

# CONNEXION

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

Number 39



## St. Mary Church

1973 Cultra Avenue,  
Saanichton, BC V8M 1L7



## St. Stephen Church

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



June 2021

### In this issue:

Dates to Note	2
Special Parish Announcements	2
From the Pastor's Pen	3-4
Book Review	4
Parishioner Profile	5-6
St Stephen Cemetery	7-8
100th Synod Report	9
Recipe Page	10
Underscore	11
Cane's Corner	12-13
Around the Parish	14-19
Parish Directory	20

*Due to the current Covid19 pandemic emergency regular services may be impacted.  
An on-line Worship Service is available each Sunday*

### Worship Services

#### Sundays

9:00 am Holy Eucharist

#### Wednesdays

10:00 am Holy Eucharist  
(See website for any upcoming  
Bible Study options)

### Worship Services

#### Sundays

11:00 am Holy Eucharist  
in the Hall

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**Incumbent:** Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

**Honourary Assistant:** Rt Rev Dr. Logan McMenamie

**Retired Clergy:** The Ven. Bob Baillie,  
The Rev. Dr Brett Cane, The Rev. Canon Lorry Harrison



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

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich  
St. Mary Church      St. Stephen Church

**A**t the time of distribution of this issue of ConneXion all services and events have been put on hold as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic Health Orders. Please check the church website and other electronic sources for updates over the next three months. The following are the basic events which were planned and may recommence if health regulations allow:

- **Sunday services** at St Mary at 9:00 am. (On-Line viewing available later on Sunday)
  - **Sunday services** at St Stephen at 11:00 am.
  - **Wednesday Eucharist services** at St Mary at 10:00 am.
  - Currently there are pre-recorded weekly services from both churches available on-line for Sunday viewing. There are also some Sunday morning coffee chats on Zoom.
  - **Sunday, June 20, 2021:** Our Bishop, the Right Reverend Anna Greenwood-Lee, will be participating in our virtual service recorded earlier in the week. She will also be attending a Zoom get together on the Sunday morning. Details regarding the time and invitations will be sent to parishioners closer to the time of this event.
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## Special Parish Announcements

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**T**he Parish is pleased to announce that our parish priest, Lon, has completed his doctorate after many years of study and work. Congratulations Lon on this accomplishment. For further details see the Pastor's Pen column in this issue.

The Parish is also pleased to announce that Lon, has been appointed as the Archdeacon of Haro Region. Congratulations Lon on this appointment. For further details see the Pastor's Pen column in this issue.

The Parish is also pleased to announce that Tracy Stubbs from St Stephen has agreed to accept the invitation to serve on Parish Council. She will be replacing Joan De Baerdemaeker who has recently moved to Saskatchewan. Welcome to the Parish Leadership Team, Tracy.

The Parish is also pleased to announce that Leslie Flynn will be joining us as a theological student from the Vancouver School of Theology. She will be with us from September 1st this year until May of 2022. Leslie's background is in youth ministry but by agreement of all, that will NOT be her focus. She is training to become a priest. Leslie will become heavily involved in Liturgical Assisting and will fully submerge in liturgy, administration and pastoral care in the Parish during her time with us. For more information about Leslie see the parishioner profile in this issue. We look forward to her time with us.



The Operations Committee of St Mary has asked that the individuals involved in the maintenance of the gardens around the church building contact Ian Stuart or Ken Pedlow about their plans for continuing in this capacity. Discussions are underway on proposed changes to the landscaping, and they would like to involve those still taking care of various sections.

**We mourn with the families and pray for the souls of the 215 children whose unmarked graves were found beside the Kamloops Residential School.**

# From the Pastor's Pen

The Rev. Lon Towstego



**H**ello everyone. I hope that you are all staying safe and healthy. We are hopeful that as the COVID-19 numbers continue to go down and vaccinations go up we will meet together again before too long. This said we are also being cautious as the different strains of the virus are around Canada.

I have had an eventful month or two and will say a little about this to help clarify for people.

**1) On May 7th I convoked and received a Doctor in Ministry from the Lutheran Theologica Seminary in Saskatoon.** This college is part of the Saskatoon Theological Triune, with Anglican, United and Lutheran faculty. For any of you that know Rev. Dr. Eric Partridge from St. Andrew, he received his doctorate from the same seminary. My thesis was “Walking Well Together in Reconciliation”. The focus is on our parish and reconciliation with First Nation, Inuit, and Metis Peoples. At some point I will be having a session in the parish to share this work and engage us in a process of continued and ongoing reconciliation. If you have not seen it a great starting point is to watch the documentary “Doctrine of Discovery-Stolen Lands Strong Hearts.” <https://vimeo.com/321909285>

**2) I was appointed as Archdeacon of Haro Region.** See the diocesan announcement below:

“With great joy, we announce that Lon Towstego, incumbent at the Parish of Central Saanich, has accepted the bishop’s appointment to be Archdeacon of Haro, effective immediately.

Congratulations to The Venerable Lon Towstego!

We look forward to announcing a date of his collation soon.

For those who may need a refresher, an archdeacon is a senior clergy position appointed at the pleasure of the bishop; they are responsible for: welcoming and orienting new clergy to their region; installing a new incumbent in a service of celebration and leading the service in the absence of the bishop; providing pastoral support to parishes, especially in times of crisis; ensuring the smooth transition between incumbencies; and supporting and advising the bishop.

All clergy and lay leaders are encouraged to engage with their regional archdeacon first when navigating parish challenges, and if deemed necessary by the archdeacon, seek further assistance from the bishop’s office together.”

I want to be clear that this does not change my role in our parish and that my focus is always here. This role helps me bring the latest and most accurate information to the parish about the diocese. I look forward to getting to know Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee better as well. The work of archdeacon varies and from time to time there is more activity in the region than at others. Most of you will know that I was an archdeacon in Selkirk Region. I look forward to working at this in the Haro Region which I have grown to love.

continued on page 4

### 3) 1909 Prosser Road Supportive Housing Development:

We have formed a group in the parish to interact with the future residents and the manager/operators of this community of people coming into live in our neighborhood. It is our prayer that they find the transformation that they seek, and that God blesses them on this sacred journey. We are in early communication with BC Housing and hope to impact the philosophy of this particular housing development. We are looking at the theology and missional reasons why and how the church should be involved. My thoughts are that we look to be peacemakers rather than pitting neighbor against neighbor. There is a lot of water to flow under the bridge before planned opening day. To become better informed I suggest the following website, <https://letstalkhousingbc.ca/central-saanich-1909-prosser>

Blessings today and always.

*The Rev. Lon Towstego*

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## Book Review: *The Enchanted April*

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By Nancy Choat



*The Enchanted April*, written in 1922, is Elizabeth von Arnim's most charming novel in every sense.

Four women, with very different backgrounds and characters respond to an advertisement in *The Times*, offering a medieval castle to rent in Italy that April. As their joint holiday begins, tensions flare up between them, but the climate and the castle eventually start to have an effect on the four women. Their perceptions shift and they wake up to the love in their lives.

Mrs. Wilkins and Mrs. Arbuthnot, the original two respondents, are joined in their act of escape by the youthful Lady Caroline, whose beauty and general melodiousness have become something of a burden to her, and the formidable Mrs. Fisher, who insists that everyone think of her "just as an old lady with a stick" as she sets about imposing her will on the rest. Each one is vaguely unsatisfied with their lot and Mrs. Wilkins and Mrs. Arbuthnot both have marriages of quiet English unhappiness.

Von Arnim has an eye for small human failings, the little acts of pettiness and selfishness in which most people indulge. She is perceptive about the way people misread one another's good (and not so good) intentions, and the early chapters read like a comedy of miscommunication. She also revels in the descriptions of the castle grounds and their beauty and colour.

A huge best seller when it was published in 1922, *The Enchanted April* has inspired generations of readers since, and established Portofino and the Italian Riviera as a mainstay of the tourist circuit.

Even if you have read this short (244 pages) paperback novel before, it is definitely worth a second read.

# Parishioner Profile: Leslie Flynn

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by Sandra Scarth



Leslie describes herself as a lifelong Anglican, active in various churches since she was nine. She attended Sunday school, was involved in youth groups, and spent time at Camp Columbia. She felt the call to Ministry very early when she was just thirteen years old!

She grew up in Victoria with a single mom who was involved in the church and still attends St. George's. Leslie went to Doncaster Elementary School for French immersion and then on to Pacific Christian for high school.

She attended Trinity Western University in Langley focusing on psychology and human services and with a specific interest in mental health and addictions. She then worked in Langley for four years doing administration for a non-profit.

In 2014 she moved to the UK to visit her older sister Caimbria who was then living in Sheffield. She found a job in a local shop and began attending a "big" church where a few thousand was considered a normal congregation, something she had never experienced before. The evening service was reserved for young adults.

She loved her life in England, and stayed for two years, doing a fair bit of travelling around the country and more importantly meeting her partner Andy who hailed from Burton on Trent in the Midlands. Five years ago, they decided to move to Victoria where Leslie's mother was living, and Leslie immediately involved herself in church life here. She and her mother both attend St. Georges.

She and Andy house sat for eight months until they could get established in jobs and earn enough money for their own place. Leslie worked for the Victoria Cool Aid Society on supportive housing services and Andy, who has a master's degree in film, initially found work in that industry. When the jobs dried up because of Covid restrictions, he decided to go back to school to take web development courses.

Leslie also found part-time work two to three years ago with St. Luke's and St. Georges churches as a program director, organizing summer camps, adult bible studies, services in care homes and other activities as needed. She also enjoyed organizing and working with a youth group from several churches from different denominations. There was a plan to form a similar youth group from churches in Central Saanich, but the pandemic put a hold on that endeavour. She

continued on page 6

## Parishioner Profile *continued*

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Above: Andy and Leslie

Below: Leslie with friend Kelsey



most enjoys working with community groups and specifically likes conversations with young children using her puppets. (Who does that remind you of??)

Currently Leslie is completing her first year of Seminary at Vancouver School of Theology and took precious time off from writing two papers for our interview. Courses are all on Zoom, which is not what she anticipated when she applied, as she misses the personal interactions, but she has found some positive aspects. For example, morning prayers on Zoom often have twenty or more participants whereas if held in person in Victoria there would likely be less than ten people. She has also become friendly on-line with a young Muslim woman who wanted to become a hospital chaplain but found there were no courses specifically for Muslims, so decided to attend the Vancouver School of Theology. They are enjoying learning from each other and finding much in common.

When I asked her what she dreamed about doing when she was through her courses, she said she is still in the discernment phase, but thinks eventually she would like to be a parish priest. One of her challenges/dreams is to work on how to reach the millennials who do not attend church currently and may have had little or no direct experience of Christianity in any form.

In her leisure time (not much at this point), she loves to read, particularly historical fiction and mysteries. I told her she would likely be asked to do a book review for *ConneXion*! She agreed she would be quite happy to do so. She and Andy play all sorts of board games and she likes to be active, swimming, walking, hiking, and taking yoga and exercise classes when it is again safe to do so. She is a social being and misses the in-person part of church and our current Covid-safe life.

She enjoys keeping in touch with her sister and her nieces, Florence, aged five and Evelyn who is three. She is also “auntie” to an adopted baby of close friends.

She is looking forward to her time with our parish and feels fortunate to have Barb Baillie as her mentor. She currently uses public transport and thought about riding her bicycle between the two churches once she realized how rural St. Stephen’s is. But she also decided it was time to learn to drive and is taking driving lessons, just to be on the safe side.

# St Stephen Cemetery

by Lynda Clifford and Lon Towstego

## *Did you know?*

There is a lovely peaceful cemetery surrounding St. Stephen Church, enclosed with a white picket fence. It is a quiet and peaceful place, and many enjoy the stroll throughout the year. The cemetery is just a few years younger than the Church which was built in 1862. The cemetery has pioneers from the Mt Newton Valley buried here, and the good news is there is still room, plot reservations can be made by contacting either church office.

We acknowledge that our cemetery is on unceded lands of the Tsartlip Peoples and we look to walk well together, as neighbors.

## *Did you know?*

We have an Archivist who has been entering many details about who is resting here, photos of monuments, details of who and why and when. With the pioneer families there is a lot of history in this small cemetery, and this has been collected and stored safely and we will continue this.

## *Did you know?*

You can plan your own funeral, memorial or celebration of life service.

The incumbent, currently the Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego would be happy to sit down with you and help you plan the service, choosing your favourite scripture readings, hymns and other special things you would like to have included. The time you spend now will help your loved ones in the future. Our incumbent will explain what further costs will occur at the time of death, so that you feel fully informed. Our incumbent can also explain the differences that arise between full burial and interment of ashes.

Long-term giving plans can also be discussed and decided in advance, which will mean your choices can be discussed and written down for you to keep.

## *Did you know?*

You can reserve a full burial or interment space in the cemetery.

Yes, just by contacting the office at either church and someone will be in touch with you to help direct you through the process. There are rates for members of the Parish of Central Saanich and for nonmembers. We don't call it buying but rather reserving a space.

continued on page 8



# St Stephen Cemetery *continued*

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## *How do I choose a plot?*

We have a new custodian for the cemetery now and he will be able to guide you around the cemetery and point out available plots.

He will look after collecting the fee, and you will be given a receipt, and your name will then be entered into the data base as having reserved a plot.

## *How do you manage to charge so much less than the private cemetery?*

We are not in the business to make a profit, and we are governed by the Consumer Protection Services department, who make sure we abide by the regulations. This is meant to protect you. We have a board which consists of Wardens and interested parishioners from both churches and there are bylaws which are reviewed by CPS and they visit on site. The rates must be available and posted. We are required to have a fund that will provide perpetual care for the cemetery. We pay a groundskeeper to look after the grass cutting and tree management and other related duties. So, this does mean that we do need an income to take good care of the Holy ground here, so some of the funds are used for ongoing care and maintenance. There are other costs for example office time and materials. A budget is provided annually as are the financial reports made available at our AGM.

## *How can we be good stewards of this land we have in our care?*

This cemetery has been in use since 1862, and to think as you walk around, the care that has been given to this Holy ground over the years shows the compassion we and those before us have had. It is a very special place, where we lay our loved ones to rest and prepare for the future in our own lives. It is important to us that this peaceful place in the Mt Newton Valley is looked after now and that the perpetual care is continued for years to come.

It is always possible to donate to the grounds care in the cemetery, for which you will receive a receipt. It is also possible to donate to the perpetual care of the site of a loved one, if this is your choice. We do enjoy the flowers in the spring and do not do the first grass cutting until the flowers have died off, to protect them so we see them again next year.

# 100th Synod of the Anglican Diocese Of British Columbia

## May 29, 2021

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By Ken Pedlow

The 100th Synod of the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia was held using the Zoom platform on May 29th, 2021, starting at 8:30. Following a welcome, a land acknowledgement and the opening worship, the bishop's charge was presented. Reflecting on the fact that synod is being held on the day that the church marks the meeting of Mary and Elizabeth, who are both pregnant, Bishop Anna suggests that the church is also in the process of change and rebirth at this time. This liminal time we are living in is being called "The Great Emergence". This time of change and turbulence will with God's hand leading the way result in something new for our church. We don't know what it will look like yet, but it will require us all to work together and support each other as we go through this transformation.



After a number of administrative issues were completed, the elections for clerical secretary, lay secretary and treasurer were held. This was followed by a tribute to Connie Isherwood, a former long-standing chancellor of the Diocese.

The next items on the agenda were the receiving and presenting of a number of financial and non-financial reports. The diocesan financial situation was reported as delicate on account of the pandemic. This was followed by a "no-debate" vote on multiple minor changes to the canons and regulations, and two significant votes to reduce the size of Diocesan Council to 20 members and reduce the frequency of its meetings to at least 5 per year from the current 10. The Youth Delegate to Diocesan Council was eliminated, but Bishop Anna and Diocesan Youth leaders have formed a separate Youth Forum by which diocesan Youth voice will be fostered and heard.

Elections were then held for positions on General Synod, Provincial Synod and the Diocesan Court.

An update on the Transforming Futures initiative was also presented, and while it has been on pause for the past year, it will hopefully be revived in the near future.

The Synod concluded with the election results, motions of thanks, closing comments, adjournment and a blessing at 12:30.

# Recipe Page

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Recipe submitted by Leslie Pedlow

## Broken Glass

### *Crust*

- ½ cup of butter or margarine
- 2 cups of Graham cracker crumbs
- ¼ cup of brown sugar, packed

### *Filling*

- 3 oz. of raspberry flavoured gelatin
- 1 ½ cups of boiling water
- 3 oz. of lime flavoured gelatin
- 1 ½ cups of boiling water
- 3 oz. of lemon flavoured gelatin
- 1 ½ cups of boiling water
- ¼ oz. of unflavoured gelatin powder
- ¼ cup of cold water
- 1 cup of pineapple juice
- 2 cups of whipping cream (or 2 env. topping)
- 2 tbsp. of granulated sugar
- 1tsp. of vanilla

**Crust:** Melt butter in saucepan. Stir in crumbs and sugar. Press into ungreased 9 X 13-inch pan. Bake in 350-degree oven for 10 minutes.

**Filling:** Dissolve raspberry gelatin in first amount of water. Pour into pan so it will be about ¼ inch thick. Chill.

Dissolve lime gelatin in second amount of water. Pour into pan so it will be about ¼ inch thick. Chill.

Dissolve lemon gelatin in third amount of water. Pour into pan so it will be about ¼ inch thick. Chill.

Sprinkle unflavoured gelatin over cold water in small saucepan. Let stand 5 minutes. Add pineapple juice. Heat and stir over medium heat until dissolved. Chill until syrupy.

Whip cream, sugar and vanilla until stiff. Fold into thickened pineapple mixture. Draw knife through red, green and yellow jellies cutting into ¼ inch cubes. Fold cubes into cream mixture. Spoon over crumb crust. Chill. Cuts into 15 pieces.



# Underscore

by Bob and Cathy Quicke



Cathy has corresponded recently with Herbert O’Driscoll and this wonderful song writer has sent her 13 songs/poems that are mostly not printed in hymn books. The following is one of them which can be read as poetry or sung to the tune of St. Deneo. It is the tune used for ‘Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise’.

## Herbert O’Driscoll



Herbert O’Driscoll is former cathedral dean of New Westminster and is an internationally recognized preacher and author. He has written more than 30 books and a number of hymns.

O’Driscoll was born in 1928 and educated at Trinity College, Dublin. After curacies at Monkstown and then Ottawa from 1937 to 1948, he was ordained in 1953. He was Dean of New Westminster from 1968 to 1982.

His column, ‘Reflections’, appears regularly in the Diocesan Post.

*When the finger of God touched the hand of man,  
Then the wonderful story of Jesus began,  
And the gifts of the gospellers gave us the grace  
Of the wine of his words and the love in his face.*

*When Peter remembered his call by the lake  
To the way of a cross and a heart that would break,  
That story of Peter, by Mark handed on,  
Was the first proclamation of God’s only son.*

*Of kings and of frankincense, myrrh, and of gold,  
Of timeless beatitudes Matthew has told,  
And the Name above names he in homage accords  
Is Jesus Messiah, the Lord of all lords.*

*A gentle physician, Luke tells of a birth,  
When the angels of heaven sang peace to the earth.  
His vision extended across the world’s span;  
His Christ is for all, Son of God, Son of Man.*

*From out of the heart of the universe stirred  
The light of creation, the life giving Word,  
That glory revealed to the spirit of John  
‘God loves us so much that he gave us his Son’.*

*When the finger of God touched the hand of a man,  
Then the story of all earth’s salvation began.  
All praise to the Father, all praise to the Son.  
All praise to the Spirit in whom we are one.*

# Cane's Corner: Anglicanism: "The Church Year" (Part 1)

By the Rev. Dr. Brett Cane

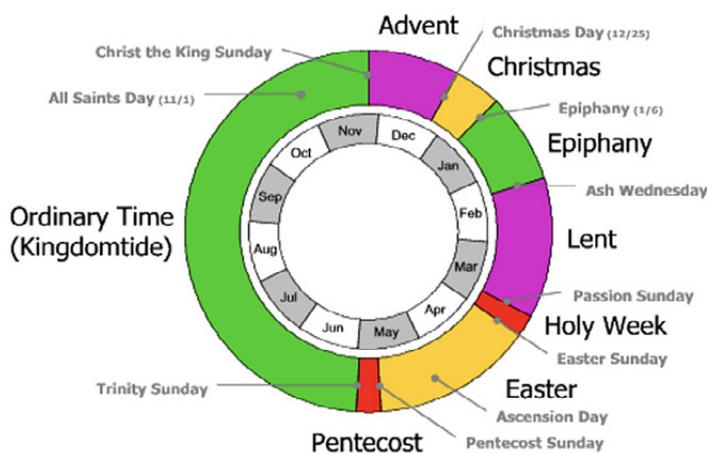
In recent issues of *ConneXion*, I have been sharing some of the material from the "Anglican Studies" course I teach to those training for ordained ministry in Ethiopia. So far, I have addressed Anglicanism's approach to authority, its breadth and balance and the nature and value of liturgy. In this and the next article, I will focus on how our worship is shaped through our use of the Church Year.

## Introduction

One of the assumptions of our Prayer Books and traditional Christian worship is the organization of the Christian Year. Unlike the Bible, the backbone of our liturgy and first Christian tradition, the organization of the church year was a late development over a period of centuries. As such, the celebration of various days and people and so on is not an essential element of faith. However, as I hope to point out, it is a helpful guide and framework to keeping a balanced and broad perspective of the life of Christ and the faith in general.

In this first article, I will explain the overall shape of the Christian year, how it is expressed, and the value of such a pattern. In the next article I will look at each section of the year, its origins and content.

## Overall Shape



- i. The first thing you will notice is that the Christian year does not begin with January 1 but is built around the two reference points of Christmas and Easter. Thus, the first Sunday in Advent, the beginning of the year occurs four Sundays before Christmas (Dec. 25) in late November or early December.
- ii. The second thing you will notice, is that it seems to be divided into two halves, you are exactly right - the first half of the year, from Advent to Pentecost deals on the whole with the events of Christ's life and their impact upon us.

The second half, which Anglicans know either as the Pentecost or Trinity season, deals more with various characteristics and practices of the Christian life, both individual and corporate - living out the Kingdom of God.

## How is the Christian Year expressed?

- i. The theme of the day or time of year is chiefly picked up through the readings from the Scripture (including the psalms) and the collect or special prayer of the day (the "proprs"). The lectionary, or list of readings, which we will talk about in a moment, covers the themes comprehensively over a three-year cycle.

continued on page 11

- ii. The second way the year is expressed is through other content in the service. This would include hymns or songs and special music suitable for the season, liturgical portions omitted or added in certain seasons such as reading the Ten Commandments in the penitential seasons, using a lot of "Alleluia's" in the Christmas or Easter seasons and so on.
- iii. It is also shown through our ceremonial, by our actions and colours. At festivals we can process or dance about the church with an air of celebration and the church be specially decorated. In penitential seasons, our movements are less dramatic and our decorum more sombre. The colours of the various church hangings and the clergy garments change:
  - Purple for Advent and Lent - seasons of penitence and reflection. Some churches use Blue for Advent instead, partly because it is a less sombre season than Lent and it signifies royalty and the coming king.
  - Red for times when life has been given and blood shed by Christ or martyrs and saints. Red also represents the Holy Spirit coming with tongues of fire.
  - White or gold is set apart for the great festivals such as Christmas or Easter or times of celebration and purity.
  - Green is the colour of growth and is seen in the times of the year when we concentrate on how the Christian life is to be lived out such as in the Sundays after Pentecost or Epiphany.

These colours have grown up down through the centuries and are not alike in all places. Some churches have more others less. The common Anglican use is largely taken from the Sarum or Salisbury practice in the South of England.

### *What is the value of such a pattern?*

- i. **It focuses on Christ** - He is the author and finisher of our faith - most of the first half of the year brings before us the crucial events in his life, the actions of God in Christ that tell us who he is and what he has done for us and how we are to appropriate it. Christianity is Christ; the Church Year underlines this.
- ii. **It gives a comprehensiveness to Christian teaching.** Because of the many themes covered during the year, we are prevented from focussing too much on one area, say sin, and not on joy - or vice-versa. We are given the bad and the good news. We are shown humanity's true state but also his glorious potential. We can systematically cover Christ's life and its application to us and then the outworking of Christ's life through us.
- iii. **It is an aid, not a restraint** - In using the Christian Year, though, we must remember its purpose - it is given not to complicate us but to help us to follow Jesus more nearly. The crucial thing is not to get entwined and hindered by this scheme, but to use it as a helpful aid. Where it might be superseded for good reason, we can. As long as we know its purpose, we can be wise in its use. It is not a binding law, but in the spirit of Galatians, as the Old Testament Law led us to Christ, so can the Christian Year lead us to focus upon him as the righteous and glorious One who has come for our Salvation. "The Christian year is a rich resource that, if used correctly, can add a sense of variety, beauty and discipline to worship."

*Next time, we will examine in more detail the various seasons of the Christian Year.*

# Around the Parish

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by Nancy & Friends

**A**fter taking a break from providing news about parishioners, it was decided to go directly to the source(s) for this issue! So, seven parishioners were asked to let the rest of us know what they've been doing the past 15 months. This resulted in some interesting insights as to what at least "some" of our parishioners have been doing. None of what has been submitted has been altered, although I did make a few irresistible remarks to a few of them. There's also some other news that became known and that has been included in "Other News". Enjoy and have a few laughs.

*From Greg and Christine Robinson:*

Christine and I are some of the fortunate ones in this difficult time. We haven't lost our income or our health, and we have each other. We know it hasn't been so easy for so many others.

We have formed a bubble with Brett Cane, and we have dinner together fairly often, and sometimes we extend our bubble to our son David and his wonderful wife Krysta. (We Robinson men have a tradition of marrying up.) My biggest issue is that it is allowing me to become me lazy, as so much of the volunteer work, I used to do isn't happening. It is very easy just to spend my life here at home around books, (I still love to read books on theology and not just NT Wright), spend time on the computer, play the guitar or watch TV.

Fortunately, my Edmonton Oilers are having a fairly good year and we'll see how far they can go. I miss going to the Victoria Royals game, but they are having a disastrous season anyway, while playing only in Kelowna and Kamloops.

Christine spends a lot of time looking after me, (nearly a full-time project), but also spends a lot of time with her flowers and making our back patio beautiful.

We pray for and look forward to the time when we can all congregate in church again, and we and the rest of the world can all leave our hermit-like existences behind.

*From Eva and Richard Townsend:*

During COVID19, Rick and Eva did all the usual chores at home. Went to Church and prayer time when we could. Our daughter, Joy, did all of our grocery shopping. Rick gardened, worked on genealogy, set up his model railway, took short neighbourhood walks, read, Zoomed and watched TV. Eva baked, took short walks at home, used the phone and prayed. Thanks be to God the vaccine is now protecting us and we feel extremely blessed and fortunate to live here in beautiful Brentwood Bay.

*From David Cooper:*

**Note:** David's initial response when asked if he would be willing to do a write up on his activities during COVID was: "Thinking about it! Will let you know, but things move slowly in this COVID era!" Then, this followed a few days later: "Not sure what you were expecting, but I was not crocheting dish cloths etc., just digging around!" plus this:

*“My biggest issue is that it is allowing me to become me lazy...”*

continued on page 13

## Around the Parish *continued*

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Of the many activities that became popular during COVID, doing puzzles was one. Mine was constructing the circular genealogical puzzle for my late wife, Maureen, who, from her birth certificate, was a “white native of British Guiana”. She knew little of her ancestral roots other than many went to BG up to five generations before from the British Isles to become sugar plantation owners/managers/overseers or colonial government officials. She represented the puzzle’s first piece with two lugs to which two parents were attached (each with two lugs) and so on, and since the pieces have no flat sides, one ancestral line ran to 38 generations! But many pieces ended quickly hoping for parents to hug! With those 38 generations, one was the benefactress of Salisbury Cathedral; three were beheaded or hung at the Tower of London (one for assuming royal power from Edward III, another for leading a Cornish Revolt against Henry VII); another was the secretary to Cardinal Wolsey and Henry VIII; another left his farm to the citizens of St John, Newfoundland and now the Bally Haly Golf Club. Genealogy is infinite, offering another surprise within each piece that is found!

**Note:** My goodness David, you certainly did uncover a lot of exceptional history! Thanks for sharing.

*From Diana Abbott:*

*“I had all sorts of good intentions of clearing up over 50 years of stuff”*

**March to June** - My left hip surgery was due on March 23 but was cancelled, so continued mowing at St. Stephen’s until the end of May. I had all sorts of good intentions of clearing up over 50 years of “stuff” that had accumulated, starting with sheet music, and Conservatory music books. That took ages (weeks!) because I had to take them to the piano and play them. This was challenging as the piano had just had a new string added (lower C) which needed tightening so “twanged”. Needless to say, that was a wasted effort as the boxes are still full. Then a half-hearted sorting of clothes in my closet, but then what to do with them as no thrift stores were taking anything at that time, so hung them all back again. Cleaned and rearranged my pantry cupboard and dry goods cupboard where I found quite a few “treasures”, also met up with Margery Lord and cleaned up the church kitchen.

**June to September** - Hip surgery finally done on June 3rd so had a nice lazy 6 weeks other than somewhat brutal physiotherapy exercises. Was allowed to drive by the end of July so was able to get groceries again. John Beresford kindly took over the mowing for me during the summer.

**September to December** - Back on the mower in October to give the grass it’s final haircut and was able to get off the tractor without the aid of a crane so felt quite chuffed! Still trying to get motivated to clear out junk but got distracted very easily as I guess everyone does when there is lots of time ahead! A quiet Christmas by myself as the grandchildren were bringing friends to daughter Karen’s for the day so felt it better to stay at home. A Christmas “survival” kit was brought to me - ham and scalloped potatoes on Christmas Eve, and the full “Monty” on Christmas Day along with the family shouting through the door!

**January to March** - My brother brought down 15 boxes of books to be sorted

continued on page 14

## Around the Parish *continued*

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through from clearing out a “hoarder’s” house, all stacked in my garage. January 28th was left hand carpal tunnel operation - very quick and not too painful, but very difficult to tie up shoes, open cans or bottles and dress for a few days. Now to the books in the garage - gave up after the first three boxes and called in the guy from the Haunted Bookshop in Sidney who spent two hours looking through them and finally took the lot and gave me \$150 to boot!! Maybe I should ask him to come and sort out all my “stuff”? Had my “shot” but am still being very careful and have not enlarged my “bubble” at all. The cat is great company, doesn’t argue with me and puts up with my singing - a “purrfect” companion! The new hip works but not quite as well as I had hoped, so am using a cane when outside. Back on my “Deare John” companion making straight lines again and being so very grateful for being alive, healthy and living in such a beautiful country. This pandemic eventually will end and may we all be much wiser and grateful!

**Note:** I think Diana wins the prize for the most detailed description (month to month) of what she’s been up to during Covid! How does she remember all that? Maybe she keeps a diary.

### *From David and Alison Stewart:*

Highlights for us in 2020 included chilling out in Tofino while celebrating a significant birthday; checking out the Sunshine Coast and Vancouver Island with our Montreal son and his partner in sunny July; and cruising the Rideau Canal for a few days in sunny September with two of our children and their partners.

Our main COVID-19 activities have been upgrading our two bathrooms; organizing the chaos in our box room, enabling my sewing table to be re-assembled; and piecing a queen-sized quilt for our Ottawa daughter.

Serendipitous silver linings include Morning Prayer with the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral; viewing the Emily Carr exhibition at the Royal BC Museum in peace and quiet; and no longer walking around with wallets/pockets weighed down with toonies and loonies. We have really missed seeing our two Boston grandchildren, now almost eight and five; our various planned trips and expected visitors from near and far; and our weekly bridge sessions at the Shoal Centre. Roll on 2022!

### *From Lynn Fallan:*

At first, I did not feel COVID affected me as I needed time for physical and emotional recovery. The total cessation of all activities and responsibilities allowed quiet time for healing. Then: estate matters and Government agencies (Ugh), many phone calls from friends and family, decluttering the house and sheds, many items out on the road for free and they all went!

Channeled Len’s talents for help with repairs required and for gardening. Long walks with a friend, distanced coffee time with a couple of wonderful friends, Zoom Yoga and lots of reading and reflection.

Blessed that son Wade and family are in the area and I am a caretaker for after

*continued on page 15*

## Around the Parish *continued*

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school care for grandchildren, so I am in their bubble for meals, sleepovers and play times.

Now a year into COVID I am doing some home renovations that Len and I wanted to do but never had the time. Learning to paint etc. So, looking forward to when we can be together again as a Parish for Worship, laughter and support for each other.

**Note:** As an aside, Lynn is definitely learning how to paint, decorate and get rid of stuff. We're wondering when we'll start seeing her new-found talents on YouTube or Instagram! And you'll have to ask her about the weekend she had the new wall to wall carpet laid!

### *And last but not least from Sandra Scarth:*

When Nancy asked me to describe how the pandemic has affected David and me, I had to think about it and realized that it has had some unexpected consequences. First, our routines are no longer the same. Pre-pandemic, I was up early and out by 8:00am meeting dog-walking friends in the park. When we could no longer stay separate enough, I sadly had to quit going to the park, so had no reason to rush out of bed. The snooze button became my close friend. Now I sleep in until close to eight, (sometimes later!), put on the kettle and throw a ball for the dogs in the back yard. I usually get out to walk the dogs by about 9:30.

David started going out on his recumbent trike early in the morning but didn't want to run down the children on their way to school, (he almost ran down a couple of deer), so also waited until later to go. So, breakfast became brunch and lunch became early tea in the afternoon and dinner often doesn't happen now until 7 or 7:30. We were told it was best to keep to a routine during COVID, but this may not be the routine envisioned by the person advocating routines!

The other major change for me is the lack of the need to get dressed up since we must stay so close to home that the usual outfit is grey or black jeans with either a grey turtleneck or another grey top without turtleneck. Every day! No earrings and no lipstick because of masking. However, on Zoom, I can still pretend I am dressed up with a colourful scarf over the grey tops. David rarely ever gets dressed up, so COVID has not affected his usual attire.

One of the surprising positive outcomes of COVID is hearing and seeing the symphony on the computer. Although we miss being at the concerts, the filming is quite wonderful as you can see all the performers up close, something you can't experience at the concerts. I hope they will continue to do some filming of concerts in the future.

I miss seeing family and friends but have spent much more time phoning old friends and Face Timing with family than I did in the past. I get a little Zoomed out with all the meetings happening that way, but it is fun to go to church on-line still in pyjamas or if dressed up, a dressing gown!

“ ... on  
Zoom, I  
can still  
pretend I  
am dressed  
up... ”

continued on page 16

## Around the Parish *continued*

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**Note:** Sandra added a note in her email to be sure and mention “how great it is to have coffee with a couple of good friends”. Lynn and Sandra and Nancy meet about once a month at the Empourium and get caught up in news, while keeping a safe distance and more recently enjoying socializing outside.

### *Other News*

Phone calls were made to two of St Mary’s eldest parishioners, **Pat Stanlake** and **Audrey Quakenbush** to see how they have been managing.

Pat “celebrated” her hundred and first birthday on May 4th with a cake and visit (from a distance) from her daughter and son in law. Her care giver Sharon visits her every day from 9 am to 9pm to assist her with her daily routines, shopping and meal preparation. Talking to Pat it is hard to believe she is 101! No problem with hearing or memory, but she’s missing not being able to play bridge twice a week! Her cat, Mrs. Bennett, keeps her company while she enjoys knitting (something she’s “recently” taken up!). And she and Sharon go for daily walks near St Mary. Sounds like Pat is doing more than most of us each day!

Audrey moved from her house to a second-floor apartment at the Legion Manor. She sounds like she couldn’t be happier as she says: “I have found so many new friends here and am no longer sitting at home alone, waiting for someone to visit or call.” She makes her own breakfast (her biggest challenge was to learn how to soft boil an egg in the microwave!) but has lunch and dinner provided and there are laundry facilities available. And so many activities to take part in, including bridge which is one of her favourites. At 98 years of age, it looks like Audrey has got a new lease on life! Well done, Audrey!

Congratulations are now owed to our parish priest, **Lon**, now referred to as **The Venerable Dr. Lon Towstego**, for the completion of his Doctor of Ministry degree and his recent appointment as the Archdeacon of the Haro Region. Lon started the process of earning his doctorate three years ago, before he was appointed to this parish. Lon is very thankful for the team who worked with him, all the parishioners who helped him by being interviewed and watching the video of The Doctrine of Discovery, and to the Diocesan Educational Trust Board who partially financed him. For further details on this accomplishment see the Pastor’s Pen column in this issue. Thanks also go to Marian for her assistance and support of Lon during this time.

Lon’s recent appointment as Archdeacon of Haro to replace **Penelope Kingham**, who retired, reestablishes his previous position as Archdeacon of the Selkirk region. For further details on this appointment see the Pastor’s Pen column in this issue.

It is nice to see **Barb Baillie** as a Liturgical Assistant at St Mary. It is also great to see **Greg Robinson** as a Liturgical Assistant at St Stephen replacing **Mike Dyer**

*continued on page 17*

## Around the Parish *continued*

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who has retired from this ministry. Thank you, to Barb, Greg and especially Mike for taking part in our church services. David, Ken and Jackie appreciate the assistance.

**Bob and Cathy Quicke** are very excited about the news that Heidi, their daughter and her husband are expecting a baby boy sometime this June!

And last December, **Susan and Roy Pullan** became great grandparents for the second time when Bryar Jane arrived, a sister for Bridget Alina. They live in Calgary. Susan enjoys receiving regular updates on how both great grand daughters are doing.

**Carl and Shirley Schwazer** became great grandparents for the first time with the arrival of Oliver McCreath on February 7th. His mom and dad, Jenette and Neil, live with Oliver in Shawnigan Lake. Belated congratulations to the families!

**Jean Perry**, a long-time member of St Mary's church, passed away in February and a memorial was held (via Zoom) on March 4. My fondest memory of Jean was when she and I would decorate the cross when it was located at the front door of the church. She would bring all sorts of lovely blooms and greenery and we would enjoy our time together.

**Lynda Clifford** writes that the **De Baerdemaeker** family have moved to Saskatchewan. **Carmen, Joan** (pronounced Yuan) with their daughter **An** first met Lon in February 2020. They expressed interest in attending St. Stephen. As it happened the next night was the Valentine Dance and Lon invited them to come along, and they did. So, they worshipped with us during following 14 months. They arrived from Europe, having lived in Belgium and Spain. Joan was working here, for Eurosa Roses,

similar to the work he did in Europe. Just recently, the family, which enlarged last Christmas, when son Toby arrived, have moved to Saskatchewan. Joan will be working on a farm there and both Toby, who is a butcher, and Carmen will be working. An will be attending a small school in the community where they live, only four other grade seven students, and a variety of grades. Next September she will be further away to high school. The family left Brentwood Bay April 24th and arrived two days later. Their trip was good, and they are settling into life in Coleville, Saskatchewan. We of course wish them well as they enjoy Prairie Life! We will miss their enthusiasm; all the family have participated in different ways throughout the time they were with us. We will keep in touch. We are family!



# Anglican Parish of Central Saanich Directory

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**Pastor: Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego** 250-208-9949 [ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca](mailto:ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca)

**Parish Council: Ex Officio**

**Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego**

**Rector's Wardens:** St. Mary  
St. Stephen

**Ian Stuart**, [istuart1@mac.com](mailto:istuart1@mac.com)  
**Lynda Clifford**, [lgcliff@shaw.ca](mailto:lgcliff@shaw.ca)

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St. Stephen

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**Members:** St. Mary  
St. Stephen

**Karen McColm, John Beresford**  
**Terry Hartley, Tracy Stubbs**

**Synod Delegates:** St. Mary  
St. Stephen

**David Cooper, David Stewart, Ken Pedlow (alt)**  
**Don Wilson, Sandra Scarth (alt)**

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## Clergy Contact Information

**The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego**

250-208-9949

[ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca](mailto:ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca)

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**Office Hours:**

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

**Bob Quicke** is at the St Stephen's office on Tuesday from 10:00 to 1:00, Thursday from 10:00 to 2:00,  
Friday from 9:00 to 2:00.

**Please call or email your respective office for the most up-to-date information or to make an appointment.**

**Drop in visits are still being discouraged.**