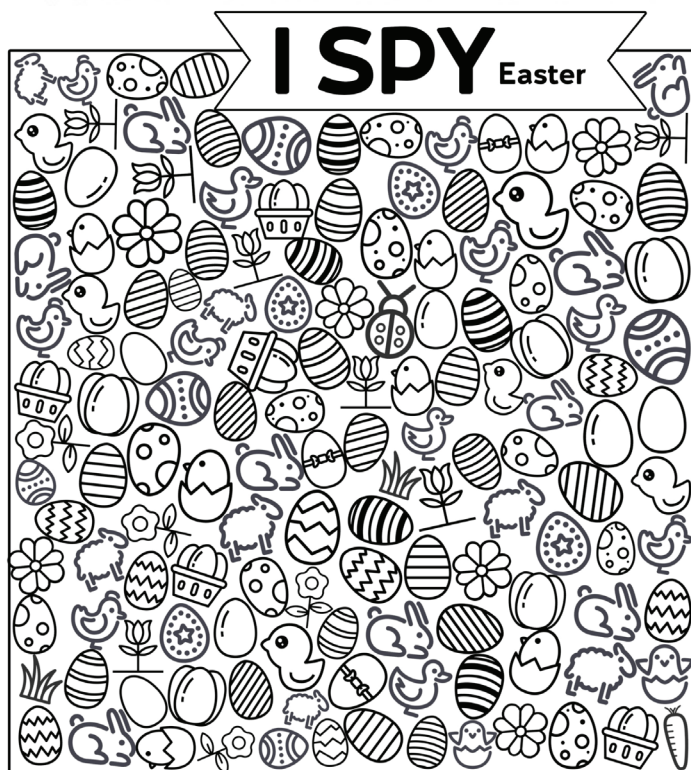
Bake at 375° F for about 35-40 minutes or until brown and crusty.

For added interest, you can also add some herbs to the dry ingredients. One tablespoon of fresh thyme, OR chopped fresh basil, OR chopped fresh oregano.

But in our home, we go without the herbs - and it's all very yummy.

EDUCATION: MESSY CORNER

Join us for **Messy** stories and crafts online at stmarkqualicum.ca every Sunday during Lent.



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EVANGELISM: YOUNG LIFE

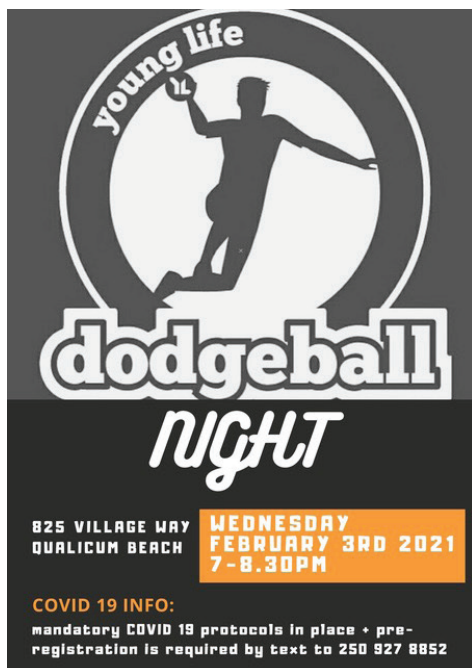
- by Doug Lochhead

Just a quick update on YoungLife in our community. Since March 2020, we've been working with a hybrid of models to engage with kids and families and continually evaluating what is working. Doug dropped to part time at 25% through to September and came back to 60% through to June 2021 but that didn't stop us running our 'more than camp' weekly program through the summer with actives, talks and discussions every week in the summer. We took a little break in September to see how the transition to kids going back to school was working and have resumed a Wednesday program night and as many personal interactions with kids as we can.

A recent highlight was taking 6 kids up Mt Arrowsmith, physically distanced, of course. What was going to be a trip with 2 kids turned into something more significant alongside the challenge of climbing a mountain. And what mountains we have had to climb since March! A recurring pattern has been that we have seen the same, long standing

kids, every week in the summer and as we go into the fall. Our conversations with kids have gone deeper than usual, giving kids opportunities to explore how COVID 19 is affecting their families and where faith fits into that. It's encouraging to see that kids who have been with us for 5+ years continue to get something out of their time with YoungLife leaders.

We have a broad age group of kids from the Johdee family in our ministry and it has been exciting to see them integrate into the Qualicum Beach community over the last 4 years after their arrival from a Thai refugee camp in June 2016. Pyoyo has been studying his boating exam with Doug, while Myintoo plays soccer with Nick and Rebekah has great conversations with Pyint. The younger kids are excited to be involved in YoungLife and we often see Lanny on a Wednesday night. In their own ways, they engage in faith and exploring that for themselves.



A poster for Dodgeball Night. At the top is a circular logo with a silhouette of a person in a dynamic pose, with the words "young life" curved above it. Below the logo, the text "dodgeball" is in a large, bold, sans-serif font, and "night" is in a smaller, cursive font below it. At the bottom, there is an orange box with the text "WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 3RD 2021 7-8.30PM". To the left of this box, it says "825 VILLAGE WAY QUALICUM BEACH". At the very bottom, in a smaller font, it says "COVID 19 INFO: mandatory COVID 19 protocols in place + pre-registration is required by text to 250 927 8852".



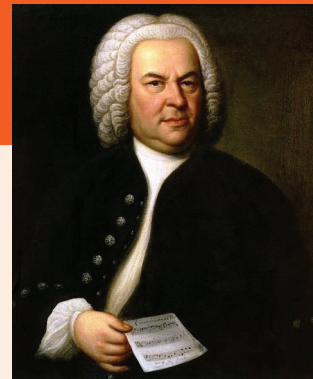
A poster for Nerf Fun. The background is split into a blue top half and a red bottom half. In the center, there is a cartoon illustration of a boy with dark hair and a white shirt, holding a blue Nerf gun. The text "NERF FUN" is written in large, bold, yellow letters across the middle. Below it, in a smaller font, it says "825 VILLAGE WAY QUALICUM BEACH". To the right of the illustration, it says "7-8.30PM GRADE 6-10 FREE!". At the bottom, in a white box, it says "WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH 2021". Below that, in a smaller font, it says "* NERF SUPPLIES+SNACKS PROVIDED * MANDATORY COVID 19 PROTOCOLS IN PLACE PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY TEXT TO 250 927 8852*".



A poster for Soccer Night. The background is green with a pattern of white lines. At the top right is the "younglife" logo with the tagline "You were made for this!". Below the logo, it says "825 VILLAGE WAY QUALICUM BEACH". In the center, there is a large soccer ball. To the left of the ball, the words "SOCCER NIGHT" are written vertically in a yellow box. To the right of the ball, it says "WEDNESDAY MARCH 3RD 2021 7-8.30PM". Below that, it says "GRADES 6-10". At the bottom, in a smaller font, it says "MANDATORY COVID 19 PROTOCOLS IN PLACE + PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY TEXT TO 250 927 8852". At the very bottom, it says "FOR MORE INFO: 250 927 8852 OR QUALICUMBEACH.YOURLIFE.CA".

MUSIC REVIEW

- by Dave Hitchcock



I bless Miss Richards, my Grade 7 art teacher, who after assigning us our work for the day, would leave us to our artistic devices...and put some music on her gramophone while she wandered. One day the music was the most glorious I had ever heard and after class I asked Miss Richards what the music was. That question was a pivotal point in my life as it introduced me to a lifelong love of serious music. I ran down to the record store and bought my first long-play discs – of J. S. Bach's "Mass in B Minor".

You might think that is pretty "heavy" stuff for a teenager, especially as around that time I was listening to the vocal gyrations of Little Richard on Radio Caroline (a 'blast from the past' for Brits reading this?) The "Sanctus" from that mass was the piece that enraptured a grotty teen and has kept him captivated to this day. I still feel that this "Sanctus" is some of the most sublime music ever conceived.

Risking hyperbole, I feel the whole mass is a compilation of genius and I am in awe of the intelligence that created its loftiness and complex vocal and instrumental orchestration. If you do not

know this Mass I urge you to discover the work of this devout Lutheran. An easy way to do it is via YouTube where you will find several versions of this extensive work.

Recommendations:

1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7F7TVM8m95Y&feature=emb_logo recorded at the 2012 Proms. The Sanctus can be found at 1hr 25min.
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EH6wdRVqoXQ> A scrolling version where you can also read the score as it is performed. Tempi are faster than I prefer.

GUESS WHO '1'?



Guess who these two little charmers are (no relation).

GUESS WHO? will be featured in every newsletter. If you'd like to submit a photo(s) of a younger you, please email Barb at bhgs54@gmail.com.

Answers are on page 16.

GUESS WHO '2'?



FROM THE ARCHIVES

- by John Smith

A History of the St. Mark's Ladies' Groups written in 1989 by Gladys Lock throws an interesting light on an activity in the 1950s we would now call outreach.

"There was a great need at that time to supply clothing, bedding and knitted garments for the students at the residential schools in remote and coastal areas of B.C. The ladies worked in groups both at home and at meetings making pajamas, shirts, dresses, and knitted sweaters, socks, hats and gloves.--- At the end of the year these articles were sent to Victoria to be put into large cartons. When the Columbia Coast Mission boat called in to the residential schools up the coast, the cartons of bedding, clothing etc. were given to those in charge, for students there.

My comment in the previous Lamplighter about no church embroidery any more drew a spirited response from Ursula Hitchcock, as follows!

ARCHIVES RESPONSE...

by Ursula Hitchcock

I read John Smith's article on Church embroidery in the last issue of "The Lamplighter" with interest, and must respond to his "throwing down of the gauntlet"! Yes, church embroidery is alive and well, and the most recent project at St. Mark's has been underway for a while now.

Several years ago I was drawn to the First Nations embroidery on the beautiful stole that Rev. Canon Don Willis used to wear many Sundays. I thought that it would be a good challenge to make a hanging to go on the back of the piano. I spoke about my ideas with Sandy Morter as I knew that she is a talented quilter. She was aware of a local First Nations artist, Jai Kealy, who she approached to sketch out something for us and in October 2017 Jai designed a number of beautiful animal motifs which Sandy has been quilting, and I have been embroidering over the past couple of years.

The work, unfinished and still in progress, can be seen at the side. It should be completed before too long – so stay tuned!



The Reverend Canon Elizabeth Northcott invites you to attend The Annual Vestry Meeting for the year 2020 Sunday, February 28, 2021, 11:30am

Due to the current health restrictions, the meeting will be held via Zoom. You can attend the meeting on Zoom by using your laptop, tablet, iPad, or iPhone, providing these tools have a camera and sound. If you are uncertain of this process, please visit our website, www.stmarksqualicum.bc.ca where you can find a Tutorial to help guide you to the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting using this link. You will need to download the free Zoom program to your phone or computer.

<https://zoom.us/j/96908980080?pwd=bkd0ejJuR0U4RllkdWZNSElPY0ltQT09>

If you are not Zooming in to the meeting, a proxy vote is possible: As per the Canons (6.7.01.e) "An elector who is unable to attend a meeting in person may appoint, in writing, another elector to attend and vote on his or her behalf by proxy, provided that no elector may hold more than one proxy at any meeting. A proxy is valid only for the one meeting to which it refers."

We suggest that every person who wishes to appoint a proxy does so in writing and provides a copy of that written appointment to the chair (Elizabeth), who should have a complete list of proxy-voters BEFORE the meeting starts.

FOCUS ON FELLOWSHIP

MEN'S CLUB

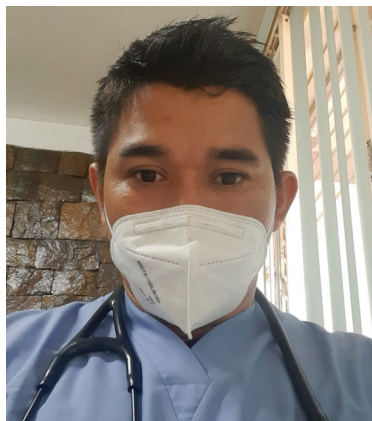
Bill Purdy, *Coordinator*

As you know, over the past several years St. Mark's Men's Club has been supporting, both financially and spiritually, the training and education of Enio in his efforts to become a medical doctor in Guatemala. This began when Dr. Jill Sampson of 'Poco a poco' (slowly, slowly) approached our friend the Rev. Don Willis, who subsequently brought her to the Men's Club with an appeal for support. With Don's urging, our Club took up the challenge.

I'm sure you all remember many ongoing reports to St. Mark's about Enio's struggles, his successes, his problems and his triumphs and finally, over the past year, his graduation as a medical doctor. Enio and Dr. Sampson were both effusive in their thanks to St. Mark's people for all their support over the years.

Enio was particularly thrilled with our final gift of \$1,000, which enabled him to purchase some basics he would need for his practice. "I could not have done this without the support of St. Mark's," he said.

Enio is now a Doctor working at a small hospital in Puerto San Jose on Guatemala's West Coast. He is a very proud young doctor and has made many friends at the hospital. He often returns to his home village to visit his family and, while there, tends to the medical needs of the villagers free of charge of course! Enio is planning for some more courses in the near future.



OUTREACH: HRSG REPORT

- by Terry and Jennifer Roberts

Our new Canadians arrived in December, and are adjusting well to life in Parksville. Samar and Bader and their children moved into temporary accommodations at Pacific Shores so that Hesham, Nour, Fatima and Mustafa could stay in Samar and Bader's home for their mandatory 14 day quarantine period. On January 1st, Hesham's family moved into an apartment in Parksville, and Samar and her family moved back home. Samar hadn't seen her brother Hesham for 10 years and the children hadn't met their cousins at all, so they are very happy to hang out and enjoy meals together.

Part of the adjustment of the family was their introduction to a Canadian Christmas. Although the family is Muslim, Hesham's children were soon introduced by Samar and Bader's children to the story of Santa Claus and how he drops off stockings filled with gifts for good boys and girls. The two families spent the night together on Christmas Eve, and Santa found his way to their door at 6:30 am, much to the delight of the five children inside.

Both children are going to school for the first time in their lives. Fatima is attending Grade 1 at Springwood Elementary and Mustafa is enrolled in Sunrise Preschool at the Craig Street Commons. It so happened that

Fatima was scheduled to attend her first class a week or so before Mustafa was to go to preschool. When Fatima left to go to school without him, Mustafa started to sob, thinking he had been forgotten. They both love school. After only one week at school Fatima (who turned seven in February) had the courage and self-confidence to perform a Syrian song and to dance in front of her class. We think they will do very well!

Mustafa also just had a birthday, and another unfamiliar Canadian custom was realized - singing Happy Birthday!! They know the words already, and he was hugging his plate of cupcakes.

Both parents had their English language assessments at the Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society in Nanaimo in February, and hope to start online English language classes soon.



AROUND THE PARISH

- by Sue Smith, Janet Dol and friends

Well, Friends, we've weathered an entire year of being apart from each other, missing church and all of our social interactions. But we have news to report and hope you will enjoy reading about what some of St. Mark's parishioners have been doing over the past three months. Many thanks to all who have allowed us to share their news and sent in photos; this 'column' cannot run without your input. Please contact Sue Smith (sueandjohn@shaw.ca or 250-594-3750) or Janet Dol (thedolhouse@shaw.ca) to give us YOUR news for our next edition coming out at the end of May.

Ryan Geboers found ways to use his new toy trimming excess 'Lumber' while his wife **Ann** literally lay around for six weeks nursing a hair line fracture and Wedge compression in her 'Lumbar' region after a bad fall. On the plus side, they enjoyed gazing upon interesting pics of their great-granddaughter's first two teeth.



Carolyn Gretsinger and Chenda Bishop are missing gatherings with their family of St. Mark's during this Covid time, but continue to stay engaged by calling their portion of the parish list monthly to relay news and hear tales of Covid journeys and prayer requests. Carolyn enjoys caretaking the Garden of Remembrance; and Chenda, as Rector's Warden, has been meeting weekly with Rev. Elizabeth and Terry (the Peoples' Warden) to carry out the business of the Parish while our Church buildings are closed. Their daily 'road trips' take place on an exercise bike, pedalling 5km on an imaginary trip to Whiskey Creek (while deciding which flavour of ice cream cone to enjoy). The evening sees them living vicariously through the many TV dramas while their hands create a plethora of knitted sox, toques, afghans, and sweaters of all shapes, sizes and colours - gifts to grands and kids and Manna.



Janet Dol wishes her husband John, a happy 90th birthday this February (as do all of us!). Unfortunately, she had to cancel the festive plans she had in mind. However, they could still have a special dinner at home, and hopefully celebrate together when her birthday comes up in the summer, without too many Covid restrictions.

AROUND THE PARISH

Sue & John Smith are staying healthy, thanks in part to their daily walks with Brooke, their Newfoundland dog, as well as a lively game of Scrabble and solving the cryptic crossword. John has enjoyed his short-story writing and taking part in Zoom meetings while Sue has been involved with producing floral art designs along with winter 'armchair gardening', planning for spring plantings and projects.



How many of us would have thought we would be going into our second year of 'Lockdown' muses **Robyn Willis**. She gives thanks for the availability of Skype, Zoom, etc. for being able to keep in touch with friends and family in New Zealand, and doesn't mind the increased long distance bills. Promises made to herself include cleaning out drawers and cupboards, but so far she has managed to avoid such temptation and has wasted many an hour with America's Cup races, crossword puzzles and reading. She says it will take at least another year to do those things which ought to be done but, with clever management, they can be successfully avoided, too.

Wendy & Richard de Candole's fifth grandchild, Jude, conveniently arrived when restrictions were being relaxed so they were able to make the trip to Kamloops in July. In August the whole family gathered at their camp on Horne Lake for a week of swimming, boating and campfires! Thankfully they have been able to keep in touch through the wonders of technology, watching Jude giggle and grow; and at Christmas they had their own little Zoom Christmas party. They are grateful for this time of reflection and peace.



AROUND THE PARISH

Dave & Ursula Hitchcock find it difficult to believe that they have been in their new home for over a year now. They have missed using their subscriptions to live theatre and concerts, but did manage a most enjoyable “dinner-date” at the Chemainus Theatre shortly before the most recent Covid restrictions kicked in. Mostly, they’ve missed getting together with family, but have enjoyed a few walks with their kids and grandkids from Nanaimo and here – especially a pre-Covid restriction Mother’s Day picnic by the Little Qualicum river. Even though their daughter Naomi’s family lives right next door, because both Naomi and her husband have “front-line” jobs and the grandchildren are in school, they do not get together for safety’s sake. (Although they did sneak a short birthday celebration with them for Ursula recently – don’t tell Dr. Henry...)



Busy, busy, busy! **Nancy & Dave Klinger** haven’t let Covid slow them down. Dave has been researching, practising and organizing his Zoom class entitled “The New York Jazz Scene 1900-1960” for Elder College in March. Many days were also spent fly fishing (notice he didn’t say catching fish). Nancy has finally finished up her large painting to hang in the foyer, continued Zooming with book club, and spent many hours volunteering to train dogs for Pacific Assistance Dog Services. Cedar plays and puts up with these furry house guests, which change over every 10 days. The best part is their daily walks through the woods or down to the estuary, hearing the bird calls and watching nature change with the season. The snowdrops and crocus tell us Spring is nearly here.



While the lives of **Morag & John Atherstone** have been constricted by the war on COVID, their usual family celebrations of Christmas and New Year, grandchildren’s and other birthdays took place in splendid isolation although their undercover verandah has seen the occasional small family get together. Yet they take delight in simple things, eat well and exercise daily, and contact those they love and especially those alone. They’ve completely renovated their guest bathroom, which now has an Art Deco and exuberant feel! John has found his twice weekly golf to be a great way to safely socialize

AROUND THE PARISH

while being physically and enjoyably active. And in the meanwhile, Morag has learned to knit socks, to mud dry wall, to paint walls and base boards as well as take a course through Leiden University on Demystifying Mindfulness. And she can now set up a Zoom meet through which to do their Bible study. On January 13th, they celebrated their arrival in Canada, 30 years ago. It was 32C in Johannesburg when they left and -32 degrees in Edmonton when they arrived; they feel so very blessed to call Vancouver Island their home!

Louise & Dave Kelsey have been keeping fit with their usual activities like biking and walking plus helping take care of their Grandson. While Louise was busy in the garden trimming a cedar hedge at the back of the garden and cleaning out a decorative pond, Dave was updating and adding more tiles to the backsplash in the kitchen. A 1000 piece jig saw is always on the go and they are playing lots of Scrabble! Both are fine but getting fed up with the isolation from friends and acquaintances and not being able to go away for a day or two to Victoria or the West Coast. However, they have lots to be thankful for and hope the vaccine comes sooner than later!



Jennifer & Terry Roberts have been managing to keep out of trouble(!) and are grateful for having a few jobs to do, both for Church and for our new Canadian family! Terry meets on most Wednesdays at the Church for 'distance' Warden meetings, and both are part of the delivery team for bringing packages to those folks who are unable to access the service on the internet and enjoy the friendly faces on the receiving end! Helping to settle and move our new Syrian family after their quarantine period and supporting them in enrolling the children in school and preschool, as well as Sponsorship group meetings by Zoom and doing some of the required paperwork, have kept them occupied! While they, like everyone else, miss their grandkids, they are very thankful for social media that allows for reading stories on FaceTime; and they have had virtual Thanksgiving, birthday and Christmas visits to tide them over until the real visits can happen. They have watched a lot of Netflix! And they try to get out walking, but Jennifer reports that Terry is more dedicated. She is inclined to make bread and read books! Both of them miss seeing everyone and send virtual hugs for you all!



In Memoriam *Nancy Chisholm*

We were all saddened to learn of the death of our faithful parishioner, Nancy Chisholm.

In mid-January she had been on her regular walk-about-town when she fell and was taken to hospital in Nanaimo.



Despite receiving great care, she passed away following surgery for a broken hip.

We will miss her regular weekly presence when we are able to open again, and the little red wool crosses that she made for visitors to St. Mark's.

From The Editors

For this issue of The Lamplighter, due to great contributions from many of you, we have expanded from 12 pages to 16! Thanks for this and some super photos. Barb Hicks has once again waved her magic wand to make it all look fabulous. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. - John and Sue Smith

ST. MARK'S SERVICES

IN PERSON WORSHIP has been suspended until further notice. Please check stmarkqualicum.ca for bulletins and Zoom links for all services. Services will be available as "Live Feeds" on Facebook and on Zoom.

WEEKLY SERVICES:

Sundays at **10:00 am**

Wednesdays at **11:30 am**

MESSY CHURCH (DURING LENT ONLY):

Messy story and crafts will be available on our website every Sunday through Lent.

EASTER SERVICE:

Sunday, April 4th at **10:00 am**

ANSWER TO **GUESS WHO "1"?** Robin Willis

ANSWER TO **GUESS WHO "2"?** Terry Roberts



How to Contact THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF **St. Mark**

138 Hoylake Rd W.
Qualicum Beach, BC
V9K 1K3

Parish Office (Pam): 250-752-5414 • admin@stmarkqualicum.ca

OFFICE HOURS: 9am - 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Rector (Elizabeth): 250-240-2418 • enorthcott@bc.anglican.ca

Rector's Warden (Chenda): 250-947-9788 • wardens@stmarkqualicum.ca

People's Warden (Terry): 250-240-4330 • wardens@stmarkqualicum.ca

FaceBook: www.facebook.com/stmarkqb • Website: stmarkqualicum.ca