



CONGRATULATIONS!



Eric and Melissa

Picture stolen from Melissa's Facebook page

The Anglican Church Women
of the Diocese of New Westminster
Congratulate our Patroness

Bishop Melissa Skelton
on her recent marriage to
Eric Stroo

August 15th 2015

May you have many happy years together.

ORDER OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW WESTMINSTER

On November 1st 2015, at the Massey Theatre, 735 8th Avenue in New Westminster the following ACW members will be welcomed into the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster. Many other ACW members of the Order will be there to congratulate them in person.

Mrs. Carreen Adams,
St. Thomas, Vancouver

Mrs. Mary McIntyre,
All Saints, Mission

Mrs. Alberta Rudolf,
St. Michael, Surrey

We would also like to acknowledge the Bishop's
Nominee

Mrs. Denise Hambidge



Congratulations to all of them - and thank you for
all that you do for the ACW and for the church.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all my Sisters in Christ,

Fall is upon us and I am sure you are all busy gearing up for the season – to say nothing of the many Christmas bazaars and teas, etc. I do hope you have had a restful summer and will be approaching your upcoming activities with energy and enthusiasm. I am looking forward to attending as many of your events as possible and will be trying to arrange a visit to one of your Branch meetings over the coming months. I would love to hear from you if you have something special happening!

Thank you to the work of Social Action Chair Beth Fortin and her crew for the great job on our First Summer Open House! I hear it was a great day and, although the attendance was not 'outstanding', it was encouraging and we hope that this year's participants will help us advertise the event for 2016!

2016 Calendars have arrived and are ready for distribution to the Branches (thanks to the Board Members who assisted with the sorting!). Hopefully by the time you receive this publication, many of you will have received your orders. Thank you for your ongoing support of this project. We will continue to encourage other parishes to avail themselves of our service.

This month, the Social Action teams have been busy sorting the masses of donations received over the summer months – it is amazing just how many items have been dropped off, but there are still a number of specific things we need in order to properly complete the bales. Please be sure to take a few minutes to review the "Needed Items Lists" located in this edition! Thank you Monday Ladies for your dedicated service!

You will have received my recent request for comment on a new proposal for Outreach – the Chaplaincy at VGH – and would ask that, if you haven't already responded, you do so as soon as possible. I am pleased to advise that comments so far have been very positive and during a recent visit to ACW Place, Chaplain Liz Hamel shared some of her experiences with us and it really is an important ministry that needs support in order to continue. Needless to say, we believe it should be part of the ministry of the Diocese, and perhaps we can help make that happen. We look forward to receiving

your comments.

I have heard from Eileen Chan, the President of St. John the Divine Anglican Church ACW who will be representing the APCI at the upcoming National Presidents Conference in St. John's, Newfoundland and she is **so** appreciative of our support. No doubt she will be communicating further with us in this regard. I, too, am really looking forward to the event. It certainly sounds like it will be quite "an experience" and I will be reporting further upon my return. Plans for the 2016 Conference are well underway with the extraordinary leadership of Sheila Puls and I am looking forward to officially extending our Invitation to the delegates in St. John's. Thank you to those Branches who have already contacted Sheila with your offers of assistance with favours. Please refer to Sheila's report regarding additional volunteers and/or donations that will be required.

Until next time, Blessings and:

*May your joys be as deep as the ocean,
Your sorrows as light as its foam!*

Margaret

Your sister on the journey,
Margaret Warwick,
President,
ACW Diocesan Board

The only guide to a person
is his/her conscience;
the only shield to the memory
is the sincerity of their actions.
It is very imprudent to walk through life
without this shield,
because we are so often mocked
by the failure of our hopes
and the upsetting of our calculations;
but with this shield, however the fates may play,
we march always in the ranks of honour.

Winston Churchill.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

CHRISTIAN WITNESS

Like some I have spent some time reflecting – what would happen if Jesus applied to come to Canada from the Holy Land. Would he be allowed to come? Or would he be turned away as a single man who seemingly does not like the authorities who rule in his own country. Perhaps a label had been attached to his name as someone who wanted to bring down the government and who had a gang of young adults who roamed the countryside encouraging others to join him. Or if he asked to bring his widowed mother with him – would she be turned away as she was older and there was no family fortune. And would his brothers and sisters be turned away as well and advised to stay in camps and be patient for 4-6 years?

Anglicans have for the most part with the present migrant crisis been including the plight of refugees in parish community prayers of the people. And saying some private prayers and checking NGO websites about how best to assist in some personal way. But – that horrid word “but” – it is confusing – as we look inside of ourselves and examine how much do we want to really be a Christian witness on such an overwhelming issue in our family, with our friends and neighbours and in our community-at-large.

Way back in 1939 Episcopal Bishop Frank Wilson wrote timeless book Faith and Practice. It is worth a second look in what daily seems like an all too chaotic world of late. He stated:

“Everybody stands for something. Whoever you are, you are contributing something to the course of human events. When an issue arises you may remain silent and believe you are not committing yourself, but your very silence counts for something one way or the other. Every life sheds an influence on other lives – good and bad, positive or negative, helpful or harmful. These cross-hatched influences flowing out of many lives make the broad pattern of modern society.”

“Christ is an issue in modern life. Every man and woman contributes something toward what His standing shall be in the world of our time. Strictly speaking there can be no spiritual neutrality.”

Soon our nation will have another federal voting day. Perhaps some of us were too busy or ill the

last time and did not vote. We are blessed to live in our country given to us by God. We are all being offered the opportunity to share that blessing by placing a ballot in a ballot box. And let's not forget just before October 19 to say a prayer:

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom: guide and direct, we humbly ask of you, the minds and hearts of all those called at this time who wish to serve in the House of Parliament of Canada. Amen.

The Rev. Sue Foley-Currie

FORGIVE ME WHEN I WHINE

Today upon a bus, I saw
A lovely maid with golden hair;
I envied her - she seemed so gay -
And oh, I wished I were so fair.
When suddenly she rose to leave,
I saw her hobble down the aisle,
She had one foot and wore a crutch,
But as she passed, a smile.
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine;
I have two feet - the world is mine.

And when I stopped to buy some sweets,
The lad who served me had such charm;
He seemed to radiate good cheer,
His manner was so kind and warm.
I said, "It's nice to deal with you,
Such courtesy I seldom find."
He turned and said, "Oh, thank you, sir!"
And I saw that he was blind.
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine;
I have two eyes - the world is mine.

Then, when walking down the street,
I saw a child with eyes of blue.
He stood and watched the others play;
It seemed he knew not what to do,
I stopped a moment, then I said:
"Why don't you join the others, dear?"
He looked ahead without a word,
And then I knew; He could not hear.
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine;
I have two ears - the world is mine.

With feet to take me where I'd go,
With eyes to see the sunset's glow,
With ears to hear what I should know:
I'm blessed indeed, The world is mine;
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.

Author unknown

In July I attended the Diocesan School for Parish Development and met Krista Fry, who told me about her experience with ACW Toronto. She has a Masters in Divinity and is seeking ordination in the Diocese of New Westminster

Sheila Puls

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN CHANGE LIVES WITH START UP FUNDING



In February 2009 I entered India on a month long visit to Chennai, India. I was wearing three hats; one as a visitor and on holiday, one as a divinity student writing a theological reflection and the last as a staff supervisor of an inner city youth delegation from Toronto. I intended to do a little travelling on my days off, work on a paper for credit at Trinity College and ensure that the twelve member team of young adults were keeping up with their assignment while integrating in and experiencing life in India. I also carried with me a grant application from the Anglican Church Women for a women's entrepreneurial project of five thousand dollars.

As someone who had not been to India I had an emotional first week vacillating from distraught sympathy to an anger I never knew I had. 'How can people live like this? And 'How can so many walk by a suffering soul such as this?' I finally came to terms with the living environment trying to understand that within our differences, there is still a common love that radiates through all of the waste, poverty and tragedy. Even though we had taken part in sensitivity training, it was still an eye-opener for someone like me who has never gone to bed hungry to witness abject dearth.

I had retained an academic supervisor who felt my paper idea was interesting enough for a possible credit towards my Masters. I began a comparative

study on differences and similarities between Hinduism and Christianity. A fairly broad scope would narrow itself down as I began to 'hang out' with a local Brahmin. He took me along with him on his scooter as he did his daily ritual temple ablutions, prayers and blessings. The eyebrows raised and villagers questioned who this white woman was on the back of the scooter trying not to touch the Brahmin without falling off. Nevertheless, the animated conversations involved the whole village and one or two who spoke enough English to help me. It was fun-loving, educational for us all, and at the very least entertaining for the villagers and me.

At the time I was working at a community centre in Toronto that had a local interest in the youth who frequented the centre. Many were out of school, just out of jail or out of luck and wondering what to do next. The director made annual trips to India and then Africa with successful youth applicants to enrich their lives with a view in other parts of the world hoping to give them time enough away to sort through some difficulties while sourcing new ideas and participating in a global initiative. The youth volunteered at a number of primary schools helping with English in the classroom, or offering some physical education training or running after school programs. One such school was called Little Lambs and was a Christian school started by a Dutch couple and in operation for many years.

While visiting the school and speaking with Maria, the principal and founder, I mentioned that I had with me a grant application to offer a women's group that needed some start up funding. She was immediately excited and mentioned a group forming that would start a sewing collective to support themselves and their children as many of the men and fathers were not working or not contributing to the family's wellbeing. The completed application was faxed back to Toronto and the wait began. They had written a good application with Maria's help requesting the funding for manual sewing machines, two electric sewing machines, training for two women (who would then train the other women) and funding for a child minder while they worked.

They had secured a space that was not too far from their village with an agreement to pay the back rent as they moved forward and began to earn a living. They were successful and they are still in business today thanks to the Anglican

Church Women's hard work and outreach across the world. What seemed like a small amount by our standards was an enormous amount for the women in Chennai, who are now living a life with secure independence, comfortable housing and a safe working environment.

I did manage to get a little travelling in but was happier when involved with local people and their initiatives, faith traditions and families. While I was supervising the youth for only one month, the team remained to complete their three month commitment supervised by other team staff. Many of the young people returned again to mentor a new group and some have returned to volunteer for their own interests. A number of the youth gained employment at the community centre while only a small handful returned to their previous street affected lives. Some went on to college and university or completed high school. All have memories from their experiences that changed their lives. I got my credit with the paper and have since received my Masters in Divinity and am seeking ordination in the Diocese of New Westminster, B.C.

Krista Fry, August 10, 2015

Leaf Dance

*Why is it people say
(You'll notice that they do),
"In autumn, the leaves fall"?
It isn't really true.
I've watched them, and I know
From more than casual glancing,
Leaves never fall, they go earthward dancing.*

*Seeds of the sycamore
And chestnut do the Twist,
Twirling about in joy.
Staid leaves resist
The breeze's coaxing tune,
Then slowly let
Themselves be drawn into a minuet.*

*And after they have all
Danced from the tree
Leaves cannot be still,
But scratchily
Follow the piper's tune,
Wild and sweet,
In jaunty Conga lines down every street.*

R. Grenville

THE NATIONAL ACW WEBSITE

www.acwcanada.com



National ACW President Susan Kinney

Keeping in touch across the nation, the National ACW have a website. There you will find pictures taken at each of the annual National President's Conference (including some of your own Presidents over the years!). Also, the National President, Susan Kinney, posts a regular letter. She sends the following traditional blessing to sisters across the country - which I reprint here.

*May there always be work for your hands to do.
May your purse always hold a coin or two.
May the sun always shine
upon your window pane.
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain.
May the hand of a friend
always be near to you
and
May God fill your heart
with gladness to cheer you.*

Also quoting from her letter:

As you may be aware, the theme of this year's National ACW conference is:

"Leaders of Courage, Serving by Faith"

So fellow Sister's in Christ, please always remember - **YOU ARE A LEADER OF COURAGE, Serving by FAITH** as we each Minister in our "ACW Ministries" in each Diocese across Canada :)

Blessing Always from Your,
National ACW President,

Susan Kinney

A CASE FOR HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

MISSION

Hospital chaplaincy exists for two reasons. First, the hospital is an environment where there is great suffering and great need. Research reveals that the vast majority of patients use their hospitalization to review and reorder their life's central values, and that their illness changes their understanding of the purpose of their lives. Patients, and their friends and families, have had their lives destabilized. They often seek solace, and seek meaning for their suffering at the very same time their very vulnerability may undermine traditional means of coping with life's challenges. This is true even when an admission is planned. Hospitals are places where challenges to the human spirit are an everyday occurrence, where faith in all its meanings is tested. The hospital as a thin place - not in any romantic sense, but as a place where humans come to terms with their weakness, their mortality, and their relationship with God.

Second, as Christians, we have made a baptismal promise to continue in fellowship, prayer, sharing of the eucharist, proclamation of the good news in word and deed, seeing Christ in all persons, and loving our neighbour as ourself. The Chaplain is one who has specific education and training which enables her to give expression to this covenant, and who fulfills the special requirements of ministry in an intense medical environment.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The work of chaplaincy extends the walls of the parish, serving members of our church family while in hospital, and also between the wider church and patient. She serves as a symbol of our Anglican tradition, and of our whole faith community - form across space and time, with its traditions, rituals, and theology.

It is the work of the Anglican hospital chaplain to assist those she visits to cope with their illness - spiritually, emotionally, intellectually: to walk beside them as they examine the intersection of their illness and their faith, their values, and their relationship with God. The chaplain listens and responds to patients as they tell the story of their life and their illness. She supports patients and



their families as they attempt to make sense of their illness. The chaplain, with the permission of the patient, also advocates on their behalf to medical staff and family.

The work of chaplaincy is also that of evangelism. The very presence of the chaplain in hospital rooms and hallways is a sign to all who see her that the church is alive and cares about the suffering of others. It is not unusual for visitors or staff to stop me and ask about my faith, about God, to request prayer, or just to say thank you for visiting the sick.

STRUCTURE

Each working day, I receive a census generated by the hospital which lists those patients who have identified themselves as Anglican or Lutheran. There are generally very few Lutherans but I visit them, with the permission of Bishop Greg Mohr, because we are in full communion with the ELCiC. I also receive referrals from medical staff, social workers, and the Spiritual Care Workers employed by the hospital. I am associated with the Spiritual Care and Multifaith Services department, and the three Spiritual Care workers employed by the hospital. Doug Longstaffe is the team leader of that department, and therefore I work in association with his team. I am, however, an employee of the Diocese of New Westminster.

OUTCOMES

The fruit of my work is not easy to measure. It is built on trust that God is at work in my life and work, and in the lives of those I encounter. I have seen individuals come to terms with their impending deaths and those who reach out in fear. I have prayed at the bedsides of people who are unaware of my presence. I have listened to family members who ask where was God when their loved one was hurt. I have shared the eucharist in almost every area of the hospital, from ICU to extended residential care to the psychiatry. Perhaps one of the most concrete measures of my work is the feedback I receive from time to time from those who request additional visits, from patients or their family members, and from parish priests whose parishioners I have visited during their hospital stay.

The Rev. Liz Hamel,
Anglican Chaplain at VGH



WORLD FOOD DAY OCTOBER 16TH

Fred says:

“Have you eaten today?”
“It’s good to be full of beans”
“Let’s jam”
“Some like it hot”

We live in a world where 1 in 8 people don’t have enough to eat. The Most Reverend Fred Hiltz – the “Fred” behind Fred Says - together with The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) want Canadians to know that when it comes to development work, it all starts with food. We live in a world of plenty - and are lucky to live in a country where there is enough for all and enough to share.



FAO celebrates World Food Day each year on 16 October, the day on which the Organization was founded in 1945.

The objectives of World Food Day are to:

- * encourage attention to agricultural food production and to stimulate national, bilateral, multilateral and non-governmental efforts to this end;
- * encourage economic and technical cooperation among developing countries;
- * encourage the participation of rural people, particularly women and the least privileged categories, in decisions and activities influencing their living conditions;
- * heighten public awareness of the problem of hunger in the world;
- * promote the transfer of technologies to the developing world; and
- * strengthen international and national solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty and draw attention to achievements in food and agricultural development.

Our support of the PWRDF is one way we can help. And don’t forget the Gifts for Mission and Christmas Cards which are one way that PWRDF does fundraising.

BALES TO THE NORTH

This is the time of year when we send the Christmas bales to the north, we include gifts, new items, items suitable for their bazaars and sales. As always, there are specific items we need.

What we are in most urgent need of:

Blankets of all sizes,
Games, and small toys, puzzles

Baby sleepers: especially boys:
sizes 6-12, 9-12, 18-24 months
*Girls & boys 2 piece outfits
all sizes under size 2 *URGENTLY!*

Girls dresses all sizes under size 2
PINK BIBS!! *URGENTLY!*

Knitted baby booties:
blue, pink, white, yellow, and green

Hooded baby towels
burp pads

Receiving blankets

Blue /and or green knitted 36X36 square blankets,
Vaseline, (baby oil, baby lotion, shampoo)

all in small sizes,
Baby soap, bath wash,

Rattles, teething rings,
brushes, combs. (URGENTLY!)
*NO BABY POWDER!

Almost everything on the baby layette list.

Men's clothes any type, in large or extra-large

Cosmetic bags to put samples of shampoo, soap, conditioner, etc.

Beth Fortin, Social Action

*I shall pass through this world but once.
Any good thing, therefore, that I can do
Or any kindness that I can show,
Let me do it now.
Let me not defer it, nor neglect it
For I shall not pass this way again.*

(Quoted by King George VI
Christmas 1946)

UPCOMING EVENTS

St John the Apostle
Port Moody
Fall Bazaar
Saturday November 7th
10 am to 3 pm.
Crafts, 'New to You',
Bake Table, Games,
White Elephant and Lunch.

Christ Church, Hope

Rummage Sale
Coffee & Muffins
Saturday September 26th
9 am to noon

All Saints, Mission
Christmas Bazaar & Tea

Saturday November 21st
12 noon to 3 pm

Baking, Crafts, Mincemeat (orders taken)

St Catherine's Port Coquitlam
(jointly with Trinity United)

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday November 28th
10 am - 2 pm

Christ Church, Hope

Christmas Tea and Bake Sale

Saturday November 28th
1 - 3 pm

St George's Church ACW
Fort Langley
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday December 5th
10 am to 2 pm
Crafts, bake table, jams & jellies,
Holly and wreaths, Kids Only Shopping,
Books
Delicious lunches and teas

St. Thomas Anglican Church
2444 East 41st Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
November 28th
10 AM to 2 PM

St. Helen's, Surrey
10787 - 128 Street

Christmas Bazaar
Saturday November 28
11am to 3pm
Home Baking Pantry Raffle
Toys Christmas Crafts
Delicious Lunch

JUST A REMINDER

Last call for your
CRITERIA FOR FUTURE OUTREACH
If you have not already done so, please **let the Board have your recommendations by October 20th**