ST. PAUL ANGLICAN CHURCH | THE CONTACT

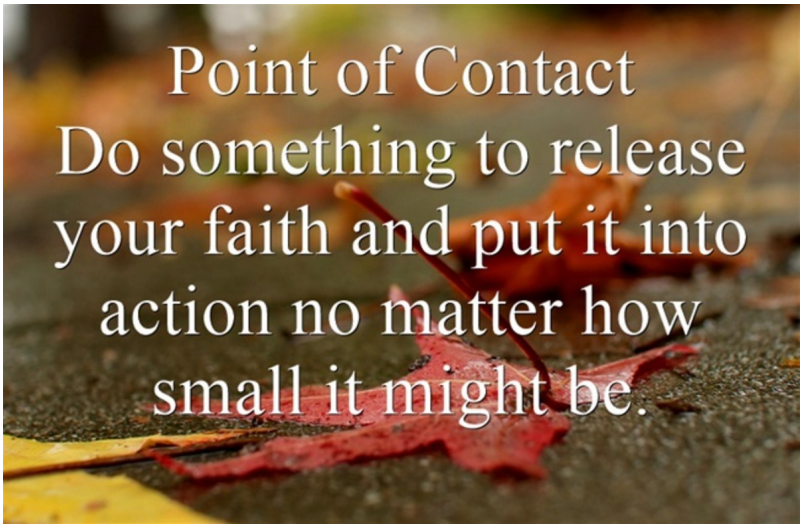
Connecting with your parish family . SUMMER 2025

WHAT A GREAT NAME FOR A NEWSLETTER!

We all know the meaning of the word 'contact', establishing communication with others in one form or another.

But have you given consideration to what a 'point of contact' is with respect to stewardship?

This newsletter is filled with examples!



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REVLECTION—TENDING THE GARDEN OF NEW LIFE

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Easter is more than a single Sunday celebration. It's a whole season — and more than that, it's a whole way of seeing and living. Resurrection isn't just about what happened to Jesus two thousand years ago; it's about what God is doing now: bringing new life out of what seemed dead, hope out of despair, and joy out of sorrow. Essentially it is our version of Spring.

This year, I've been thinking of how resurrection and stewardship go hand in hand.

Stewardship is often misunderstood as just a polite church word for fundraising. But in truth, stewardship is about our response to God's abundant gift of life. If resurrection shows us that nothing is ever truly lost in God's hands, then stewardship is how we honour and tend to that miracle of new life — in our parish, in the world we encounter when we go about our daily lives, in creation, and in our own lives.

Think about Mary Magdalene in the garden on Easter morning. She thought everything was over. But then the Risen Christ called her name, and sent her out with news that would change the world. That encounter turned her grief into action. That's what resurrection does — it doesn't let us stay still. It draws us into God's unfolding work of transformation.

At St. Paul's, we're being invited into that same work. There are signs of new life all around us: fresh energy in our worship, growing ministries of welcome and outreach, deepening connections in fellowship and service. These are resurrection moments. But like any garden in spring, they need tending.

This is where stewardship enters the story. We are called to be faithful caretakers — not only of our physical church building, but of our time, our talents, our relationships, our environment, and our shared calling as the Body of Christ in this community. That's resurrection stewardship: nurturing what God is bringing to life, and offering ourselves generously and joyfully to that work.

As we begin to draw the season of Easter to a close and move into those long, and dare I say, lazy summer days in the Church season of Pentecost, I invite each of us to reflect on this:

Where am I seeing signs of resurrection?

And how am I being called to tend and share in that new life?

Whether it's planting flowers outside the church, offering a helping hand to someone in need, praying faithfully for our parish, or supporting our ministries with time, skill, and financial gifts — every act of care is a witness to the God who brings life out of death and joy out of mourning.

Let us be stewards of resurrection hope, gardeners of God's grace,

and joyful bearers of new life.

Christ is risen! Let us rise with him.

Rev Vernon

FROM THE CHURCH WARDEN'S CORNER

The first quarter of the year has been a busy one (when isn't it). This is my first warden's report after being honoured and blessed to have the opportunity to serve as your warden. I have been involved with many parish ministries during my lifelong Anglican worship, but never as a warden. It is not a position I take lightly and know it involves considerable devotion. I ask for your prayers for my stewardship and forgiveness for any stumbles as I learn more about the role.

In my 4.5 years as a parishioner at St Paul's I have always been amazed at how welcoming a community it is. I won't hesitate to reach out to the depth of devotion, service and experience of so many of our longtime members to ensure the St Paul's legacy carries on and grows in the community. More than ever, the community needs our gifts.

While my primary responsibilities relate to the physical plant and grounds of St Paul's, fellow warden Joy AB and I share all responsibilities. We are blessed to have a wonderful incumbent who just celebrated his first anniversary. Not only learning about a new parish, but a new country, culture and language… Who knew we got two for the admission of one. We are blessed also by Dolph's passion and mission as well.

The parish and wardens are blessed to have wonderful daily support to ensure all communications, etc. function smoothly by our Parish Administrator Gillian and Facilities Coordinator Sarah. We couldn't function without them. They are our daily eyes and ears.

In my short time as warden, I have quickly become acquainted by the idiosyncrasies (and expenses) of our HVAC system. The ongoing servicing and repairs to these units highlight that our wonderful addition will require increasing ongoing service and maintenance going forward.

I continue to be amazed by the gifts of the various ministries – from our supporting food ministries and new Sunday lunch program, wonderful fashion show, music ministry, etc. And what beautiful grounds that invite many in through our doors. This doesn't just happen, but is the work of many who devote countless hours.

We are also in the process of consolidating all our banking and investment management services with one provider to improve ongoing financial reporting, etc. Our new Treasurer is actively working to ensure a smooth transition. We are consolidating our services from three existing providers to one.

The Organ renewal committee has done extensive work and analysis to make recommendations for the future of our Casavant organ which, while continuing to service our music ministry is also living on borrowed time. This is a major financial commitment and one that will require considerable thought and parish engagement before moving forward. Stay tuned for a survey for some parish input, followed by a parish meeting.

I encourage everyone to read, post the weekly bulletins. Read the weekly email bulletins. Watch the notice boards for upcoming events. St Paul's has hosted some amazing community events such as the Candlelight services, One Choir, Liam's organ recital, Diocesan Warden and Treasurer Day, Diocesan Lay Leaders days. I encourage you to attend these events and invite your friends to see St Paul's in a different light, serving our community.

Finally, as Warden's we are stewards of St Paul's. We are at your service. Do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have questions, suggestions. All conversations and communication are kept strictly confidential. As wardens, our focus is shepherding the St Paul's community. We have been a vital component of the Nanaimo community for the past 160+ years and look forward to expanding our ministry during these very challenging times.

Greg B

DEACON'S CORNER

Well, it's been a busy few months since the last issue of Contact!

Over these past three months I've had the opportunity to work with Reverend Mona as we shared the role of Deacon at St. Paul's. It has been lovely to walk alongside her as she journeys toward her calling to the priesthood. Mona and I supported an on-line Lenten study on "The Wounds of Christ" and some of you were able to join for that, as well as others participating in person with Mona on Wednesday Bible study sessions. I'm looking forward to being part of Mona's Ordination at the Cathedral in Victoria on June 8th where I will have the opportunity to Deacon at the service. I hope some of you will be able to attend to celebrate this step with Mona, as you have all been part of her journey!

In my world of work in healthcare it has been an interesting time this spring. As you may have heard, the Ministry is doing a full review of the health authorities and some restructuring to go along with that (which usually means layoffs and job loss). This creates great uncertainty for people in the organization, especially those with young families and mortgages, elevating levels of anxiety and fear. While I am at the point in my work where I am less personally concerned about the outcome of these reviews, I am concerned for the wellbeing of those who are being impacted. These kinds of changes, with layoffs, can impact people at many levels, financially, emotionally, and even identity for those who may see themselves as defined by their role.

What people want is to know the outcome and that is often not possible, at least not at the time they want it. This kind of angst, fostered by uncertainty, is present in our world in general these days, whether you are part of organizational life or not. While we may not be able to provide answers in these challenges, we can bring ourselves, as a steady, supportive and connective presence in the midst of it all. Ensuring that we, ourselves, are grounded in our relationship with God and our trust in that relationship, is constant work to do these days.

Over the next few months I will be renewing my Diaconal covenant with St. Paul's. It is a privilege to serve with you in this place.

In the love of Christ,

Reverend Helen

FROM THE OFFICE

Since putting out the winter contact, in addition to the regular weekly church office tasks, an Annual Vestry meeting and six Holy Week services - there has been a wedding, 3 baptisms and 2 funerals. Needless to say we have been busy and signs of fatigue were setting in.

I'm particularly grateful for two things during this time– 1) Sarah and Rev. Vernon always find things to laugh about, and 2) the privilege of listening to beautiful music as Liam Pistor practiced three days a week on the organ and piano.

Both have brought such joy, amidst times in which in other environments, there would have only been stress.

"*Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy: Psalm 126.2*

Gillian

PRIDE MONTH IN NANAIMO

The Nanaimo Pride Society is celebrating Pride Month with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community with many events planned for the month of June. One of the key events of the celebration is the Pride Parade which is planned for downtown Nanaimo on **June 8**, 2025. This year it will proceed along Front Street close to our Parish. The City of Nanaimo also plans a Pride Flag Raising Ceremony on **June 3,** 2025 (from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm) at Nanaimo City Hall.

The Anglican Church of Canada is broadly affirming of 2SLGBTQIA+ rights and inclusion, but practices regarding same-sex marriages and blessings vary by diocese, reflecting ongoing theological diversity within the Church.

The Parish of St. Paul has a history of welcoming members of this community both as parishioners and staff. We remember well attending Church on Sunday in 2019 when a national synod vote to change the marriage canon to allow same-sex marriage did not pass, mainly due to a lack of support among bishops, though clergy and laity were mostly in favour. A couple who were long term members of our Parish expressed shame and consternation to us about this decision. Their support really touched us at a time when our faith in the national church was shaken.

As a parish, there is a challenge before us to become more welcoming and inclusive of this community. How do you see our Parish as moving from spectator to participant?

Brian H

Syd G

TREASURER'S REPORT

Did you know that our year-to-date income is just over $80,000 and our expenses just over $112,000? That means a current operating loss (income less expenses) of $32,000.

The good news is that the net operating loss for the Parish at April 30th is roughly $4,000 under budget. However, there is little cause to celebrate this result.

The bad news is our actual income (that is the income from regular and festival offerings, fundraising and other income from office and parking lot rental) is under budget by $7,250. This is offset by our total expenses coming under budget by $11,500. Is it reasonable to assume that our income shortfalls will continue to be offset by expense shortfalls? It's not likely. So much is unpredictable – we continue to experience expensive repairs to our HVAC system.

At this time, I have no reason to believe we will end the year with less than a budgeted deficit of $65,950.

Our bank balance sits at roughly $70,000 on April 30th. However, the operating account is in a deficit of approximately $36,000 offset by our project accounts balance of $106,000.

Our parish is blessed to have investments of close to $1.2 million, a gift from a very generous parishioner. We are using the interest from these investments to subsidize our operating loss. Our parish has previously decided to use only the interest from these investments, leaving the principal intact. This is good stewardship. However, the investment income will likely decrease in coming years as interest rates decline.

It seems to me that we have a significant challenge before us to grow our parish. The question is: "are we up for it"? It is interesting to note that if we were able to increase our budgeted income of $325,640 for the year by 20% or $65,000 we would balance our operating budget. Although, this is a significant number, I don't believe it is outside the realm of possibility.

Should you have any questions or concerns about our Parish finances, please feel free to speak to me.

Respectfully submitted,

Syd G

Treasurer

Stewardship is everything you do, after you say you believe in God, the father almighty …...

We have just completed our annual stewardship campaign with its three themes:

Stewarding gifts
Inviting generosity and modeling gratitude
Stewards of God's mission here and now

We give freely because God gives us His blessings freely. He gives us everything we have in trust. We in turn, share the gifts we have been given. **What are you giving to God?**

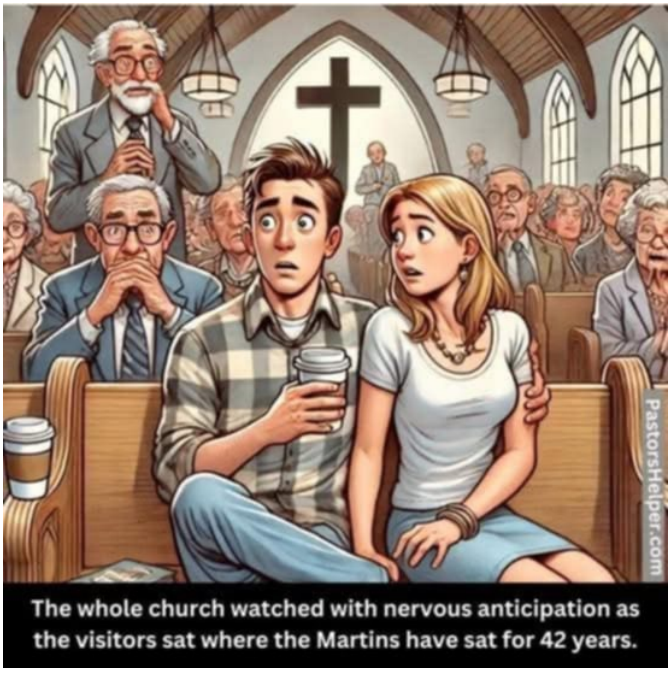
While stewardship is about time, talent and not just treasure, we want to highlight some of our costs.

Elevator maintenance - $347 a month
Photocopier lease - $284 a month
Diocesan apportionment - $4,280 a month
Staff - $16,000 a month
Electricity - $1,200 a month

Why do people keeping coming back to their church? It's all about good stewardship. It's about the sense of community, the love of God and being fed. By participating and feeling a sense of ownership we are all being good stewards. And we all help to maintain our Centre for Ministry and Community Service and our beloved St. Paul's.

Thank you to everyone for your continued generosity and support.

Your stewardship team - *Joy AB, Vernon F, Will H and Carol S.*



A FOND FAREWELL

To the faith family at St Paul's,

For the past several weeks, I have been privileged to be a part of your church family as I complete the final steps in becoming ordained, soon to occur on June 8, 2025. During my time with you, I have felt warmly welcomed and delight at being a part of such a Christ-filled community. It has been a joy to witness how St Paul's lives out the Christian faith through service to the church's downtown neighborhood; through worship that responds to differing human needs; through diligence in caring for the beautiful church and grounds. St Paul's is aptly named, having taken to heart the Apostle's teaching – the Church *is* the body of Christ.

With heartfelt gratitude to you all for my wonderful time with you,

Mona

A bit about Mona: I am a graduate of the Master of Theological Studies at St. Stephen's College, University of Alberta campus, and the Graduate Diploma in Theological Studies at Vancouver School of Theology, as well as the full basic unit in clinical pastoral education. I am currently pursuing further advanced education in theology. My home parish, Christ Church Gabriola, is an Anglican-United Church collaborative located on Gabriola Island, where I enjoy gardening, walking, hiking and cycling in the spring through fall, and skiing in the mountains of British Columbia in winter.

ALONGSIDE HOPE (PWRDF) —MAPPING EXERCISE

March 7th we were blessed to have First Nations Elder Jillian (Snumithiya) Harris from the Penelakut First Nation as a witness for us in the Mapping Exercise.

It was a day of learning, and all came away with new hearts open to Truth and Reconciliation with more awareness of our First Nations brothers and sisters who welcomed us to this land before it was Canada.

We celebrate Earth Day each year in April whereas the Indigenous First Nations honor and respect the sacred land and all creation: "all our relations" as part of their socio-cultural life for centuries. We (settlers) have not been good stewards of creation; we have misused the gift of this lifegiving land by seeing it as a commodity and resource. For the First Nations these sacred spaces hold their stories, honor their ancestors, are places of medicine and wisdom. We have forgotten in our Baptismal Covenant we commit to care for the integrity of creation. The First Nations acknowledge the land and people they stand on and also when visiting other First nation communities. When we hear our acknowledgement at our worship services we are recognising and acknowledging not just with words but our life together.

ALONGSIDE HOPE (PWRDF) —MAPPING EXERCISE cont'd....

In the mapping exercise we learned about the nations pre settler that covered our "empty land". Under the Doctrine of Discovery (Papal Bulls) lands that we empty could be taken, these doctrines are still found in some international laws. Land could be taken if empty. This is how crown land, our cities and our ancestors or ourselves, our churches as newcomers received land. This exercise is very powerful and reflective. It was good to learn our history, to recognize indigenous background or when our ancestors came, to see our connection to the land and the peoples still living there.

We are very thankful for John and Nancy D for leading our sacred circle. They come from Sechelt and as settlers have been honored by the Sechelt peoples to lead a sacred circle. We were a small group and will do the exercise again if there is interest. Please contact me if interested.

Submitted by Julie F

Alongside Hope
Anglicans and partners working for change in Canada and around the world

AGAPE LOVE

Love for all
no separating out
because of clothes
or speech or difference.

In each we share
the light of Christ.
For some life may diminish
to but a spark.

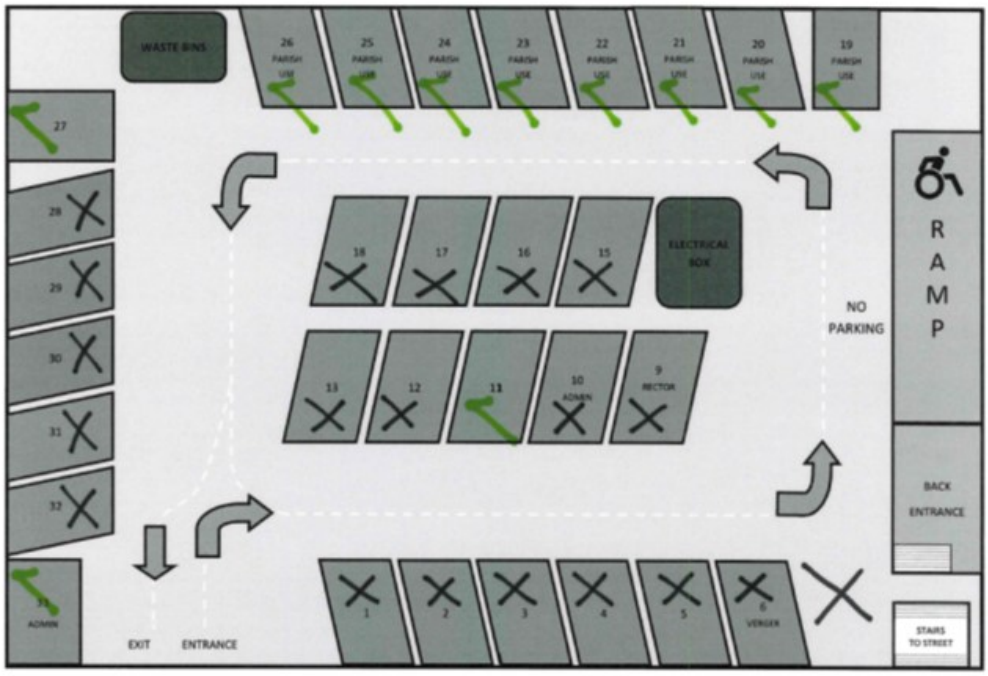
Agape
God's love
God's mercy
Calling us

I love you all
with love to ignite a fire.
So we all share one light together.

Julie

ST. PAUL PARKING INFORMATION

Monday—Friday	until 5:30 pm	Available spots along the fence and parking spots 11, 27, 33 **All other spaces are reserved for fee paying clients.**
Saturday—Sunday		Entire parking lot available except Admin, Rector & Verger

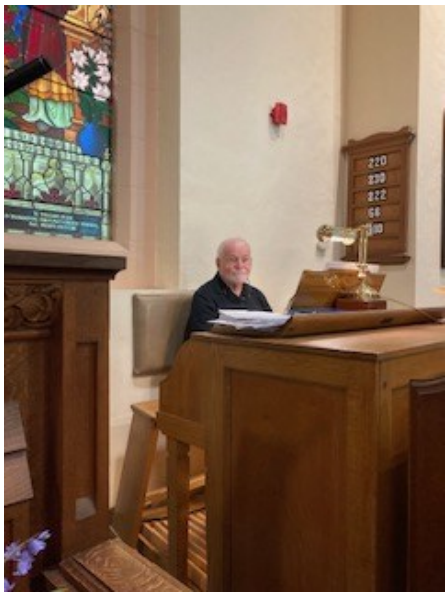


NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S GROUP

In January I returned to be chair of the Women's Group. The group has changed its meeting time to the first Tuesday of each month so that it could work around my schedule.

It was with great sadness that we began our new year with the heart-breaking news that our dear Amy Fleming's cancer had returned. Ten days later we grieved her passing. You never really know how much someone means to you until after they have gone to the heavenly kingdom. Every event and service reminds us of Amy. We miss the way she would rush from choir to help serve coffee or the Sunday lunch. We miss her flamboyant clothing and her warm greetings and enthusiasm for all the church events. We miss her endless ideas of jaunts around town and Vancouver Island, and the way she liked to encourage us to try new delicacies. I feel that members have stepped up to the plate to help fill in all her various activities at church. She would have been touched to see how many people attended her celebration of life on March 8th and that the choir was well represented. May she continue to be an inspiration to our group.

On April 26th members of our group and others from the church offered a church open house and organ concert to the American visitors who came that weekend to Nanaimo. We had a small but appreciative group of visitors and thanks to Elaine were able to taste delicious Nanaimo bars as a treat as well as listening to Freeman play the organ. Two of the visitors joined the service on Sunday and stayed for the community lunch. They mentioned how everyone was extremely welcoming.



At our May meeting we discussed an event to support our Nanaimo Filipino community. Joanne B suggested the use of our hall for a reception with toys for the children and prayer shawls for the adults. Please check the bulletin and Friday file for upcoming details regarding this event.

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S GROUP .....page two

Our main focus during Spring was our annual church fundraiser. The Fashion Show High Tea was held on Saturday May 3rd. The lower hall looked gorgeous thanks to the round tables, white cloths, chair covers, beautiful garden plants and lovely dolls with handmade outfits from Lynn A, and mini roses as the table centres. Thanks goes to Marjorie A. for providing two parasols as decorations in memory of Amy. Joy arranged for two of our parishioners, expert chefs, Christina and Cheryl P. to prepare absolutely delicious sandwiches and treats for our tea. Yvonne arranged for our delightful models who wore the latest Fig Love fashions. Our handsome waiters did a fine job of making sure everyone had plenty of tea/coffee and we had 13 wonderful door prizes. The comments afterward were most complimentary and we raised $1400 for the parish.

Behind The Scenes!

The very next day, Amy S., (our former organist and choir director) arrived on the ferry from Vancouver with her Oneness choir. They performed a beautiful concert to raise funds for our food card ministry. We provided tea/coffee/water, sandwiches, cheese, crackers and sweets for them as a light lunch before the performance. It was most appreciated, especially by Mary Jane who helped to organize and sing in the concert. They would love to come again to perform and help raise funds for a worthy cause.

In June we will have our annual potluck lunch at my home and discuss plans for the summer. We take July and August off as a holiday, but keep in touch for any jaunts that might take place. (Trips to the market or Qualicum Beach sandcastles) Our meetings will resume Tuesday September 2nd in the lower church hall. New members are always welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn B

Some of our beautiful ladies at a Women's Group pot-luck! !

How many hats does he have?

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

On behalf of the Prayer Shawl Ministry, I would like to welcome Diane W to our ministry. Welcome, Diane!

Where do prayer shawls come from?

The use of a prayer shawl has its roots in Judaic traditions, from which Christianity emerged. Known as a tallit, this prayer shawl is still used by observant Jews today, in accordance with the commandments outlined in Numbers chapter 15. In Jewish tradition, the prayer shawl serves as a reminder of God's law as presented in the Torah, which is referred to by Christians as the first five books of the Old Testament.

Why should a Christian use a prayer shawl?

While modern Christians are not required to use prayer shawls, many find them helpful or comforting for similar reasons as those in other traditions. Prayer shawls can create a distinct atmosphere for prayer, altering the physical space and sensory experience. By changing common, everyday sensations, the prayer shawl helps the person praying focus more intently on God. Additionally, some people find that wearing a prayer shawl encourages inward reflection, which is an essential component of prayer. It serves as a symbolic "cover" for prayers, as often mentioned in the Psalms.

How does one use a prayer shawl?

A prayer shawl can be used in various ways, and there are no strict rules on how to do so within the Christian tradition. You might choose to wear the shawl around your shoulders, drape it over your head, or simply lay it across your lap while you pray. The key is to find what feels comfortable and meaningful for you. Use the shawl in whatever way enhances your prayer experience.

Keep in mind that the prayer shawl is only a tool, designed to help you turn toward God in earnest and heartfelt prayer. If the prayer shawl helps you achieve that goal, then it is a useful resource. There is nothing magical or superstitious about its use. Using a prayer shawl does not mean that God will hear you "better" during prayer or be more inclined to answer your prayers in the way you desire.

Conversely, not using a prayer shawl certainly does not prevent your prayers from being effective or any less meaningful than any other form of prayer.

If you feel uncomfortable using a prayer shawl or find that it does not help you focus on God, then don’t use it. The prayer shawl is an invitation, not an obligation.

Please join us on the first and third Thursday of every month in the St. Mark Room at 1:00 PM.

Yvonne O

NEWS FROM THE GARDEN PARTY

Our garden is looking lovely this spring, the result of some good work and a healthy combination of sunshine and rain.

On April 5th, we were grateful to have some parishioners join us for a work party. We spread fresh topsoil on the flower beds, which the plants seem to appreciate. We did some pruning and cleaned the parking lot.

We had been concerned for some time that a small dogwood tree donated by Yvonne Oliver in memory of a friend was not doing well crowded between large shrubs and the fence. With some trepidation, we moved the tree onto the lawn. With generous application of transplant fertilizer, the tree has settled in nicely. Perhaps, it will eventually replace the large dogwood that died and had to be cut down in February 2024.

In recent weeks, we have planted hardy geraniums donated by Sarah S., a hosta donated by Gwen Ingham, and pansies leftover from the Fashion Show. We transplanted some elephant ears to fill in a blank spot in the garden behind the Gates bench. We also pruned the forsythia in hopes of better blooms next spring

Thanks to Greg Brown for this recent photo of our garden in all its spring glory!

We are *The Garden Party – Sarah C., Gwen I., & Julia R.*

CHOIR AND LIVESTREAM REPORT

Another choir year is coming to a close. I would like to thank all the choir members and musicians who have worked so hard to bring joyous music into our church services. I look forward to the startup again in the fall.

New members are always welcome to join our choir. Please speak to me, we would love to have more voices.

I especially want to thank Freeman and Kyle for their hard work and dedication.

Reminder:

The Christ Church Cathedral Choir under the direction of Donald Hunt will be joining us for our service on June 29th.

Think of the wonderful sound!

Charles (Chuck) Harman

Director of Music

ST. PAUL'S PRAYER WHEEL

The St. Paul's Prayer Wheel is one of longest enduring ministries in the Parish. In 1970, our new Rector was Archdeacon Geoffrey Flagg, who had a particular interest in the ministry of healing prayer. (When he retired, he and his wife Mary started the St. Francis Healing Home on Arbot Road.) One of the ministries begun at that time was the Prayer Wheel. If someone was in need of healing or upholding prayer for themselves or a friend or family member, they would call the Prayer Wheel coordinator. He or she would then phone (now we email) the request to the several members on the Wheel who would then offer prayers on that person's behalf.

Currently, our Wheel has 15 members who deem offering prayers on behalf of others in specific situations to be a privilege. Since the beginning of 2025, they have responded to 24 individual requests.

If you would like prayers for someone, please feel free to contact coordinator Sue G. directly by phone or email, or send an email to prayerwheel@stpaulsnanaimo.ca and she will get the request. If you would like to become a praying member of the Wheel, just let Sue know.

FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Well, as the Organ Replacement process wends its way through official channels, it's appropriate that I sit back and await the next developments. That said, I must congratulate the Organ Replacement Committee for the research intensity and accuracy of their work which was completed—on time, and well under budget.

So, from the somewhat shaky Organ Bench — PSALMODY 101.....

The PSALMS have been an integral part of Christian worship from earliest days, and in liturgical churches their use has been codified from early times, most notably the Missale Romanum which was promulgated after the Council of Trent (1570). The reformers adopted the Psalms as the source of (in some sects exclusive) congregational song. Anglican usage was codified in The Book of Common Prayer, and reached its pinnacle in Canada with the publication and broad use of The Canadian Psalter (Anglican Chant) and The Plainsong Psalter (Healey Willan) both providing support for a unique, ethereal 'Anglican' sound. That was abruptly ended with the promulgation of the Book of Alternative Services whose 'modern' translation of the Psalms needed new Psalters which never materialised. Instead, General Synod appointed George Black to provide Roman Catholic style 'Responsorial Psalms'. Black's hurriedly concocted collection has gone through countless corrections and revisions but remains uneven; some of them approaching the unsingable.

The Episcopal Church in the USA, has offered an alternative with publication of A New Metrical Psalter (Christopher Webber; Church Publishing, NYC) keyed to the latest version of the 156-week lectionary. METRICAL PSALTERS offer easy, full participation of congregations by versifying the Psalms in a number of METRES which align with popular TUNES.

To see how this works, let's try Psalm 100, CP#349, OLD 100th, Metre 88 88 also called Long Metre (LM). There are DOZENS of LM hymns and DOZENS of LM tunes which are therefore theoretically interchangeable, however some fit much more 'nicely' than others. Try singing several other LM hymns to OLD 100th. Eventually you'll hit one that 'grates' but most will work just fine. Find many familiar tunes listed at pages 945-949 where they're arranged by METRE.

A very interesting hymnal still in publication has a horizontal SPLIT between the top half and bottom half — the upper and lower pages can turn independently. Both parts are arranged by METRE so that it's possible to select a TEXT in the bottom half, and flip pages in the top half to locate your favourite metre-matching TUNE. Brilliant, if perhaps confusing to the non-adept.

Freeman

IN CELEBRATION OF JOANNE BEVIS

Joanne is this year's St. Paul's nomination for the Order of the Diocese

Joanne was born on January 18th, 1934, in British Guiana (now Guyana). It was apparent from the beginning that she was a gifted child, completing her early education in Guiana, before moving to Sussex, England to finish high school.

She was awarded a full, four-year scholarship at Bristol University, where she earned an Honours Degree in the Classics, and an Education Diploma. At University, Joanne was a competitive runner, exhibiting both athletic perseverance and excellence. In her long life, she has personified these same qualities. To paraphrase Hebrews 12, 1-2, she has dedicated her life," to run with perseverance the race set out before her."

She married Des, in 1959, and was blessed with three sons. The family emigrated to Winnipeg, Canada, where Joanne became a Language Arts teacher, later completing a Graduate LA Degree.

Due to her considerable gifts and abilities, particularly her communication skills, infectious drive, and vision, Joanne was soon recognized by the Manitoba Department of Education. She first became an LA Consultant, and later Chair of the Middle School LA Curriculum, tasked with designing, and rewriting the curriculum. She worked full-time with the Department of Education, as Curriculum Consultant, where she widened her knowledge and interest in Gifted Education, notably in the emerging Discovery Learning Model.

Joanne developed an association, encouraging interaction in this new field with teachers in other provinces, and in the U.S.A. This position provided Joanne with many opportunities for learning and teaching, such as presenting papers and workshops all over Canada, in some American States, and in Australia, England, and China.

Joanne developed a provincial Language Arts Festival, and Summer Institutes for Gifted Students. In May, 1997, she received the University of Manitoba's prestigious John Brown Award for Distinguished Service to the Teachers of Manitoba. Joanne hosted the Governor General of Canada during the Manitoba Students Celebrations of Canada 125.

After moving to Nanaimo, the family joined St. Paul's Church, where Joanne played an active role in both the parish and diocesan community. She served as a member of St. Paul's Parish Council, and as People's Warden, and at the age of 91 was elected to the position of Deputy Church Warden. Joanne has served as a Regional and Synod Delegate; a Member of Diocesan Council, and on the latter's Education Committee, Chair of the Diocesan Cursillo Secretariat, active and quietly persistent supporter of St. Paul's Ministry to the Nanaimo Correctional Centre, and the Reaching Out Ministry. She has volunteered with many community organizations such as Nanaimo Global Village, NanGo Grannies, Haven House, the John Howard Society, and University Women (CFUW). Joanne was a member of the Nanaimo City Social Committee. Her passion is reaching out into the community in support of social justice, wherever help and support are needed. She cites the monthly lunch at St. Paul's for 10 years, as well as the Saturday Breakfast/Brunch in Downtown Nanaimo, as central to her vision of sharing.

Joanne is a recipient of both the City of Nanaimo Caring Citizen Award (2007), and the Randy Munro Award for Distinguished Service to the John Howard Society, Nanaimo. She still has the vision and energy to reach out to the community's less fortunate, recently heading a Pop-Up free shop to provide warm clothing and other essentials.

In her storied career, and in her spiritual and community life, Joanne exemplifies Gandhi's famous quote, "Be the change that you wish to see in the world."

Submitted by Lynda A.

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ONGOING WORSHIP

Morning Prayer:
Monday-Friday 8:30 AM — *Zoom*
**excluding stat holidays*

11 AM Mid-Week Service—BCP
Wednesday — *in person only*

8 AM Holy Communion—BCP
Sundays — *in person only*

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist—BAS
Sundays — *Livestream*
& in person

After-Service Fellowship
Sunday after each service
socializing downstairs in the hall

We welcome you to join us !

CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
9:30 AM—12:00 PM
Monday—Friday

OFFICE PHONE:
250 753 2523

EMAIL:
admin@stpaulsnanaimo.ca OR
facilities@stpaulsnanaimo.ca