



ST. PETER, QUAMICHAN

ANGLICAN CHURCH

BEACON Newsletter – March 9, 2025



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Wardens: Liz Williams, Mark Oldnall.

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Facebook: The Anglican Parish of St. Peter, Quamichan

Website: <https://www.stpeterduncan.ca>

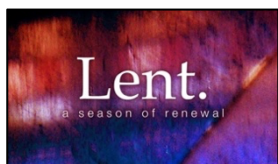
WEEKLY SERVICES: Thursday at 10 a.m., Sunday at 8 a.m. (BCP) AND 10 a.m. (BAS)

Our 10 a.m. service on Sunday is livestreamed. Please use this link to watch the service LIVE

<https://www.stpeterduncan.ca/sermons/current-service>

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

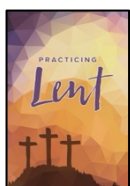
- **LENTEN BOOK STUDY** Tuesdays at 2 p.m. with Dean Ansley (until April 8). **Zoom Link:** <https://bc-anglican-ca.zoom.us/j/88626596175>
- **LENTEN STUDY GROUP** Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the Church with Pastor Liz (until April 10)
- **HARP RECITAL** on Saturday March 15 at 6:30 p.m. in St. Peter's Hall – see below
- **RUTH DEARMAN'S FUNERAL AND RECEPTION** – Saturday April 5 at 1 p.m. at St. Peter's
- **REVEREND JIM'S RETIREMENT PARTY** - Saturday May 3rd at 5:30 p.m. – see below



Many Christians are familiar with the three traditional “Lenten disciplines” – fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Many of us will remember “mite boxes” which we received as children, or “slot cards” as adults, in which you were to deposit a quarter for each day of Lent. (Only those who kept this practice faithfully learned that after about 3 weeks, the whole card would collapse under the weight of \$5.25 in quarters!) Fasting often took the

form of “giving up” something for Lent – usually some guilty pleasure, like smoking (at least until your spouse could no longer cope with your resulting crankiness). Somehow, we got it into our heads that our discipline was a kind of “penance” – a unpleasantness that we introduced into our lives, to be endured. Somehow, we got it into our heads that if only we could make ourselves miserable enough, this would make God happy. But that's not it at all! The word “discipline” is related to the words for disciples, and teaching (*discere* in Latin). Lent is about schooling ourselves, marshalling our potential and passions for something holy. This work – like practising a musical instrument – may be difficult, may even be corrective, or seem endless, but it is meant to give us joy. **So, if you haven't picked something yet, pick something that will give you a sense of accomplishment and wholeness. And if you have picked something that is already making you miserable, pick something else! – MAT**

A PARISH PRACTICE FOR LENT



We have long been taught to adopt a personal spiritual practice for Lent. But God sees us not only as *individuals*: God also sees us as *Church* – as a community of disciples. What would happen if, as the People of St. Peter's, we took on a shared spiritual practice for Lent – something that would bind us together in our Lenten journey?

One common Lenten practice is almsgiving – or put another way, choosing some act of self-giving that aligns us with Christ's own self-donation for the sake of others. In a recent conversation with the manager of the Cowichan Valley Basket Society (Food Bank), I learned that there is an urgent need for:

- **diapers and pull-ups (sizes 3, 4, 5, and 6)**
- **adult incontinence products (Depends, panty-liners etc.),**
- **non-perishable gluten-free foods**

Please think of picking one or more of these items on your weekly shopping run. Bring them to the parish hall, and let's see if we can build a mountain by Easter! – *Deacon Norah*

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Recently, Bishop Anna reminded the clergy that “as Anglicans, we do not add things to the ancient liturgy easily or without discernment.” The primary focus of our worship is to commemorate and celebrate the redemption we have in Jesus Christ. The liturgy marches and bends to its own unique seasons and stands as something quite distinct from other community celebrations. This is why the Church tends to discourage “special” Sundays

focused on secular celebrations. It's not that we don't celebrate these things: they just aren't the reason we gather on Sunday. **Bishop Anna points out that birthdays and anniversaries are the kind of celebration that belong more appropriately when the community is gathered in a more social context – such as coffee hour.** For this reason, she has asked that the parishes of our diocese who do mark birthdays and other milestones, do so outside of the context of the liturgy. We will begin this practice, today, March 9. – *MAT*

HARP RECITAL



Marilyn's adult harp students will be joined by other adults studying music in the Valley for a really nice evening of lots of music and a little wine and chocolate. Entry by donation – all the funds received will go to student scholarships and awards for young musicians in the Valley. All welcome!

ALONGSIDE HOPE



Each week during Lent we are highlighting six different aspects of the work of Alongside Hope (PWRDF). We hope that by the sixth week you will feel moved to support this excellent ministry of our Anglican church, either through our parish or directly with the National Church. See their website: <https://alongsidehope.org/> for more information.

WEEK 1 - The Alongside Hope Difference

Working with local partners ensures development and relief projects are sustainable

MOTHER'S DAY HANGING BASKET FUNDRAISER



Please support our SPRING fundraiser. There are a variety of hanging baskets and mixed pots (sun or shade) and strawberry pots. **GREEN** order forms are available from the church, hall, parish office and website. **Orders must be in by March 30** and the baskets/pots will be available for pickup on Mother's Day (May 11).

OFFICE RELIEF AT ST. PETER'S



We are looking for someone to provide **paid office relief from April 25 to May 23**. This position is the public face of our lively church community. We are seeking a compassionate person with strong office management skills who is ready to welcome visitors and church goers alike. Applicants must be comfortable with iMac computers. Familiarity with the Anglican Church would be an asset. Please send a resume and cover letter to lwilliams@stpeterduncan.ca

REVEREND JIM'S RETIREMENT PARTY



The planning has begun to celebrate Jim's Retirement on Saturday May 3rd at 5:30 p.m. Please keep the date in your calendar. Main courses will be provided, and **we ask that you bring a potluck side dish or dessert**. This will be a wonderful evening of food and entertainment! **Signup sheets will be out soon**. We are now collecting donations to help the parish offset the costs for the evening and gift. If you wish to donate, please put "retirement" in the memo line of your cheque or etransfer.

DIOCESAN WOMEN'S RETREAT



The 2025 diocesan Women's Spring Retreat will take place on April 25-27 at Camp Pringle. The theme is **"Still I Rise."** The facilitator will be Rev. Jacqueline Stober, Senior Associate at Christ Church Cathedral, and the spiritual director will be Rev. Colleen Lissamer, rector of St Matthias, Victoria. Registration forms can be found on our bulletin board in the Hall or on our website: <https://www.stpeterduncan.ca/events/womens-spring-retreat-2025/2025-04-25>

COMMUNITY EVENTS



St. Patrick's Day Party at St. John's Cobble Hill on Friday March 14 at 5:30 p.m. Great food, entertainment and Sing-along! Tickets are \$25/person and will not be sold at the door. Cash, credit card via telephone, or e-transfer to socialcommittee@stjohnscobblehill.ca Ticket sales close on Monday March 10.



Greater Victoria Police Chorus will perform on Saturday March 15th from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Duncan Christian Reformed Church. Tickets are \$25 each. For more information call Pat Smith at 250-252-9243. This is a fundraising event of the Nowruz Refugee Sponsorship Group.



Cowichan Valley Basket Society invites you to a Breakfast Catch-Up at White Spot on Friday March 20 at 7: 30 a.m. Find out more about many of the exciting things that are happening at the Food Bank as we try to meet ever increasing food insecurity needs in the Valley. Tickets are \$25 each and are available at the CVBS office or online using this link: <https://cvbs.ca/breakfast>



Creative Quilting Pop-Up on Friday March 28 and Saturday March 29 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Hall. Hundreds of bolts of fabric, pre-cuts (including remnants of fabric notions, 505 spray, books, patterns, batting half bolts. Cash, credit and debit payments accepted.



Calligraphy and Tea on Saturday April 12th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. bat St. Peter's Hall.. Join the Warmland Calligraphers for their 30th Anniversary Tea and Display.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE for the Week of March 9:

Members of our Congregation: David, John, Pat, Arnold, Dave, John, Mark, Jane, Robin, Jim, Alison, Cory, Jason, Connie, Gordon, Doreen, Hazel, Brandon.

Anglican Cycle:

- Anna, Bishop, Diocese of BC
- St. Peter's Clergy and Lay Assistants
- Parish of Salt Spring Island
- The Anglican Church of Canada

Government Leaders: Charles, our King, Justin, our Prime Minister, David our Premier, Cindy, Chief of the Cowichan Tribes, and Rob and Michelle our mayors.

Birthday Blessings this week: Barry Gladesdahl (March 11), Gerry Chaperon (March 12), Davis Erickson (March 12)

Parish Families: Pat Eagar and Barry Gladesdahl, Chris Easly, Richard Elington