



# ST. PETER, QUAMICHAN

## ANGLICAN CHURCH



BEACON Newsletter – June 1, 2025

7th Sunday of Easter

**Address:** 5800 Church Road, North Cowichan, B.C. V9L 5M3

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**Priest:** The Very Reverend Ansley Tucker [atucker@bc.anglican.ca](mailto:atucker@bc.anglican.ca)

**Facebook:** The Anglican Parish of St. Peter, Quamichan

**Parish Administrator:** Monica Gurzinski [admin@stpeterduncan.ca](mailto:admin@stpeterduncan.ca)

**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. Use this link to watch the service LIVE:

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

### THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

Warden Liz Williams will preside at the 8:00 a.m. service, while Dean Ansley Tucker will preach at the 10:00 a.m. service.

**SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS** The verdict is in! 70% of respondents to our recent survey indicated that they would like the Sunday announcements to take place in the church rather than the hall. 81% indicated that if the announcements were returned to the church, the preferred time for them would be after the blessing and before the final hymn. Accordingly, parish council decided this past week that beginning June 1, we would return to “the way we were.” Other comments included a desire that we find ways to respect the transition from prayer to business, which can feel quite abrupt. One person suggested that we provide a monthly opportunity to discuss the sermon over coffee. And some observed that having announcements in the hall automatically excludes those who attend the service by livestream. Finally, those who mentioned birthdays and anniversaries stated that they preferred celebrating them in the hall – which will continue.

### RED FOR PENTECOST!

The Feast of Pentecost is Sunday, June 8, and marks the end of the 50 days of Easter with a celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the first Christians. Even though it is one of our three most important feasts (some would say it ranks above Christmas!), this would be hard to tell in most Anglican Churches. Most Anglicans don't know the classic hymns of the Spirit by heart, let alone hear them on the radio in the run-up to Pentecost; we don't have a classic Pentecost meal, or holiday; and most parishes are hard pressed to imagine how they might decorate their churches to make the point. We are going to do our best to make Pentecost an occasion. One practice which is gaining currency, is for people to wear red on Pentecost, if they possibly can. Mark the date, June 8, and let's see if we can create a sea of red in the pews!

### A WORD ABOUT RINGING OF THE BELL

From Dean Ansley: As Deacon Norah has made clear, beginning on Pentecost, St. Peter's bell will once again ring on Sundays. We are grateful for her careful consultation with indigenous elders to ensure that this will not be perceived as a reminder to residential school survivors of the forcible imposition of colonial religious practices – which was the concern which gave rise to the silencing of the bell several years ago.

This invites us to consider the place of bells in our own history and practice. The first thing to note is that the original purpose of steeple bells was more secular than religious (if you could even make such a distinction in those days). Think back to a time before there were newspapers, before there were telephones, radio, or television, before there were air raid sirens, and certainly before there were Amber alerts and social media. Indeed, even fire engines, as recently as the early 60s, were equipped with bells, not sirens! All of which is to say that before all this, there were church bells.

Of course, church bells announced Sunday worship. But they also pealed for weddings and tolled for funerals. They announced war. And peace. They announced the start of the day, lunch, and quitting time. They warned people of bad weather, and called all hands to deck in a crisis. Bells have been at the center of community for centuries. Even in our own time, with all the technology we have at our disposal, there is nothing quite so powerful as a single, primitive bell ringing to making a statement.

In re-voicing our own church bell, we take our place in this long tradition of service to the whole community. We will start to ring our bell on Pentecost Sunday, June 8!

### CALLING ALL INJURED HYMNBOOKS!

On Sunday, if you see a copy of Common Praise in your pew that needs mending, please leave it on the table at the church door when you leave the service. We have purchased some proper library tape, and will begin the work of repair this week. Hymn books cost about \$28 each, so anything we can do to keep our current collection in good shape is worth the effort!

### DO YOU LIKE PEOPLE?

If so, consider becoming a Sunday greeter at St. Peter's. We are looking to expand our group of welcomers at the 10 a.m. service, so that each greeter would be “on” approximately once a month. We've got a training session in the church on Friday, June 6 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. For more information, please speak to Eileen Curtis, one of the clergy, or just show up!

LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL SUNDAY READERS

During COVID, when we were all a bit nervous about gathering in public, St. Peter's went to a system of asking Sunday readers who felt comfortable volunteering to come and read. This left us with a strong, but much reduced group of readers. It also meant that we were planning on a week-by-week basis, which isn't very efficient. Beginning soon, we want to assign readers in advance, and to list this information in a single table that includes other worship leaders. But let's begin by asking: Would you like to be a Sunday reader? Please speak to one of the clergy, or call Monica or Karen in the Church Office. And, if you know of Sundays between now and the end of August that you will be away, please provide that information too.

AUDIO-VISUAL SYSTEM IN THE PARISH HALL

Great news! On Wednesday, Parish Council received and adopted a proposal to improve the audio-visual system in the parish hall. The current sound system has been a consistent source of frustration for many, no matter what we do! Bringing our AV capacity up to standard will enhance our ability to use our hall well – both for our own needs, and those of others. We have about half the funds needed in hand, and will be reaching out to the parish to help raise the difference. A letter (please, God and the Post Office) will be coming soon.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE for the Week of June 1:

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

Anglican Cycle:

- Anna, Bishop, Diocese of BC
  - St. John the Divine, Courtenay
  - The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil, Bishop, The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson, Suffragan Bishop, The Right Reverend Riscylla Shaw, Suffragan Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Toronto
- St. Peter's Clergy and Lay Assistants
  - The Anglican Church of Korea
  - The Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute in Outlook Saskatchewan

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

**Birthday Blessings this week:** Dominic Gurzinski (June 2), Liam Gurzinski (June 2), Nicholas Gurzinski (June 2), Hannah Smith (June 3), Joan Andrews (June 6)

**Parish Families:** Robin and Raquel Luxmoore, Adele MacLeod, The Reverend Dr. June Maffin

**Flowers this week:** The flowers on the Reredos are given to the Glory of God by Granville Fountain in loving memory of his mother, Lillian and father, Clarence and his dear wife of 40 years, Ruth.

2025 FALL DIOCESAN WOMEN'S RETREAT

Registration for the Fall Diocesan Women's Retreat September 26-28 at Camp Pringle is now open. The event will be facilitated by Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee. The cost for day attendance is \$160, a single room is \$325, and a shared room is \$265. Registration deadline is September 11. Copies of the registration form can be found in the office and on the bulletin board in the Hall. If you would like a registration form emailed to you, please let Monica or Karen know. Registration forms can be mailed to the address on the registration form or sent via email to [birish@shaw.ca](mailto:birish@shaw.ca). Please make cheques payable to St. John the Divine.

COMMUNITY EVENTS– Mark your calendar!



**Rotary Club of Duncan Garden Tour** on **Sunday June 1** from 10: a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Self-guided tours of 6 beautiful gardens. All proceeds help support non-profits in the Cowichan Valley. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at Buckerfield's Supply Store and Volume One Bookstore.



**St. Edward's Tea & Treasures.** St. Edward's Church is holding a high tea and sale of previously loved jewelry on **Saturday June 7** at 1:30 p.m. at their church, located at 2085 Maple Bay Road for the Nowruz Project to raise funds to reunite a family that has fled the war in Syria. Tickets are \$45 and available from Judi Moran at (250) 746-7489 or [judimoran88@gmail.com](mailto:judimoran88@gmail.com).



**Chemainus Classical Concerts** presents Belonging: Bose-Pastor Duo on piano at St. Michael's Church on **Sunday June 8** at 2:00 p.m. Reserved tickets start at \$23. To reserve your tickets, please phone Eleanor at (250) 748-8383.



Music director **Marilyn Rummel, and Danel Cove** who plays flute with her for many Taize and other special services are presenting a concert at St. Paul's in Nanaimo **June 12, 7 p.m.** The concert is part of the **Island Notes Chamber music series** running that week. You're invited to come and support these musicians and enjoy a lovely evening of new compositions for Baroque flute and lever harp. Tickets are available at [NCmusic.com/calendar](http://NCmusic.com/calendar).



**Creative Quilting Pop-Up** on **Friday June 13 and Saturday June 14** from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Church 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.