**All Saints Anglican Church**

**6904 Lougheed Highway, Agassiz, B.C. V0M 1A0**

**Bulletin July 14, 2025 – July 20, 2025**



**‘The ground we walk does not belong to us; for thousands of years it has been - and remains - the territory of the Stó:lō. We are grateful for their sharing.**

***Phone: 604-796-3553***

***Website:*** [***www.allsaints-agassiz.ca***](http://www.allsaints-agassiz.ca/)

[***https://www.facebook.com/groups/AllSaintsFamily***](https://www.facebool.com/groups/AllSaintsFamily)

**OUR DOOR IS OPEN AND ALL ARE WELCOME**

**July 20, 2025, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

Priest in Charge: The Reverend Philip Barker

Hosts: Graham Featherstone/Jennifer Pinlac

Intercessor: Douglas MacAdams

Lay Administrator: Dorothy Cresswell

Announcer: Virginia Jennings

Organ/Piano: Francesca Froehlich

**Vicar’s cell phone:** Revd. Philip Barker. 778-867-2461

**Vicar’s Warden:**Ginny Jennings. 604-796-2206

**People’s Warden:** Lynn Laughlin. 604-799-5131

**Parish email**:   [revpb1950@gmail.com](mailto:revpb1950@gmail.com)

Please contact either warden if you have an issue that needs to be brought to the attention of the Vicar - or contact the Vicar direct (see above for details).

**Wardens Pitch**

* Bible Study with Karol is every Saturday morning 8:30-9:00 on Zoom.
* Prayer Requests can be given on a piece of paper to either of the Wardens or the Vicar or entered in the Prayer Request Book on the lectern. Alternatively, you can contact Anthea Lewis at antheamlewis@shaw.ca for Pray First Prayer Circle, which is a confidential online prayer circle.
* Music Requests may be given to the Wardens or the Vicar.
* AA meets in the hall every Tuesday and Friday at noon.
* Every Thursday in the hall 10:00-12:00 we have a social time with coffee, games if you like or just talk. Following there is a short Prayer Meeting in the church to which all are invited. This is only for 15 minutes and is followed by – Morning Prayer (said) each Thursday at 12:30.
* 5th Sunday of each month will be a potluck lunch after the service.

**Ministerial Meandering**

*Looking back*

The more I hear of other people’s lives, the more amazed I am that there are any real families out there at all.

Having just finished watching a series on the FTSA (Federal Transport Safety Authority) called ‘Departure’, I was struck by line that I’ve heard many times before, although not quite in the same context. An old mentor, given a terminal diagnosis, is telephoning his erstwhile protégé, and saying wistfully, “You are the nearest thing to family I’ve ever had.”

For the most part, our little congregation has had some family experience. Not many are adopted. Adoptions are not always successful either, as I know from speaking to friends who have found that out first hand.

Childhood is an exceptional part of our adult formation - any two-bit psychologist can tell you that - but the experiences of those childhood years can make or break you later on. Rather like dogs.

Of course I would bring up dogs; they are, after all, here on earth to teach us about unconditional love, which we find so incredibly hard to give.

But a dog’s formative years also dictate to a large extent how the dog will behave in a given circumstance. As an Animal Behaviourologist, I am acutely aware of the signals our hounds give us. A traumatized animal is a challenge, as is a previously traumatized child.

But there is another form of abuse which we commit upon both our dogs and our children; and that is *‘carte blanche’*. ‘Spare the rod and spoil the child’, as Samuel Butler wrote in his poem, ‘Hudibras’.

Today - especially in North America - and it would appear for possibly the last 50 years, society has seen fit to allow the child to have the final say in any dispute. To deny this is to (apparently) abuse the child’s ‘rights’. One might be hard-pressed to pinpoint exactly what those ‘rights’ might be until this minor is actually contributing to his or her upkeep, and even providing for the household.

Until such time, the child is a parasite - albeit a dearly-beloved one. He or she contributes nothing, and requires everything; and when those requirements go beyond what is actually needed, then those desires are also met - because society says you should deny your child nothing. How insane have we become?

Parents are now taxi-drivers who turn themselves into pretzels (ghastly invention!) to meet the demands - note; no longer ‘requirements’, but ‘demands’ - of their offspring, all in the service of the ‘god’ of youth. What happened to children doing chores, *earning* their pocket money, helping out neighbours, painting the fence, cleaning their shoes, ironing their clothes, doing the shopping? - oh, I could go on and on, but so can you.

Abuse isn’t always with the rod, deprivation, and humiliation; sometimes - indeed, more often than not - it is in giving in to the child, accepting the absurd and upside-down customs of modern society, and becoming - as adults - so unimportant as individuals, as to almost *invite* elder abuse from those offspring we so doted on in their youth. So now, when we reap the whirlwind, why should we be surprised?

Philip+

**Chuckle**

I know they say money talks, but all mine says is “goodbye”.

**Birthdays this Month**

Cohen Hill, 5th. Mary Kirksey, 11th. Neko Veltman, 19th.

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We Pray for the Clergy and Congregation of:**

St. Faith, Vancouver. Dr. Shakuntala Soden, Diocesan Refugee Administrator.

**Anglican Church of Canada Cycle of Prayer: We Pray for:**

Archbishop, the clergy and the people of the Diocese of Calgary. The assistant to the bishop and the staff of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. The Canadian Moravian Foundation.

**Collect**

Almighty God, your Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence. Give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Readings**

Amos 8: 1-12 Anne Staiger

This is what the Sovereign Lord showed me: a basket of ripe fruit. “What do you see, Amos?” he asked.

“A basket of ripe fruit,” I answered.

Then the Lord said to me, “The time is ripe for my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.

“In that day,” declares the Sovereign Lord, “the songs in the temple will turn to wailing. Many, many bodies—flung everywhere! Silence!”

Hear this, you who trample the needy  
    and do away with the poor of the land,

saying,

“When will the New Moon be over  
    that we may sell grain,  
and the Sabbath be ended  
    that we may market wheat?”—  
skimping on the measure,  
    boosting the price  
    and cheating with dishonest scales,  
buying the poor with silver  
    and the needy for a pair of sandals,  
    selling even the sweepings with the wheat.

The Lord has sworn by himself, the Pride of Jacob: “I will never forget anything they have done.

“Will not the land tremble for this,  
    and all who live in it mourn?  
The whole land will rise like the Nile;  
    it will be stirred up and then sink  
    like the river of Egypt.

“In that day,” declares the Sovereign Lord,

“I will make the sun go down at noon  
    and darken the earth in broad daylight.  
I will turn your religious festivals into mourning  
    and all your singing into weeping.  
I will make all of you wear sackcloth  
    and shave your heads.  
I will make that time like mourning for an only son  
    and the end of it like a bitter day.

“The days are coming,” declares the Sovereign Lord,  
    “when I will send a famine through the land—  
not a famine of food or a thirst for water,  
    but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord.  
People will stagger from sea to sea  
    and wander from north to east,  
searching for the word of the Lord,  
    but they will not find it.

Psalm 52

Why do you boast of evil, you mighty hero?  
    Why do you boast all day long,  
    you who are a disgrace in the eyes of God?  
You who practice deceit,  
    your tongue plots destruction;  
    it is like a sharpened razor.  
You love evil rather than good,  
    falsehood rather than speaking the truth.   
You love every harmful word,  
    you deceitful tongue!

Surely God will bring you down to everlasting ruin:  
    He will snatch you up and pluck you from your tent;  
    he will uproot you from the land of the living.  
The righteous will see and fear;  
    they will laugh at you, saying,  
“Here now is the man  
    who did not make God his stronghold  
but trusted in his great wealth  
    and grew strong by destroying others!”

But I am like an olive tree  
    flourishing in the house of God;  
I trust in God’s unfailing love  
    for ever and ever.  
For what you have done I will always praise you  
    in the presence of your faithful people.  
And I will hope in your name,  
    for your name is good.

Colossians 1: 15-28 Ginny Jennings

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations but is now disclosed to the Lord’s people. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.

Luke 10: 38-42 Vicar Philip Barker

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things,but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”