

CONNECTION



The Quarterly Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

Number 59



St. Mary Church

1973 Cultra Avenue,
Saanichton, BC V8M 1L7



St. Stephen Church

7921 St. Stephen Road,
Saanichton, BC V8M 2C3

Check your email or the Parish Website for service updates and changes. As health restrictions relax, please practice protocols that make you feel comfortable.

Worship Services

Sundays

- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist
(see page 2)

Wednesdays

- See page 2

Office: 250-652-1611
Email: admin@parishcs.ca
Web: www.ParishCS.ca

Worship Services

Sundays

- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist
(see page 2)

Office: 250-652-4311
Email: admin@parishcs.ca
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June 2026

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Incumbent: Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

Associated Clergy: The Ven. Bob Baillie,
The Rev. Dr. Brett Cane
Bishop Logan McMenamie
Rev. Paul Schumacher

Deacon: The Rev. Gil Shoesmith



www.ParishCS.ca

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

St. Mary Church

St. Stephen Church

Please check the church website and other electronic sources for updates over the next three months. The following are the events which are planned at this time.

- The regular Sunday services at St. Mary at 9:00 a.m. and at St. Stephen at 11:15 a.m. will be replaced for the months of June, July and August with the following Summer Schedule of combined services at 10:00 a.m. that will take place each week at either St. Mary or St. Stephen. The regular two-service schedule will resume on Sunday, September 6th.

Summer Service Schedule

*Praise Band services are marked with an asterisk**

- **June 7** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Stephen.
- **June 14** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Mary. This will be a lay-led morning prayer service.
- **June 21** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Mary.
- **June 28** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Stephen. *This will be a Praise Band service.
- **July 5** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Mary.
- **July 12** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Stephen.
- **July 19** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Mary.
- **July 26** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Stephen. *This will be a Praise Band service.
- **August 2** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Mary.
- **August 9** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Stephen.
- **August 16** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Mary.
- **August 23** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Stephen. *This will be a Praise Band service.
- **August 30** 10:00 a.m. One Service only at St. Mary.
- The **Wednesday Eucharist** services at St. Mary at 10:00 a.m. will continue during the summer. The 'Sermon Circle' Bible Study following at 10:45 a.m. will continue during the month of June, take a hiatus during July and August and return in early September.
- **Saturday, June 20th:** Men's Breakfast at St. Stephen at 9:30 a.m. There will be round-table introductions and short talks instead of a particular speaker.

Prayer Chain Contact

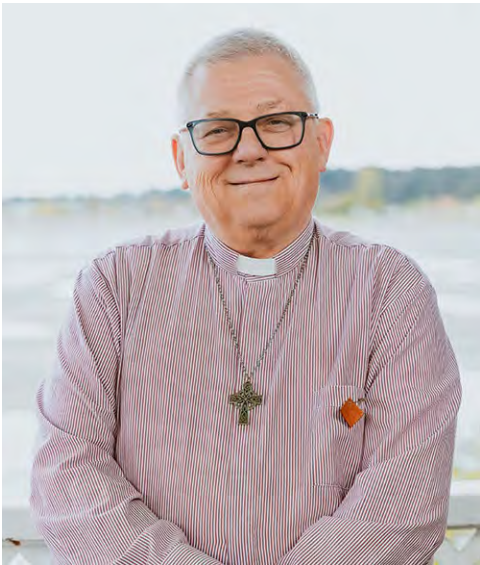
Becky Lowe is the new Prayer Chain Coordinator. Email address: prayers@parishcs.ca

We acknowledge that we gather to worship on the traditional lands of the WSÁNEĆ and Coast Salish peoples

The Parish of Central Saanich gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance provided by the District of Central Saanich by way of its Permissive Property Tax Exemption Program

From the Pastor's Pen

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego



As we enter summer 2026, I am filled with joy as I walk with you and watch our parish family grow and change. These are exciting times in the life of the church.

In the next few Pastor's Pen articles, I hope to highlight and thank those who serve in specific ministries. Each of us is called by God to serve.

Blessed are those who serve and prepare coffee, tea, and cool beverages in the Parish of Central Saanich!

Many of us cherish the social time after our services and the treats that are generously shared. We give thanks to God for the people behind the scenes and at the kitchen window who serve with a smile.

Would you like to take part? You do not need to be an excellent baker, and you do not always need to spend money on baked goods. Please talk to us about other ways to contribute. During the summer, especially in the hottest weeks, we can offer cool drinks and lighter food.

I have not named each of you because I would not want to miss anyone. Please offer your thanks, encouragement, and help whenever you can.

As we enjoy the summer, please remember that regular financial giving helps sustain our church family. The world is full of change, conflict, and uncertainty. Together, let us do our best to keep the Church of the Triune God a beacon of hope and light in this world and in our communities.

I am beginning to prayerfully seek God's guidance for our fall programming. We are greatly enjoying our Wednesday Bible study using Jean Allen's "Manna Gathering" as a guide, and this fall we may alternate with another resource. I am listening for the still, quiet voice of God and would be glad to hear your thoughts as well.

Thank you to all who assist in various ways as I take some vacation days. Marian and I will be in Japan and Taiwan from May 28 to June 16.

God is Good!

Lon+



Retirement Event for Our Parish Administrator, Leslie Pedlow

By Ken Pedlow



On Saturday, May 2nd, the parish hosted an afternoon tea for our retiring Parish Administrator, Leslie Pedlow. The event was held in Cooper Hall at St. Mary from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. It recognized and thanked her for her 28 years of service in this position. Many people in the parish participated in the preparation and set up for this event, including providing a variety of decorations. The refreshments included favourites provided by Lynn Fallan and others and desserts from Leslie's brother, Bernie Grimes, who also emceed. Those in attendance included former clergy of the parish and visitors from out of town, all who have worked with Leslie in the past.

A number of individuals spoke at the tea including John and Sue Smith from Qualicum Beach, Bob Buchanan, David Cooper, The Rev Pam Orman and Rev. Lon and Marian Towstego. The choir sang a special song written by Bishop Logan McMenamie. Marcia McMenamie presented Leslie with gifts of appreciation from the congregation.

The tea was a most enjoyable time, and Leslie was very appreciative of all that was done and thankful to all who attended and all who have supported her in her work over so many years.

Dear Lon and
Members of the Parish of Central Saanich,

To the organizers, contributors and attendees, please accept my heartfelt thanks for the wonderful retirement reception on Saturday, May 2nd. It was a very special afternoon, and it was lovely to see past and current friends gathered together. I think of the many people that have been integral parts of our churches that are no longer with us. May they rest in peace.

Thank you to everyone for the amazing array of retirement cards, plants, gifts, and especially for the incredibly generous 'purse'. Your generosity has been overwhelming!

It is always difficult to let go of something that has been an important aspect of one's life and I have enjoyed serving you, the Parish and God! I wish you all the best going forward!

Sincerely,

Leslie

Text of Leslie's letter read in church and at Parish Council



Cane's Corner: Travels in Japan, Part 3

By the Rev. Dr. Brett Cane

Everything Else!

This the third of three articles on my trip to Japan during the first two weeks of November last year. Having looked at Japan in general and then castles, shrines and temples in my previous articles, this final one will describe everything else I encountered! I will do it more or less in the order visited on my bus tour.

Then we stopped at a very picturesque area in a city-centre with buildings from the 17th century when it was an important regional trade hub for the large quantities of rice from the surrounding region. The former storehouses with their white walls and black tiles have now been converted into cafes, boutiques, souvenir shops and a number of museums.

Me eating a giant potato chip on a very trendy Tokyo street



On the first day, as we journeyed east from Osaka, the first place we visited was a sake distillery where there was a museum showing how sake used to be produced.

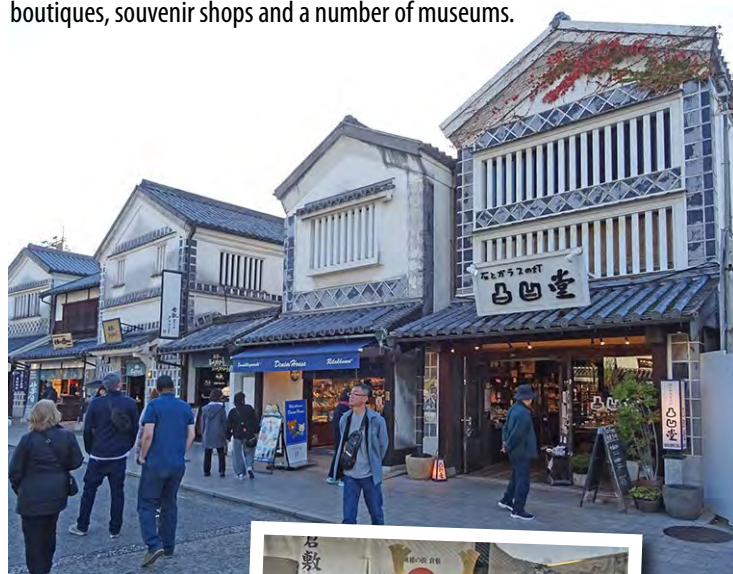


Sake is made by fermenting rice that has had the bran removed. I enjoyed the sake tasting we were treated to!

We arrived that evening in Hiroshima and the next day had a very moving walking tour of the Peace Memorial Park, built on the devastated area created by the atomic bomb explosion. There are monuments, museums, and lecture halls, which draw over a million visitors annually.



The A-Bomb Dome is the skeletal ruins of the building closest to the centre of the blast that remained partially standing.



Samurai outfit in gift shop window

Cane's Corner *continued*



The Children's Peace Monument is dedicated to the memory of the children who died as a result of the bombing. The statue is of a girl with outstretched arms with a folded paper crane rising above her. It is based on the true story of a girl afflicted with leukemia as a result of the blast who had the goal of making 1,000 origami cranes before she died at age 12.

Surrounding the statue are many kiosks full of Origami cranes left by visitors or sent by children from around the world.



Our journey then took us eastward to Kyoto where we joined thousands of others to visit the amazing Bamboo Forest in the foothills northwest of the city.



The forest was once part of an estate and a place of retreat and contemplation for aristocrats during Japan's Golden age (8th -12th century) and there are various folktales about it.

This clock in the Peace Memorial Museum shows the number of days since the dropping of the bomb and the last nuclear test.

At this point I will add places I saw while staying in Kyoto the week earlier.



Nishiki Market is a narrow, five block long shopping street lined by more than one hundred shops and restaurants and packed with locals and tourists alike. It began in 1310 with one fish shop! It is a great place to find Japanese sweets, pickles, dried seafood and sushi.



Sushi for sale

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Cane's Corner *continued*



"Team Lab" in Kyoto was a digital art experience par-excellence! The 50 AI generated visuals (spread across) four floors are designed to immerse visitors in a world that transcends physical boundaries and were absolutely stunning!



Bonsai exhibit On our visit to the Kyoto Botanical Gardens, we saw an impressive Bonsai exhibit. Founded in 1924, it is the oldest and most comprehensive public botanical garden in Japan.



Bonsai tree



Continuing our journey east toward Tokyo, we first stopped at the biggest tea plantation in a region famous for green tea and matcha due to good humidity. After a tour of the plantation, museum and factory, we headed to the gift shop for tea tasting and viewing of an immense variety of products made with tea, especially matcha. Regular green tea is steamed; matcha is ground green tea. Matcha products included chocolate, baked goods, ice cream and even beer!



continued on page 9

Cane's Corner *continued*



Our next stop was Mount Fuji which is about 100 kilometers southwest of Tokyo. A volcano, it is the highest mountain (3,776 m) in Japan and seventh highest peak on earth. We first stopped at 900 metres to take a boat ride on one of five lakes in the region, to get the best views. The boat was called "Swan Lake" because of the migrating swans in area.



We then went in our bus 2/3 the way up to a viewing and major tourist area.



We then went on to Tokyo, our destination. The first visit of our day tour began in a beautiful traditional Japanese stroll garden, constructed by the Mitsubishi family in 1878–85 - an amazing luxury in a metropolitan area of what is now 41 million people!



After the garden we went to visit a nearby Sumo wrestling training facility because our guide has a friend who is a wrestler – unfortunately it was their day of rest and it was closed.

continued on page 9

Cane's Corner *continued*



After visiting a street known as the center of Japan's most extreme teenage cultures and fashion styles (see opening photo of me with giant potato chip swirl) we went up the Tokyo Tower. Tokyo Tower, a communications and observation tower in Minato, Tokyo completed in 1958, inspired by the Eiffel tower, it stands 3 metres taller at 333 metres high. The views were very impressive.



My final shot of the area and of Tokyo was of a key element of Japanese culture, King Kong on side of hotel. Can you see it climbing up the side of the hotel? And with that, I end my description of what was an amazing trip!

For our final experience, our guide took us to Shinjuku Kabukicho area famous for shopping and as a night spot. The crowds were phenomenal – and young - I (and a bald guy I saw) must have been the oldest people on the street



Soap For Hope

by Marcia McMenamie



Thank you all so very much for your donations to our new ministry, Soap for Hope. Your generosity is wonderful. Soap for Hope is over the moon with all that we brought in to them. We will continue to have the basket in the narthex at St. Mary and in the hall in St. Stephen. I will deliver the contents of the baskets to Soap for Hope to their facility once a month. I also hope to update you on any specific needs they may have. In the meantime, if you are travelling and can pick up the toiletries in your hotel room and donate them that would be great.

Thank you again for all your support.

Marcia

Senior's Fraud Prevention

by Ken Pedlow

The following materials on the topic of preventing fraud targeted at senior's have been obtained from the website of the Saanich Police Department.

There are many types of fraud, with new ones invented regularly. Remaining cautious and aware is your best defense. It's helpful to know that fraudsters use three powerful and effective things to get you to cooperate:

- **The hope of a benefit:** "You've won a prize!" "This is a guaranteed investment!" "I love you!"
- **Fear:** "You owe taxes." "You will be arrested." "Your loved one is in trouble."
- **Your natural willingness to help:** "Help us catch these crooked bank employees." "Be our secret shopper."

These are designed to manipulate your emotions, prevent you from thinking rationally, and make you take actions you normally would not. Help us help you prevent fraud.

- Breathe and Slow things down.
- Does this make sense? If it's too good to be true it's probably a scam!
- Be rude – hang up, delete, don't respond.
- Take all the time you need.
- Check in with two trusted other people i.e. your bank, your family

Printable Resources

- Saanich Police summary on how you can: [Be Scammer Savvy – Beat the Fraudster](#)
- April 2025: [Password Safety](#), [Cyber Safety Tips](#), [Spot the Scam](#)

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Senior's Fraud Prevention *continued*

- December 2023: [Scams of the Holidays](#)
- March 2023: [Scam Protection Poster](#)
- February 2023: [Romance Scams](#) (See sample below), [Emergency/Grandparent Scams](#)
- January 2023: [Tech Support Fraud](#)
- December 2022: [Holiday Scams](#)

Romance scams often begin on dating apps or social media. Scammers typically take time to build trust, shaping conversations to fit your emotional needs to create a sense of connection. Once that trust is established, they will begin asking for money. There are often warning signs. A scammer may push to move the conversation quickly to text or email, avoid video calls or meeting in person, or share dramatic personal stories that lead to sudden financial emergencies. These are all red flags that the person may not be who they claim to be.

To protect yourself, take things slowly with someone you've just met and do a bit of research. Be cautious if someone consistently avoids video calls or can never meet face to face and never send money to someone you have not met in person.

For more info on fraud prevention, visit our Financial Crimes page on our website: <https://saanichpolice.ca/crime-prevention/financial-crimes/>

Options to Report Fraud and Cybercrime

- [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#)
- [Consumer Protection BC](#)
- [Competition Bureau of Canada](#)
- [Better Business Bureau](#) and [Bureau's Scam Tracker](#)

Check it out and see what scams are happening in your area.

Online Anti-Fraud Resources

There are numerous online resources to assist you with fraud awareness and prevention including:

- [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#)
- [seniorsbc.ca](#) (resources for seniors including elder abuse prevention)
- [The Little Black Book of Scams](#)
- [Better Business Bureau](#)
- [Government of Canada Office of Consumer Affairs](#)
- [Consumer Protection BC](#)
- [Competition Bureau](#)
- [British Columbia Securities Commission](#)

Be Fraud Aware

- [Invest Right](#)
- [Get Cyber Safe](#) (Government of Canada)
- [Internet Crime Complaint Center](#) (US-based)
- [Trans Union Credit Bureau](#)
- [Equifax Canada](#)
- PhoneBusters (1-888-495-8501)
- [Scambusters](#)

Remember: The best defence to becoming a victim of a financial crime is to exercise due diligence. If you are unsure, seek assistance from any of the sources listed above or call the Saanich Police Department at 250-475-4321.

Recipe Page: Rhubarb Strawberry Upside Down Cake

Submitted by Nancy Choat

I made this cake to take to a Mother's Day dinner. It's easy and tasty. You can serve it with whipped cream or ice cream.

Ingredients

- 2-1/2 cups of rhubarb (2 to 3 medium stalks), 1-1/2 cups of strawberries, chopped OR 3 cups of fresh rhubarb
- 1-1/2 tbsps. all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup of butter melted
- 1/2 cup of brown sugar

Batter:

- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup of butter melted
- 1 egg
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice + zest from the lemon
- 1-1/2 cups of all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1 pinch of salt
- 2/3 cup of milk

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Toss rhubarb and strawberries and the 1 1/2 tbsps. of flour in a small bowl.
3. Pour 1/4 cup of melted butter into a 9-inch pan. Top with 1/2 cup of brown sugar. Arrange the rhubarb mixture on the brown sugar. Set aside.

For the batter:

1. Combine sugar and melted butter. Stir in egg and lemon juice.
2. In a small bowl combine flour, baking powder, lemon zest and salt.
3. Add flour mixture alternately with the milk to the butter mixture and stir just until combined.
4. Spread the batter over the rhubarb mixture and bake 32-36 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean.
5. Remove from oven. **Allow to cool in the pan 15 to 20 minutes** (this will allow the topping to set before turning the cake over). Run a knife along the edge of the cake and invert it onto a platter.

Note: Leftover cake will keep in an airtight container in the fridge for three days. You can also freeze the cooled cake, wrapped and stored in a freezer for up to two months.



I Cannot Tell

By Greg Robinson

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians Chapter 5, verses 19 and 20, we are told to "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Our worship can take on many forms, but I want to focus on the worship that is born out of our sense of what is beautiful in this good world that God has created. God has given us a world of incredible beauty and majesty. He has given us the ability to sense and enjoy that beauty, and He has given us the ability to enhance that beauty and even bring new beauty to the world. God has given us many ways of bringing beauty to this world. Some of us have the gift of creating beautiful gardens, some beautiful paintings or sculptures and so on. One of many ways that we have of participating in this beauty is through God's gift of music.

One of my favourite hymns is "I Cannot Tell." The tune is an old Irish folk tune that eventually came to be known as "Londonderry Air" after the county in Ireland. There were of course the popular words written for it with the title "Danny Boy." William J Fullerton, an Irish minister, wrote the words for "I Cannot Tell" early in the last century and put them to that tune.

The lyrics to "I Cannot Tell" constitute in my view one of the most powerful, most poetic, and at the same time most meaningful words ever written. It is put to what most people would rank as one of the most beautiful tunes ever written. Singing this hymn should fill us with a sense of peace, a sense of love, a sense of hope, a sense of purpose and an overall sense that, for this moment at least, all is right with the world. In this magnificent hymn we can feel the presence of God.

The Christian story or the Jesus story is beautifully portrayed in the lyrics of this hymn. As the title indicates it is a story with mystery and ambiguity. The first verse tells us about the birth of Jesus and the second tells of His death on the cross. Just read as poetry the first two verses of this beautiful hymn so that you can just reflect on the beauty of the message.

Verse 1

*I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
should set his love upon the sons of men,
or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wanderers,
to bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary
when Bethl'em's manger was his only home,
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.*

*“ I cannot
tell why he,
whom angels
worship,
should set
his love
upon the
sons of
men...”*

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I Cannot Tell *continued*

Verse 2

*I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted
and stays our sin and calms our lurking fear
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden;
for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world is here.*

So yes, God has given us the ability to recognize and be touched by beauty in whatever form it takes. He has allowed us to find joy in the beauty of His creation. I suggest though, that the greatest wonder of all, is that He has allowed us to become co-creators of much of what is beautiful in this world. He has even made us co-creators of life itself. I suggest that this is a large part of what it means to be created in the image of God. God created a world where it is possible for the hymn “I Cannot Tell” to be created by mankind, with God’s inspiration on human imagination, created both for His joy and for ours.

The fact that we are co-creators with God is a marvelous privilege, but at the same time, an awesome responsibility. Inherent in that is the easily made misconception that we are the sole creators and that God is either non-existent or redundant. This of course then leads to pride.

CS Lewis writes in his wonderful book “Mere Christianity” that “the greatest sin is the sin of pride and that in the end all sin flows from that. It isn’t of course the pride that we feel when we have done something to the best of our God given ability, but the pride of feeling that because of what we have done we are superior to others around us. All of our abilities are a gift from God in which we are to give thanks.”

In the Bible and in this hymn, we can see the story of God unfolding before us. In the Bible and in this hymn, we can discern the hand of God working through His image bearing creatures bringing His sense of love, peace, joy and beauty to the world.

When we use God's gift of allowing us to be co-creators of something beautiful in a way that is honouring to Him, we are participating in an act of worship.

When William Fullerton wrote the words to “I Cannot Tell,” it was an act of worship. All beauty that flows from a humble, unselfish, loving heart is worship.

We may of course worship as individuals but there is something particularly meaningful about coming together as a church family. We are called by Christ into community, to worship the one who has given us life. One thing we should always be very clear about. Worship is not about stoking the ego of a prideful god. Worship is about putting us in a right relationship with God. Worship is about equipping us as individuals and congregations to humbly serve our Lord.

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I Cannot Tell *continued*

In the first chapter of Ephesians, we are told that when the times have reached their fulfillment that all things in heaven and all things on earth will be brought together under Christ.

I emphasize all things. All things include the cumulative worship of mankind over all of the years.

William Fullerton reflected on the world that is to come when he wrote the last two verses of "I Cannot Tell." The third verse is about the ongoing redemption of creation. It is about the time in which we find ourselves. It is the time of God's Kingdom stretching from the time of His resurrection to the time of His coming again. The 4th and last verse is about our final glorious re-creation when all things on heaven and earth are brought together with Jesus Christ as King. Read it as poetry and reflect on this beautiful work of man and God.

“Read it
as poetry
and reflect
on this
beautiful
work of
man and
God”

Verse 3

*I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
how he will claim his earthly heritage,
how satisfy the needs and aspirations
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
and some glad day his sun will shine in splendour
when he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.
4 I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
when at his bidding every storm is stilled,
or who can say how great the jubilation
when every heart with love and joy is filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
and myriad myriad human voices sing,
and earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer,
'at last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!'*

Just as the miracles and most particularly the resurrection of Jesus are a foretaste of the world to come, so is the beauty of the world we live in now. In ways that, we cannot tell, or even imagine, the beauty of the world that will be ours when God takes all that is beautiful and loving from this world and uses it in His final great act of re-creation as heaven and earth become one. How will we perceive this final form that our world will take? As Fullerton simply puts; I cannot tell.

The great theme, in the great story that is the Bible is the theme of exodus. Even, in our own individual lives of exodus, we are to leave behind the slavery of our selfish desires that are inherent in our nature, so that in the end we embrace and take on the likeness of Christ. We are an exodus people. Just as the ancient Israelites were led

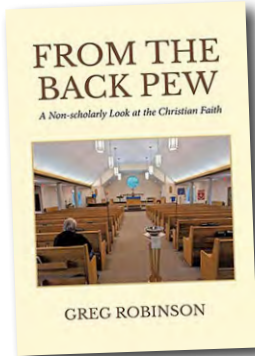
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I Cannot Tell *continued*

Greg's new book, ***From The Back Pew***, looks at the truth of Christian belief by considering the rationality of Christian faith and its implications. The book is written for Christians and non-Christians, and for those who want to

understand more about the Christian faith.

The book, in paperback, hardcover and eBook formats, is available from Amazon, Indigo and Kindle.



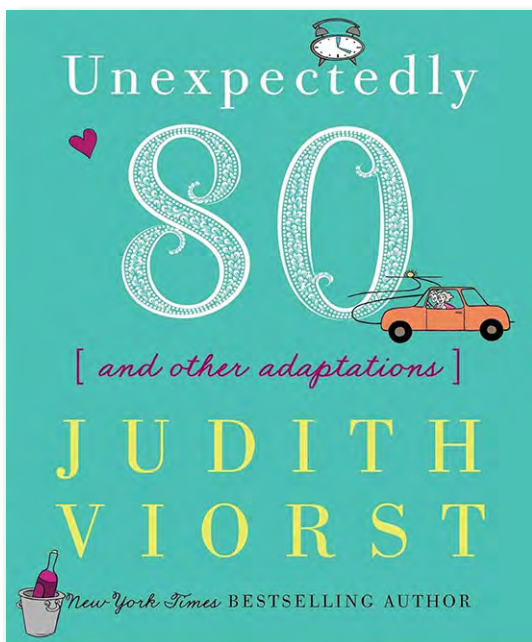
by a pillar of smoke by day and a pillar of fire by night out of slavery to the promised land, we, His Kingdom people, are being led from this world where death and decay are the final answer into the promised land of New Jerusalem, where we will enjoy perfect peace, joy, justice and love with eternal resurrected bodies.

As co-creators with God we are a people of hope and purpose. When we engage in acts such as a planting a garden, writing a piece of music or a piece of literature, engaging in an act of self-giving love, or in a myriad of other ways that bring beauty to the world that God has created for us, we are building for the day when God brings all of that together in His renewed world. God's Kingdom will finally have fully come to Earth as in Heaven. We are building for the day when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Ultimately in ways I Cannot Tell God's love for us, and for all of creation, will be all in all, forever and ever amen.

Book Review: *Unexpectedly 80 (and Other Adaptations)*

By Judith Viorst

Review by Nancy Choat



You certainly do not have to be 80 years old to enjoy these wonderful playful poems written by Judith. BUT people who are 80 or about to become 80 will be able to identify all the particular marvels of this extraordinary decade, including marriage, friendship and grandparenthood, to name a few.

Divided into three parts: Eightyish, Eightier, and Exceedingly Eighty, this book is funny, moving, inspirational and true. It extols the virtues, victories, frustrations and joys of life.

A great gift idea for someone about to become 80!

Who's Who in the Pew? or guess who is sitting in the pew next to you ...

By Marcia McMenamie

Our last parishioner who was featured in our Who's Who in the Pew was **Jan Bergink**.

Jan is a regular Sunday and Wednesday service attender. He usually sits next to the Rev Brett Cane in a pew close to the front. He is fond of the Book of Common Prayer service. This service was used in churches while Jan was growing up.

While being born in Holland Jan came to Canada with his family as a young boy. His father was an accomplished musician playing the organ in many Anglican and other churches throughout the years; St. Paul's Esquimalt, and St. David's Cordova Bay to name a few. This grounding, as a child listening to his father lead choirs and play the organ at various churches, has had a lasting effect on Jan's faith journey.

For a number of years Jan has been volunteering with Kairos. This is a group from local churches who do prison ministry throughout the Pacific northwest. Please feel free to speak to Jan about this very important ministry. I am sure that he would be more than willing to tell you all about it.

Thank you Jan for letting us get to know you a little better!

Here are the clues for the next parishioner. I hope you guess who this lovely person is!

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Where were you born? | Toronto (known then as York). |
| 2. What is your favourite childhood memory? | Spending summers at our cottage in Muskoka. |
| 3. What is your favourite colour? | Brown/red and fall colours |
| 4. What is your proudest accomplishment? | Graduating as an RN from Sick Kids Hospital |
| 5. What is your current passion? | My garden |
| 6. What is a fact about you that most folk don't know? | I was a certified ski instructor and taught at Whistler |
| 7. What is your favourite hymn? | "Be thou My Vision" CP505 |



Around the Parish

by Ken Pedlow



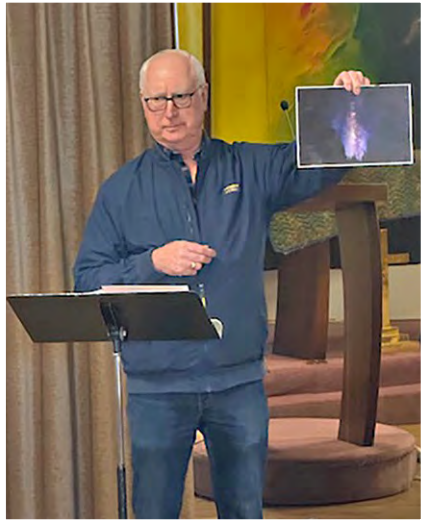
Here are some of the significant events of the past three months in the parish during this spring.

On Wednesday, March 4th, the Saanichton Village Association held its annual Community Lasagna Dinner at St. Mary. The Fresh Cup restaurant, operated by **Jim Townley**, provided the meal and the musical entertainment in the church sanctuary was provided by the group *Shenanigans*.

On Saturday, March 14th, a number of members of the parish attended the Wardens, Treasurers and Cemetery Managers Day at St. Peter, Lake Hill. Those who attended found it very informative and also appreciated the chance to network with representatives of other parishes.

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Around the Parish *continued*



Don Wilson at the Men's Breakfast



Stations of the Cross at St. Mary



The choir at Leslie's retirement event

On Saturday, March 21st, the monthly Men's Breakfast at St. Stephen had as its guest speaker our own **Don Wilson** who spoke about important events in his spiritual development. At the April breakfast the speaker was, **Frank Wood**, talking about the work of the Justice Van Society which provides much-needed supplies and assistance to the street population of Victoria. The May breakfast presenter was **Andrew Wilson**, who also spoke about important events in his spiritual development.

In March, **Lon** was pleased to announce that **Becky Lowe** has agreed to be the coordinator of the Emergency Prayer Chain Ministry. This is an important part of our pastoral care responsibilities in the parish and we are grateful that Becky has taken on this role. Please send your prayer requests to prayers@parishcs.ca.

Beginning with the Palm Sunday Services on March 29th and ending with the Easter Sunday Eucharists of April 5th, various services and events of Holy Week took place in the parish. A couple of Evening Prayer services on Monday and Tuesday were followed by the Wednesday morning Holy Eucharist. Maundy Thursday saw the Holy Eucharist service with foot washing and the Stripping of the Altar at both churches. On Good Friday the Stations of the Cross walk was held starting at Centennial Park and ending at St. Mary. These provided opportunities for parishioners to more deeply understand the meaning and significance of the Easter season.

Friday, April 10th, witnessed the Celebration of Life for **Jackie Kolson** at a packed St. Stephen Church. The service was also streamed to those in the Memorial Hall and online. Jackie was a stalwart member of St. Stephen, and many references were made in the tributes about her positive influence on the many and varied activities she was involved in. She will be greatly missed.

On Thursday, April 23rd, the Funeral for **Hannah (Nancy) Jackson** was held at St. Mary. Nancy was another long-standing member of the parish having performed many roles, especially Altar Guild, at St. Mary over a long period of time. Most recently unable to attend due to health and housing circumstances she continued to have a keen interest in the goings-on of her church. She will be fondly remembered.

Saturday, May 2nd, saw the retirement event for our former Parish Administrator, **Leslie Pedlow**, more details of which can be found elsewhere in this issue.

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Around the Parish *continued*



After the confirmation service at Christ Church Cathedral

On Sunday, May 3rd, a diocesan wide confirmation service was held at 4:00 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral. Our own Seminarian, **Melanie Ihmels**, was one of those being confirmed and a large number of parishioners were on hand to witness this event. It was an impressive occasion and all who were there were moved by the ceremony.

On Sunday, May 10th, a Mother's Day Tea was hosted by Bannockburn Farm at the St. Stephen Memorial Hall. By all accounts this was a most enjoyable event and a fitting tribute to the mothers of this community.



Spring Fling at
St. Mary

The morning of Saturday, May 23rd, saw the Spring Fling Sale at St. Mary. This well organized and successful event has been a staple in the life of St. Mary for many years. This year it was convened by **Lynn Fallan** and **Karen McCollm** and we are thankful for the efforts put in by them and all the many others who worked at and supported in so many ways.



With the retirement announcement of **Leslie Pedlow** as our Parish Administrator effective March 31st the process began to arrange for her replacement. A Committee was formed to develop an updated job description for the position, advertise the opportunity and hire a new Administrative Assistant. We were very fortunate in short order to have a number of interested candidates and the Selection Committee was pleased to be able to offer the position to **Hannah Nickel**. Hannah has had a steep learning curve into the many tasks involved in the position but she has proven to be quickly able to take them on. We welcome her to the Parish and appreciate her friendly and helpful presence in the church office. (See page 20 for details of Hannah's upcoming theatre show). It should also be noted that the bookkeeping function has been contracted out to **Andrew Lloyd** of Beachside Bookkeeping who will be working closely with our Parish Treasurer, **Lynn Schumacher**.

Just before their departure on May 28th for a 19 day vacation in Japan and Taiwan, **Lon** and **Marian Towstego** were pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter **Kelsey** to her partner **Jason**. The probable date of the wedding is July 2027 with Lon officiating.



Hannah Nickel and Carolyne Solberg at
St. Stephen

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Around the Parish *continued*



Get ready for the upcoming show *Dreamers & Schemers*, featuring three amazing true stories from Vancouver Island's past. Our Administrative Assistant, Hannah Nickel, plays a leading role on stage.

July 3rd to July 26th, on stage at the locations shown on the left.

Information: info@millbaymalahathistory.com

Tickets: cash at the door or purchase online at: millbaymalahathistory.com

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich Directory

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego 250-208-9949 ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca

Parish Council: Ex Officio

Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego
Rev. Gil Shoesmith

Rector's Wardens: St. Mary
St. Stephen

Ken Pedlow,
Robert (Bob) Buchanan

People's Wardens: St. Mary
St. Stephen

Marcia McMenamie
Mike Philip

Members: St. Mary
St. Stephen

Lynn Fallan, Becky Lowe
Terry Hartley, Sharryl Pearce

Youth Representative:

Jacob Shoesmith

Synod Delegates: St. Mary
St. Stephen

Karen McColm
Don Wilson, Lynda Clifford (alt)

Parish Treasurer:

Lynn Schumacher

Hannah Nickel is at the St. Mary office on Tuesday to Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

At the St. Stephen Church office, **Lon Towstego** will be in the office on Fridays from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon.

Please call or email your respective office for the most up-to-date information on their availability and access to the office.