

Fall 2021 - Issue 2

Spirit

IN THE TIME OF COVID

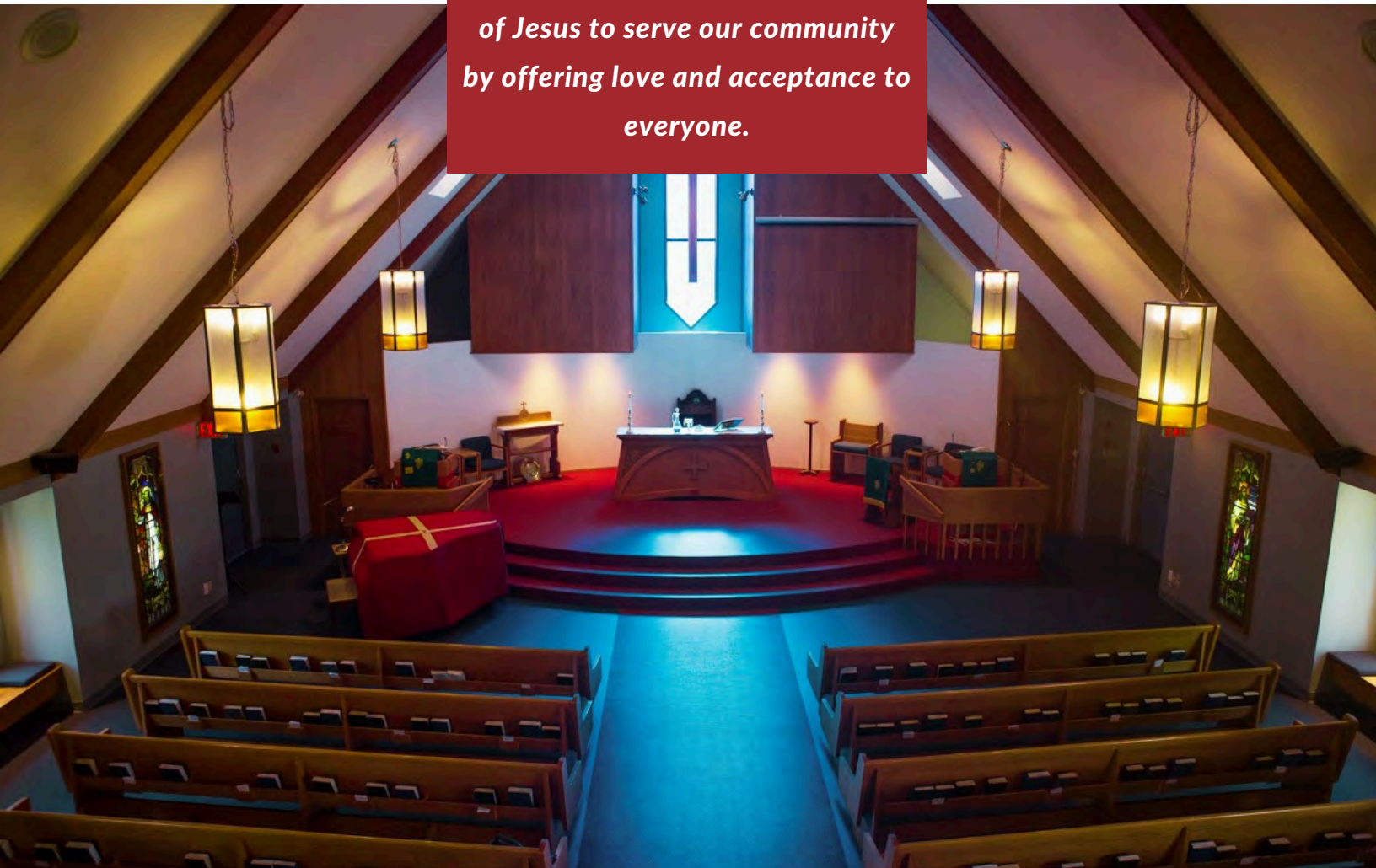
*Staying
Connected*



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*Inspired by God and the example
of Jesus to serve our community
by offering love and acceptance to
everyone.*



From the Editor

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Smith

I enjoy making connections, and in this issue of Spirit, I am able to make many. At the worship committee meeting we had a discussion about the good and not-so-good aspects of in-person-in-the-hall worship and Zoom worship. I enjoy being able to hear everyone praying together when we meet in-person, speaking in unison as Cathie describes in her opening article of this Spirit, but I also like being able to see everyone when we meet on Zoom. Being connected. Last Sunday we were asked to share our thoughts about communion. Right after the sermon, we sang "Lord of the Dance." The lyrics of the last verse describe communion for me: "I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you if you'll live in me - I am the Lord of the Dance, said he." To me, the dance is communion! We connect with Mensa Christi, through the prayer chain, Monday coffee, Mindfulness, ACW Wednesdays and the books our Librarian has read, to name a few ways. There are articles about creation and stewardship: the community garden; the care of rhodos which go deeper than care; the care of our finances, the building and gardens; the plant sale, eaglets and Jerusalem artichokes. And amongst these articles we express our gratitude.

God's love is expressed in our poetry, stories and letters and in the celebration of this year's graduates, Elayna Russell and Lokwing Wong. Congratulations and all the best in all your future endeavors! So, grab a bag of chips and settle in for a good read of this issue of Spirit. *Jane*





▼ In the Interim - Speaking in Unison

In mid July I led a brief service for interring ashes at St. Paul's in Nanaimo. During the service I invited the five family members present to join me in saying the Lord's Prayer. They did and I was suddenly quite disconcerted.

We were all speaking in unison.

We know from our experience that this isn't possible on Zoom. We sound quite cacophonous on Zoom. This is something the internet does to us, and it is currently beyond our technical control.

At this moment in time, we have all lost our capacity to speak in unison. Everything we have been and all we know has been disrupted by COVID 19. Some grandparents and grandchildren have been apart for over a year. Many of our seniors have been isolated in their rooms receiving food on a tray. People have learned to order groceries online and how to order prepared meals through a telephone app. We don't know if we will ever shake hands again, or share in the Common Cup.

In our congregation we have also lost our ability to speak in unison. Some of our congregation is present in our Zoom meetings, and some of those people would have trouble getting to church on Sunday. We see many different faces on those occasions when we meet in person, because some of those people are not able to access Zoom or they are not interested in the technology required.

We already understand that, moving forward, we will continue to have a Zoom service even when there is an in-person service.

I listen to people as they talk about the time when COVID is over and we are "back to normal". These conversations trouble me a bit because I hear some very different expectations articulated. I am aware that some people expect that we will just go back to exactly what we were doing before. Others have already said that they want something different; we are not speaking in unison anymore.

How do we get past this? How do we reach a place of 'speaking in unison' again?

I believe that to the extent we reach that goal, it will be because we have invested ourselves in our community, in being inclusive of all, and in having conversations that go deep. It means that we are changing, and it means that the church is changing and we must do our best to participate in a process of being as faithful as we can to the call of God.

The worship committee meets this month to begin that conversation. It will be an in-person conversation to maximize the number of voices that can be heard. Every voice will be heard and considered. And we will meet regularly to continue to consider and to fine-tune the decisions we made. I understand that we expect to begin advertising for a new incumbent sometime this fall. So, the question is: what kind of community do we want to be as we begin this new venture?

Yours in Christ, Cathie

The Rev. Dr. Catherine Dafoe Hall, she/her 250-668-3701
Director, EfM Canada
Interim Priest, St. Peter Anglican Church, Campbell River BC
www.efmcanada.ca
<https://www.facebook.com/EfMCanada/>

EfM Canada office is located on the traditional territories of the Syilk, Westbank First Nation; and EfM groups meet across Canada on the ancestral lands of many Indigenous, Metis and Inuit Peoples. We are grateful for their witness to us. As an organization devoted to adult Christian Education, EfM Canada is committed to offering opportunities for learning and engagement in truth-telling and reconciliation in Canada.



▼ Hybrid Church

Rev. Cathie Hall

We know what a hybrid car is, both gas and electric. Now we are exploring what hybrid church might be like. We have learned a great deal during these days of COVID 19. Our time on Zoom has been rich and there are a lot of things we like about it. We see people on Zoom who can't be in church on Sunday. Sometimes it's a mobility issue, sometimes it is a health issue like having a compromised immune system, sometimes it is another member of the family who needs someone to be available all the time.

We know that we are missing people on Zoom though. We miss those who cannot, or choose not to use the technology, or other reasons we haven't heard yet.

What if we could combine those two and have a hybrid service where people could be present on Zoom and in-person? That seems like a worthwhile goal and we are working toward it. We need a large TV for a monitor, we need someone on site to host the Zoom portion, and we need to review issues like camera angles and sound. Someone has already come forward to assist with expenditures.

We are exploring these various questions and will let you know as soon as we have an idea about this. If you have any comments or gifts to offer, please speak to Cathie or one of the wardens.



▼ Warden's Report

Lois Tirebuck, Bishop's Warden; Dave Storrie, People's Warden;
Tony Smith & Bill Ritchie, Deputy Wardens

As I sit here in the sun, it is a perfect opportunity to put together the Wardens' Report for this edition of the Spirit. What another good way to keep informed with what is happening with our parish membership and activities. By the time this edition comes out, we will have had two opportunities to meet as a congregation in the church hall. With any good luck, by the time the next edition is printed, we will be meeting regularly in the church.

We are so proud to have members who play a keen role in keeping on as "normal as possible." Mindfulness meets regularly but is taking a well-deserved holiday for the month of August. ACW members continue to meet weekly on Wednesday mornings, even during the summer. Now there is dedication for you! The Prayer Chain continues with their important ministry of which we are reminded each Sunday. A big thank you goes out to all those members behind the scenes who keep the grounds appealing to the eyes, as well as the regularly safety walks throughout the week. Our phone tree keeps members in touch. Also, some parishioners continue to receive a printed copy of the weekly bulletin. Our parish continues to support the Campbell River Food Bank with ongoing contributions and Grass Roots/Kind hearts with a monthly supper.

Cathie Hall, our interim minister, and David Fitzsimmons, our Deacon, continue to meet our spiritual needs. We were truly blessed to have our new bishop, Anna Greenwood-Lee, join us on Zoom. She has also met personally with parish council as well as ACW. She has taken an active interest in how and what our parish is doing to continue to thrive during this COVID outbreak. So, although the church may not be open for 'business as usual' just yet, hopefully that will happen sooner rather than later.





▼ Warden's Report, continued

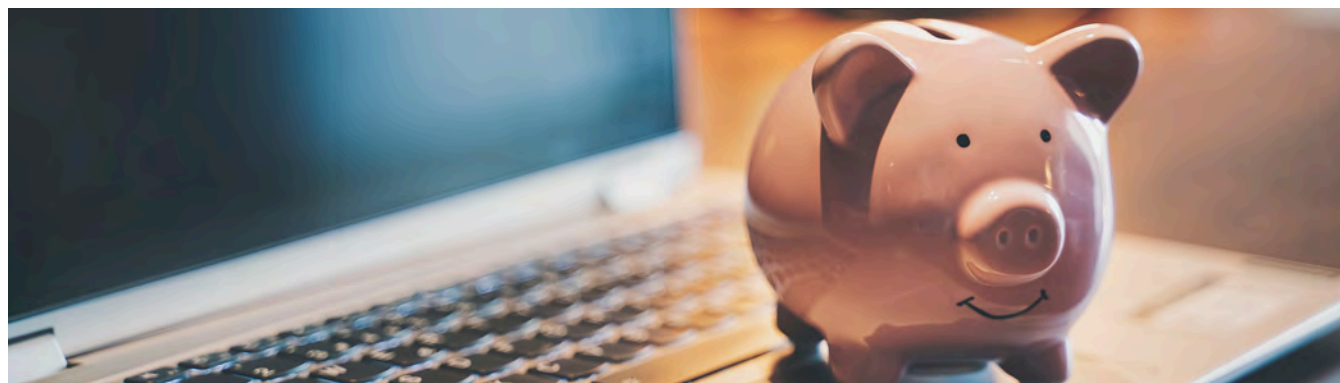
I remember when I was told, the church would be closing for 60 days and how shocked I was, only to think that was 16 months ago, and here we are just as strong if not stronger in our relationships with one another as well as our faith.

Thank You!

A big thank you to each of you for continuing to support St. Peter Anglican Church

▼ The Spirit of Finance

Holly Finn, Treasurer



I hope that everyone has had a good summer. We travelled for 6 weeks on our boat, caught lots of fish and have been blessed with our whole family here for a visit this past month. It's a good thing that I can sneak off for a nap every once in a while!

I managed to get the financials for June finished and have summarized them below. We are, thanks to you, quite flush with cash with a bank balance of \$72,721.34 at the end of June.

	Actual Jan-June	Budget Jan-June	Budget 2021
Income	83,961.32	83614.80	166,720.00
Expenses	68,995.74	104,938.02	209,878.00
Net Income	14,965.58	-21,323.22	-43,158.00

Yes, we have a healthy bank balance but it will disappear pretty quickly once we get a full time Minister so we have to remain vigilant. I send a huge thank you to all of you who have supported the automatic withdrawal program as well as those who have continued to bring in or drop off their envelopes. We have also had amazing support for designated programs such as Grass Roots/Kind Hearts and now the potential building of a labyrinth for the church grounds. As well, we are still raising funds for the replacement of the heating unit on top of the church hall. There is always something it seems.





▼ The Spirit of Finance, continued

Because many of you have signed up for the electronic collection plate, we will be reviewing the number of envelope boxes that we need to order and will be reducing the number significantly.

As always, if you have any questions or require any additional information, please let me know.

▼ Selection Committee Update

Rick Monchak, Chair

As we continue to live with the ups and downs of the pandemic, we also continue to delay the commencement of our search for a new incumbent.

As agreed with the Diocese before the summer, we will reconnect with the Diocese in September and determine the best timeline to initiate our search. Our intention is to commence this process as soon as the Diocese feels the time is right.

As always, I welcome any questions or thoughts you may have on the search for a new incumbent.



Rick Monchak - monchak@shaw.ca - 250-923-8588

▼ From the Prayer Chain...

Kathy Fitzsimmons, Prayer Chain Coordinator



To pray for someone is a gift of time. Members of the prayer chain are happy to give this gift of their time and faith to pray for others. We consider it a ministry of caring. We ask a few things...

- Let us know when the prayer need has been met so that we can take the request off of our list. For example, if someone is receiving prayer for healing from an illness and has recovered, or prayer for a situation or problem that has resolved, let us know.
- If a prayer request is for someone who is near to death, and that person dies, please let us know. We will pray for the family who mourn that person.
- If you would like us to pray for someone who is going to have an operation of some sort, let us know the date of the procedure. We will pray for the person, the procedure, and for their recovery afterward.
- If you see an answer to prayer that has been requested, please let us know as it is a great encouragement.





▼ Prayer Chain, continued

When we receive a request for prayer we commit to praying for a month, and if we hear nothing more, it will be taken off the list. The exceptions are prayer for people who have cancer or long-term illness, and for people who have dementia and their caregivers. We consider these to be ongoing needs for prayer. However, if there's any change for these people, we would appreciate hearing about that, too.

Often our prayer list has sixty or more names/prayer concerns on it. We trust that it is current and rely on you to help us keep it so. Thank you!

You can reach the prayer chain at stpeterCRprayerchain@gmail.com or call and leave a confidential message on the church office phone, 250-286-1613

▼ Praying the Lord's Prayer

Perhaps some of the most comforting words Jesus shared in Matthew and Luke's Gospels are in the prayer we Christians call the Our Father or the Lord's Prayer. While the prayer is most often said in community or as part of ritual prayer, this prayer can also be a contemplative practice when prayed slowly and mindfully, perhaps even as lectio divina. We invite you to pray this modern version of the prayer of Jesus from the Anglican Church of New Zealand, which both honors and reflects indigenous Maori culture.



*Eternal Spirit,
 Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
 Source of all that is and that shall be,
 Father and Mother of us all,
 Loving God, in whom is heaven:*

*The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
 The way of your justice be followed by the peoples
 of the world!
 Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
 Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
 sustain our hope and come on earth.*

*With the bread we need for today, feed us.
 In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
 In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
 From trials too great to endure, spare us.
 From the grip of all that is evil, free us.*

*For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
 now and for ever. Amen.*

***Richard Rohr, The Centre for Action and Contemplation cac.org.
 Based on Jim Cotter's version <https://liturgy.co.nz/god-our-love-maker>***





▼ Worship Committee Meeting Notes

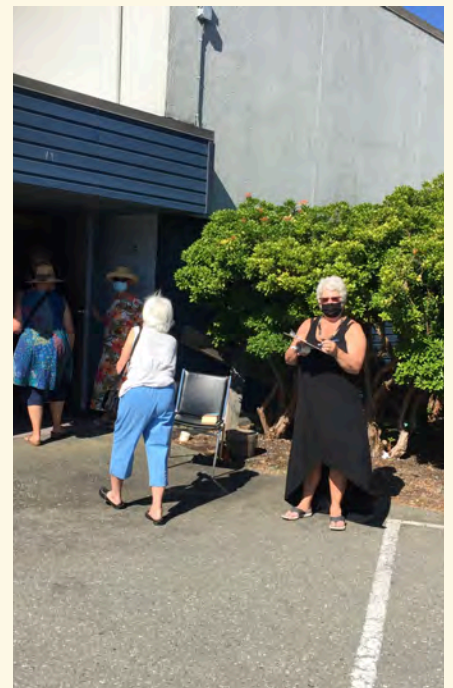
We feel we are experienced at Zoom worship but we are concerned about people who still need support to connect or stay connected. There are many things we like about our in-person worship in the hall but we still long to be able to use the church.

We don't know what the future holds but we do recognize that we are in a 4th wave and there are still many among us who are vulnerable. We will wait to see what Bonnie Henry says on September 7, and the bishop's direction after that. (Bonnie Henry reintroduced the mask mandate of wearing a mask in all indoor public spaces on August 23. Update from the Spirit editor)

Although we are longing for things to go back to 'normal' we are increasingly aware that change is inevitable. We would like to continue to discuss the future possibilities so that we can shape the best future possible.

It is still the plan to advertise for a permanent priest in the fall.

We have been worshipping & staying connected in so many ways!





▼ Building Maintenance

George Wagner

It is a good thing that our exterior painting project took place in 2020 rather than in the heat extremes experienced this year. I am pleased to report that the paint is holding up well after the first year of service.

With only limited use, the building has not required too much in the way of maintenance. One small project that was recently completed was the shortening of the SW doors in the Hall and the installation of door sweeps. This has solved the sticky door situation on this key fire door.

In July we had Raleigh Fire Services conduct an inspection of our fire related equipment. A faulty battery was changed out on kitchen emergency light and a fire extinguisher was added to the east wall of the library. We discovered during the checks of the fire and security systems that the exterior horn and strobe light located on the east wall of the church were not activated when the security system was tripped. Repairs were completed by Telus under the able direction of Tony Smith.

With the current water restrictions and the hot weather extremes, watering the plants in the Celebration Garden, the Circular Garden outside the offices and the West Lawn Gardens has been a challenge. Jennifer Coolen has been tending to the Rhodos up on the hill and trying to reduce their heat stress by giving them a regular drink. If anyone is able to help with hand watering any or all of these gardens feel free to just come and spend some time making our thirsty plants happy. Early morning or evening are the best times to water however the plants will accept water whenever it is given. If you have any questions on the watering requirements just give me a call at 778-420-4643.

▼ From the Corner

Jennifer Coolen

Many years ago, I had a chat with a doctor regarding the “Miracle of Childbirth.” I was told in no uncertain terms that there is no miracle, merely a biological fact!

Miracle or not, I am continually in awe of the wonders of God’s creations. As I water the rhododendrons growing on the corner of Pinecrest and Dogwood, I am amazed how, in midst of the apparent demise of these bushes, green shoots are appearing.

Because this azalea looked dead last year, I had plans to remove it this spring should there be no blooms. The branches were covered in lichen, many branches did not bend, but snapped, and it looked barren. I am happy to say that the light purple blooms this spring were profuse. The heat has been hard on the bush, but look closely at the center stem, and you will see green growth!

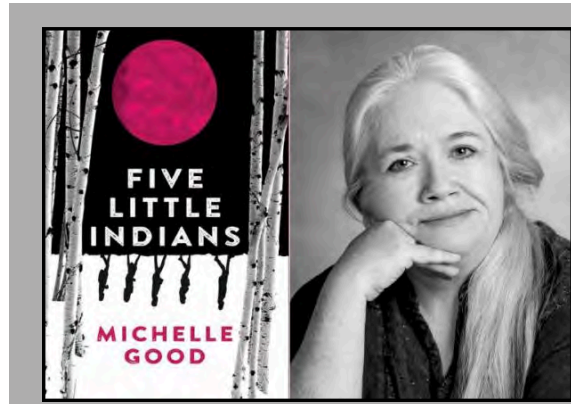
Now, I have conversed with these bushes on the corner as I water them early each morning. I have apologized for being slow to the rescue with water, but they seem to be responding with these new shoots. You know, the resiliency shown by these bushes may be just a fact of nature, but I prefer to think: **how miraculous are God’s creations!**





▼ Book Reviews

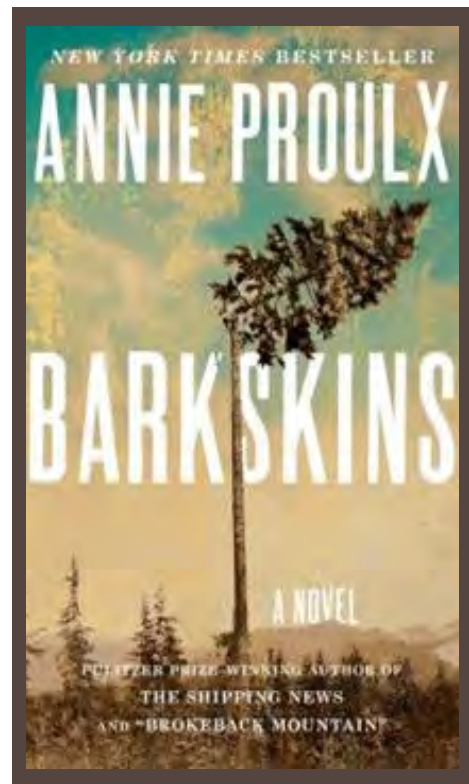
Martha Massey, Librarian



“Michelle Good is a writer of Cree ancestry and a member of the Red Pheasant Cree Nation in Saskatchewan. She obtained her law degree after three decades of working with indigenous communities and organizations. She earned her MFA in Creative Writing at UBC, while still practising law, and won the HarperCollins/UBC Prize in 2018.”

To learn more about reconciliation, I read Michelle Good’s **Five little Indians**: A Novel which has been in the news lately. That biography goes a long way to explain Michelle Good’s credentials in recounting the ongoing struggles and relationships of adult ‘survivors’ of residential school. The book is set on our West Coast, mainly in Vancouver, such familiar territory and such familiar faces for us. In the story, the reader observes the ‘lived experience’ of the characters, how former traumas affect their thinking, their consciousness, their decision making. Far more importantly, this narrative speaks to many of our current issues in the long process called Reconciliation. I highly recommend Five Little Indians. (There will soon be five copies of this book in our church library.)

Barkskins is about loggers, a fitting topic for Vancouver Island in 2021. This huge, wonderful book will enlarge your understanding of the relationship between humankind and the earth. Do you want to explore the relationship of indigenous people and Europeans? The relationship of indigenous peoples with the land? Settlers’ exploitation of the ‘infinite’ resources of the New World? This expansive work begins with two impoverished French lads arriving on the shore of the St. Lawrence River in the 17th century. The immigrants would clear land for the seigneur/master for three years in order to get land of their own. Of course, indigenous people were on the land, but they could be ignored, beaten, cheated, or married, if convenient. As the forest was cleared, the animals moved back from the river, and, from that moment in history, the indigenous way of life was forever changed. Streams warmed, landslides washed away good soil, the land degraded. Does that sound familiar? The indigenous story is empathetically woven into the whole as Proulx follows the two families through to the present. Loggers cut the trees for wooden ships and houses, oblivious to the disappearance of the vast forests of Quebec, Maine, Michigan and so on. Lumber barons made their money ... and the big forests disappeared. Within an epic tale of many individuals’ choices at their time in history, we get a lesson for our time. Many of the book’s themes are clearly part of our daily news and life. I believe that this book is a plea to us all to save the earth!



▼ Dahlia Tuber & Plant Sale 2021

Rick Monchak



This was our second year doing a “virtual” sale and we were met with overwhelming success. It seems everyone was looking forward to spending time in their gardens as we were facing another summer with COVID. Dahlia tuber orders started in January and we were completely sold out by early May. We shipped tubers to Toronto, Quesnel, Coquitlam, Chilliwack and Seattle. We received orders from all over Vancouver Island, ranging from Victoria to Alert Bay.



The plant sale was also very successful. Between April 1 and May 12, we filled 46 orders and sold almost 90% of our available plants. Greg Goldstone tried to again grow tomatoes for sale but this year he was thwarted by superhot temperatures in his greenhouse that overwhelmed the young plants. In total we raised over \$3,200.

A big thank you to Glenna Armitage for contributing so many excellent tubers and to Andrea Charlton and Glenna for contributing many beautiful plants. And, we could not have done any of this without the wonderful work of Trina Soltys who set up and maintained the tuber and plant catalogues on the church website. Lastly, a big thank you to all the parishioners who purchased plants and tubers!

▼ Graduation 2021

Elayna Russell Graduates from Carihi with 3 diplomas

Elayna graduated from Carihi with her French immersion, English and Aboriginal diplomas. She plans on taking a gap year, staying at home then moving to the mainland and studying arts. She thanks the church for the thoughtful cake; it was enjoyed by her fellow grad friends.



▼ Graduation 2021

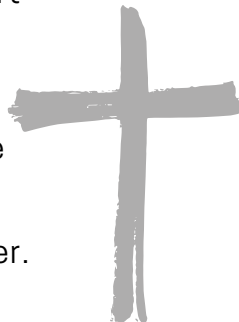
Lokwing Wong Graduates from Campbell River Christian School



Lokwing graduated from Campbell River Christian School. Her future plans are to attend the Foundation Year Program, University of King's College, Halifax, Nova Scotia. She then plans to go to medical school with the ultimate goal of becoming part of Doctors without Borders. Lokwing received several awards: the Rotary Scholarship; the Demonstrating Faith/Growing as a Christian Award; the Donna Powers - Life of Serving Others Award; and the Governor General's Award. She thanks her friends and her family for believing in her, the church for the cake, her teachers and is thankful for her plants and chickens.

A Special Gift

God gave us sunshine, birds and trees,
The star-filled sky above.
He gave us beauty, flowers, friends,
And special ones to love.
But sometimes life brings us concerns,
Or cares from day to day,
So, God gave us a special gift
To help us on our way.
He gave us the assurance
That his love is always there
To comfort and to guide us
Through the miracle of prayer.



Anonymous - Submitted by Hilda Shilliday

"I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope. When you call me and come and pray to me, I will listen to you. When you search for me, yes, search for me with all your heart, you will find me."

JEREMIAH 29:11-13



woman's day





▼ Monday Morning Coffee Hour

It is hard to believe that the Monday Morning Coffee Hour started just a year ago this month (August). Even for the lowly Coffee Hour, though, the past year has been a challenge.

The hour started as an outside activity, then it moved inside the Hall, then, with Lockdown last November, we hit the airwaves on Zoom, and just last month, we resumed the outdoor Coffee Hour. The outdoor concept comes with a very important concern and that is availability of the washroom. That has been addressed and should no longer be a reason to stay away.

Over the year, the conversations have been diverse, often with us going away having learned something about the world news, or about the challenges in the life of another member of the congregation, or our progress (or not) with the electronic world.

If you have an hour on Monday, between 10 and 11 a.m. remember to bring your own chair and cup of coffee and set yourself down on the West Lawn, in the shade, and visit. As the Fall sets in, the outdoor visits will change to inside the Hall or back on Zoom, depending on the availability and access to the Hall for meetings.

The people who come to visit are what makes the hour interesting. Hope to have you join us, Jennifer.



▼ Mensa Christi - Every Third Thursday

Mensa Christi, is Latin for "Table of Christ". Via Zoom, we invite you to gather with us from your own tables to discuss ideas arising from the intersection of our faith with the secular world around us. The session is held every third Thursday at 7:30 p.m. The next date is Thursday, September 16. You can ZOOM in for any or all of the sessions. (For security purposes, the Zoom link is sent via secure email to our parishioners. Feel free to share the link with friends and family, but please do not post to social media.)

▼ Mindfulness

Meeting on a weekly basis, the aim of the group is to create a peaceful atmosphere to foster a deeper awareness of the presence of God in everything we do in our daily lives. Drawing from the major faith traditions, mindfulness practice is a spiritual discipline, designed to help us live more fully in the present moment, by noticing ourselves and our surroundings with purpose and intention. The group format will include breathing exercises, meditations and a short discussion of specific mindfulness skill. If you are looking to expand your spiritual horizons or want to spend an hour in a peaceful environment, please consider giving this group a try.

Time - 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

Day - Wednesdays, beginning September 8, 2021

Place - St. Peter Anglican Church Library, Campbell River.





▼ On-Line Gift Basket Sales!

St. Peter is having its first on-line sale of filled gift-baskets just in time for Christmas. The committee will take photos of each basket, write a description of the contents, price it and create a catalogue which will be posted on St. Peter website and Facebook. It will be updated weekly or as sales are made. Hopefully a basket, or more, will tickle your fancy either as a gift to yourself or for someone special.

There are several ways you can participate in this fun fundraiser.

1. Pick a theme, fill a basket and bring it to the church office.
2. Take the worry out of what to put in a basket. Just make some purchases (shop locally if possible) and the committee will put the items in an appropriate basket and decorate it ready for sale.
3. All items can be delivered to the church office on Wednesday mornings; 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you are unable to deliver at this time, please call St. Peter Church office and leave a message with donation and contact information.

Be creative with the theme! Possible themes are: child's basket (different ages such as preschool, elementary, teen), man's basket, lady's basket, gardener's treasures, teacher's basket, fitness basket for a man or woman, games basket, First Aid basket, Spa basket, tea or coffee basket, quilter's basket, knitter or crocheter's basket, reader or writer's basket, snack basket, movie night basket, etc. Think up something original!

The gift-baskets will go on sale during the last week of November. If you are unable to pick up your basket, we can arrange for delivery.





▼ Labyrinth

David Fitzsimmons



I have read books about labyrinths. I have attended workshops about labyrinths. I have learned about the two different labyrinth styles and chosen the style that seems to suit the location best. I have spent time laying out the pattern on the site, using pieces of wood, and washing line rope.

I know it will fit, and I know how long all the lines are, in total. I can figure out exactly how many bricks to buy, and I have a good idea of the tools we need to dig the trenches. I have learned (by watching what they do at a golf course) how to best fill in any gaps between bricks.

We have raised the money for the labyrinth. We contemplate a bench or benches and a prayer walk through the trees as future projects. The idea that the grounds around St Peter, could be a place of contemplation and prayer has not changed.

In short, I have learned a lot and thought about it a lot. What I have not done, is actually build a labyrinth.

My idea, that we would come together in a post-COVID world at the end of the summer in a great collection of people, and dig, and build, and BBQ, and greet each other, and by doing so, celebrate the end of the pandemic, and the return to normal has...well...not happened.

It is not yet a post-COVID world.

I need to go and buy the bricks. That is the easy part. I need to figure out how we can gather as a community to build the labyrinth without undue risk, and in accordance with health regulations, which by their very nature change as the pandemic ebbs and flows. That isn't quite as easy.

In short, the labyrinth project is moving forward, albeit more slowly than I had contemplated.

Almost everything I do takes longer than I thought it would.

One walks slowly, and prayerfully through a labyrinth. Perhaps building one is not so different.





▼ Season of Creation - Sept. 1 to Oct. 4

Barb Henshall

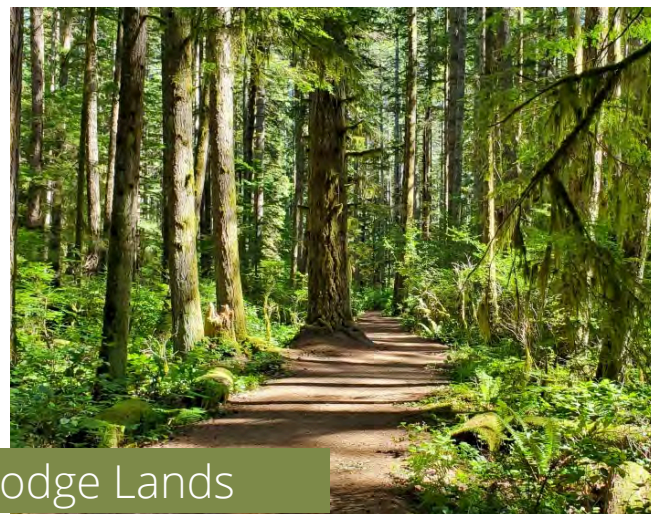
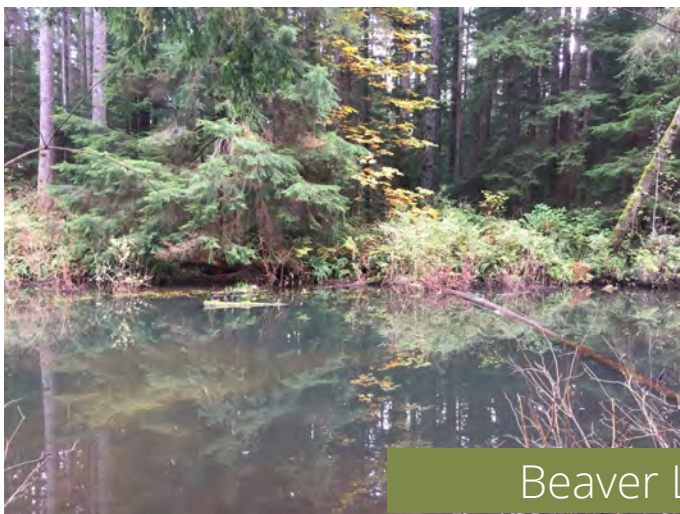
After several years of trying to draw attention to this important time, a resolution was presented by Public Witness for Social and Ecological Justice in 2019 to General Synod. It carried almost unanimously. The time has come for us to take notice of what is happening with climate. After this extremely hot and dry summer with forest fires and scarce water systems throughout the province, most people are taking notice and more are embracing this season; it is a time of reflection, prayer, education, and seeking ways that we can contribute to reversing this crisis.

I am more than delighted that Bishop Anna is giving attention to this global Season of Creation. See the website of Diocese of British Columbia to sign up for the two minute reflections – “Root Video Series,” which has already started. On September 15, an on-line Book Study will begin “Resisting Structural Evil: Love as Ecological: Economic Vocation,” and you may wish to gather in a small group for this environmental study.

As we have done in the past during the Season of Creation, Rick Monchak has led us on a very informative and interpretive walk through the Beaver Lodge Lands. If this is to happen this year I am positive there will be significant differences in the woods from the two previous years.

As I reflect on what I will do to contribute to lessening my impact on this planet I hope that we all will make a personal commitment “as we safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.”

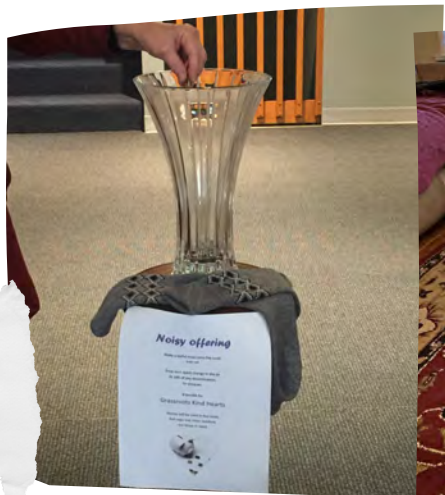
As an expression of gratitude for the wonder and mystery of Creation maybe you have written a short prayer, or have an exceptional photo of Creation, or a short poem, or a postcard sized painting or drawing, or composed a song of this wonderful world...and would like to share your offerings with others...I would be delighted to share them on the bulletin board. These could be dropped off at the church in the mail slot under H, at my house, or I would be pleased to pick them up.



Beaver Lodge Lands



▼ Noisy Offering



Noisy offering is back!! Grassroots/Kind Hearts is one of St. Peter's out-reach projects and needs support! Ask Diana for the many ways that you can help. One way is with financial donations (someone needs to buy all those meatballs). Another small financial way is through Noisy Offering. If you have spare change or bills, consider helping out this worthwhile charity. With thanks, Georgia Smith

▼ Grass Roots, Kind Hearts

Third Tuesday of the Month: September 21, October 19, November 16.

Diana puts a dinner together once a month for approximately 50 to 60 people. The dinner includes meatballs, rice, vegetables with an oatmeal chocolate chip brownie for dessert. Donations to support this outreach program can be dropped off at the church on Wednesdays. You can use your envelope or Noisy Offering to help with the purchasing of the groceries. If you would like to help with food preparation, please call the church and leave a message for Diana.



▼ Family Caregivers Support Group

You are welcome to join us for the Campbell River Caregivers Support group to hear your experiences, concerns and thoughts. You can also get help navigating the healthcare system and get your questions answered. Free resources and information are available. Confidentiality assured. Pam Hedderson co-facilitates the Family Caregivers Support Group. For further information you can call her at 778-420-4343. Fall meeting dates are September 10 and October 8 and November 12.

Meeting Location:

Campbell River Hospice Society
440 Evergreen Road, Campbell River

Daytime Meetings:

10 a.m. to noon - 2nd Friday of each month

Evening Meetings

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

2nd Tuesday of each month

Please RSVP 24 hrs. before each meeting 250-286-1121



▼ Jerusalem Artichokes

Glenna Armitage



I just discovered a new vegetable. The new addition to my garden was introduced to me by my dad. Jerusalem artichokes are edible tubers native to Central North America. Jerusalem artichokes are a root vegetable. They have a nutty flavor like water chestnuts. This perennial is best suited to zones 3 - 8. They are also called sun root or sun choke. They are a wild sunflower of Central North America where they are known as earth apple or topinambur. You harvest when their leaves die down. After the first frost the tubers are said to taste sweeter. They can be eaten raw, boiled or steamed. They are rich in iron. They also have calcium, magnesium, potassium and vitamin B 1. They are like potatoes and dahlias. They multiply and produce many tubers. They could become invasive. I have planted mine in a large plastic tub buried in my garden. This way they cannot migrate to other areas where I don't desire them to be. The bright yellow flowers can grow really tall, 4 to 9 ft.

No flowers yet, just young plants. They make a showy display of colour in the fall. I tried a raw tuber before planting. It was really tasty. For storage they are good in the fridge unwashed for a few weeks. My dad got his plants from a friend and shared some with me. Hopefully your gardens are doing well.



▼ Food for the Soul

Barb Henshall



Have you taken a close look at St. Peter Community Garden recently? The growth, beauty and diversity of plants are inspiring and amazing! Between the abundance of vegetables, flowers bloom profusely! All this has evolved over the past 21 years. In 1999 as a PWRDF millennial project initiated and led by Ruth McMonagle, our committee of five was formed and the two abandoned piles of top soil became the first community garden in Campbell River. That first year, the soil was spread out and the seeds and tomatoes were planted. Since then, it has changed phenomenally and many individuals and groups have been involved. The beds were built by Carihi High School students. Water and fences were installed; a pergola was erected with grapes vines covering it, which serves as a meeting/eating and learning spot for gardeners. Various composters and an administrative/tool shed were installed as programs evolved.



▼ Food for the Soul, Continued



Elaine Jansen has been our phenomenal educator for the past sixteen years and is now moving on to new garden adventures! Elaine has arranged many educational workshops, field trips for students, specially-abled, and the community. This garden, Elaine's teaching, and arranging many presenters from a wide spectrum of gardening has led to inspiring more community gardens in Campbell River, as well as re-purposing church lands on the Island and other parts of Canada.

Elaine squeezed in an interview between the field trips from various schools. Officially she works for the Comox Strathcona Education Centre, in waste management, as the Master Composter/Educator. The compost education centre is unique and the only one on north Vancouver Island. Weeding, watering, digging beds and being consultant are also part of her daily routine.

It was obvious that working with children was her favourite area. In non-COVID times students would plant foods and later come back to harvest as they learned where their foods come from and the care in how they are grown. St. Peter Sunday School also participated. This day Elaine had set up many magnifying glasses on tables for the next group of students so they could take a close look at worm anatomy. After they would move on to the sensory gardens, tasting and smelling plants such as lemon

balm, mint, curry, kale, flowers and fresh lettuce (the kale and mint were delicious)! During COVID the children planted a marigold, tagged with their school name, date, and grade in a small flower bed. Various composting methods were the priority but Elaine also arranged many related and very well attended workshops such as growing garlic, winter vegetables, aromatic plants for cooking, physiotherapy for gardeners, fermentation, pesticide free gardening, butterfly releases and many others!

The most important area has been the relationships formed during these years, and expressing the love and the health derived while being in this beautiful garden. It is food for the soul!

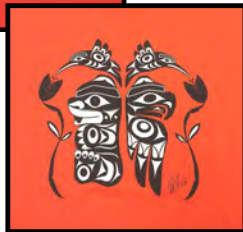
Thank you, Elaine, for all these inspirational years and for your leadership as our Garden Diva!

Elaine's parting question: How many hearts does an earthworm have?



▼ Orange: The Colour of Activism

Martha Massey



Perhaps you remember buying an orange shirt when the diocese made them available for purchase a few years ago. I am proud of my orange shirt with the hummingbirds, and have worn it frequently as a statement of my caring for all children especially indigenous children. I see the bear with its tongue sticking out, and the eagle with its beak open, as very young creatures. In 2019, when Chuck and I flew to Australia and returned by cruise ship, I boldly wore that orange shirt in many locales. This past June when there were so many indigenous protestors, I saw ‘my shirt’, as well as many other orange shirt designs. Recently, when the bank teller asked me who had designed my shirt, I set out to find the answer. A quick phone call to the Diocesan Office informed me that Doug (Bear) Horne designed those (hummingbird) orange shirts. Here is an interpretation of the images (taken from the internet):

“Horne’s design features a bear to help us follow the right path, an eagle to help us have a vision of a bright future, a hummingbird to keep our mind, body and spirit healthy, and a flower to feed the connection of all these elements.”

At the I-Hos Gallery in Comox I acquired an information sheet about this Salish artist. "Doug Horne, Jr. was born in Victoria in 1982 into a family of carvers. He prefers to work in red cedar. Coming from a traditional cultural background where family heritage is treasured, preserved and passed on to future generations,

Doug embraces his identity and communicates this connection in his work.” Bear Horne’s website identifies him with the Tsawout Nation, in Saanichton.

While the Diocese is not selling any more shirts, orange shirts are available for sale through the website “Victoria Orange Shirt Day” as well as at local Victoria retailers listed on that site. Our wonderful hummingbird design, however, is out of stock. By the way, I followed up with the bank teller, letting her know what I had learned about the orange shirt I bought at church.

September 30, 2021 is Orange Shirt Day.

<https://bc.anglican.ca/events/orange-shirt-day--654/2021-09-30>



▼ Life During a Pandemic

Glenna Armitage

Once upon a time, a bubble was a something that rose in the air or water. It was a shimmering circle with a little bit of magic. Now it's your immediate circle of family or friends. Alone can mean that you need some private time to yourself. It also means no companionship; which I find hard. I thank God for my bubble of family and friends. God has taught us. Life is a learning experience.

Romans 5:3-5.

We can rejoice too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady. Then, when that happens, we are able to hold our heads high no matter what happens and know that all is well, for we know how dearly God loves us and we feel this warm love everywhere within us because God has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

The Living Bible. 1971. Page 900-901, paraphrased.

We are never alone.

▼ The Vickery Eagle Nest Report

Lucky Sue Vickery

We were absolutely delighted in the fall of 2016 to see two adult bald eagles starting to build a nest, in a cottonwood tree, in the vacant lot off our porch. It took many weeks flying through the trees with branches with leaves still on them. Sometimes they would run into other trees to break the limbs into a useful length. One bird would sit in the nest and weave the branch into the nest; amazing when you have only a beak and claws. They took two periods of time, one in the fall and one in the early winter. They continue to repair and improve on the nest during the winter each year.

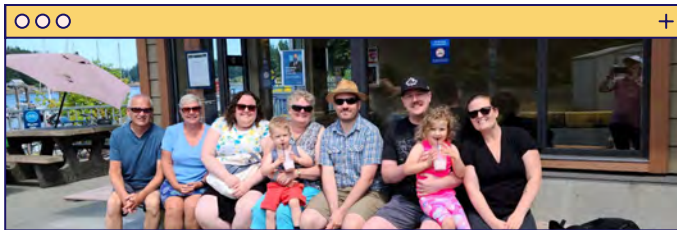
She sat on the nest, starting in February 2017, and that year they had two eaglets. And they have had one or two the next four years. It was a great blessing to Keith and me and our neighbours to watch them raise their young. During COVID it was a great distraction! I felt that we should share our good fortune by offering a chance for other people to come and see the nest and eaglets. Many church people have come to see them. And Quentin has taken some pictures. Hopefully next year there will be opportunities to see them again. Just ask next February. *(the photos were taken by Quentin Dodd)*



▼ What Did You Do This Summer?

Pam Hedderson

Pam Hedderson vacationed on Quadra Island with her family which included her daughter's in-laws. It was the first time since COVID that Pam was able to get together with her family. Pam and her daughter, Julie, safe-distanced on the water as they paddled on a sunset kayak trip from Quadra.



▼ Poetry

Let Your God Love You

Be silent.
 Be still.
 Alone.
 Empty
 Before your God.
 Say nothing.
 Ask nothing.
 Be silent.
 Be still.
 Let your God look upon you.
 That is all.
 God knows.
 God understands.
 God loves you
 With an enormous love,
 And only wants
 To look upon you
 With that love.
 Quiet.
 Still.
 Be.

Poem by Edwina Gateley: Born in Lancaster, England, Edwina Gateley's educational experiences have awarded her a Teacher's Degree from England, a Masters in Theology from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and certification as an HIV counselor



Let your God—
 Love you.





Have Lunch with God...bring chips!

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with a bag of potato chips and a six-pack of root beer and started his journey.

When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old man. He was sitting in the park, just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old man looked hungry, so he offered him some chips. The old man gratefully accepted and smiled at him. His smile was so amazing that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a root beer. Again, the old man smiled at him. The boy was delighted!

They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word. As twilight approached, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave; but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old man, and gave him a hug. The old man gave him the biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God." Before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? He's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old man, also radiant with joy, returned to his home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and he asked, "Dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I ate potato chips in the park with God." However, before his son responded, he added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season or a lifetime. Embrace all equally!

Anonymous - Submitted by Hilda Shilliday

Hilda and her portrait painted by Lokwing Wong



Quentin's Quest

Hello to friends at St. Peter in Campbell River.

I have been asked to write an uplifting article for and about our parish, of which I'm very glad to say I've been a member for something like 35 years. This request does tend to help me focus my thoughts on all the many positive aspects of our church and parish for which I've been blessed to encounter over the years.

I was much uplifted just recently to come across someone who was keen enough on gardening and our church grounds to volunteer to undertake the simple contributing task of dead-heading the rhododendrons in the corner of our churchyard that overlooks the intersection of Dogwood Street and Pinecrest Road. It's a fairly simple task but can be a time-consuming one. I do know though from personal experience that it has a wonderful effect on the growth of each plant, and leads to the blossoming of so many more of the plants' beautiful, colorful flowers the following year.

You see, my much-loved and keen gardener mother taught me many years ago the benefits of taking the deadheads off the branches once the flowers are past their best and dying back to make way for new shoots of spring-time growth. She gave me a lovely rhodo to plant alongside the driveway of my former home on Penfield Road. I sold that property in 1994, the year after my mother died and moved the rhodo to the new home I bought with my wife. I take great pleasure in the discipline of deadheading it and my other rhodos every year to ensure their continued health and happiness.

There is nothing more certain in this world than being called on by our Lord to discipline ourselves to be of more use and example to each other spiritually. It makes me think of the parable of the wise and foolish virgins. Some of them were prepared and made sure they had enough oil for their lamps to keep watch through the night for the bridegroom to appear. However, some of them were not and tried to rely on their colleagues to help them out. It didn't work too well for them unfortunately; they were even shut out of the reception!

So, let's all try to make sure that in these difficult and challenging times that we are all well-supplied with enough oil to keep our lamps burning, with messages of hope based on reality, rather than wishful thinking and prepared for whatever may come to us at an unscheduled hour!

God bless to one and all as we each walk the path that opens in front of us, so much of it unexpected and not nearly as straight or as smooth at times as we'd like it to be! The Lord will see us through even the roughest of ruts and biggest of pits!





Thank you!

I would like to thank everyone involved in keeping St. Peter Anglican Church going during the pandemic. The commitment and dedication of everyone involved has been impressive. My attendance and participation have been “spotty,” but I have always felt a part of the church. The communication within the church has been excellent, and the Zoom services have been easy to access. It is obvious the pandemic has made a lot of extra work for everyone. I want you all to know what a comfort it has been knowing that our church has always been there for us.

Thank you, everyone.

Ann-Louise Beaumont

Deaths



Janice Elaine Lupton - September 4, 1947 - May 23, 2021

Dustin Daniel Perrault - November 23, 1999 - July 25, 2021

Anne Marie Young - April 17, 1948 - August 11, 2021

Are you Fully Vaccinated?

Vaccinate, vaccinate, vaccinate, - for the sake of the world! If you have not received your vaccination, please make an appointment immediately. If you need a ride or a companion, please call our priest, Cathie Hall, at 250-668-3701. Every vaccinated person brings us closer to safety, and to the safety of our unvaccinated children and grandchildren..

Chess Partner Request

Mary Cook is learning to play chess and looking for someone to play against. She is a very, very novice player, so no need for a Master Level player. Just trying to grasp the fundamentals.

Please contact at maryjeancook@yahoo.ca or 250-287-6187. Thank you.

Pastoral Care at St. Peter During the Interim-the Rev. Cathie Hall

My phone number is 250-668-3701 and email is incumbent@stpeterscampbellriver.com. If it is urgent call any time. Non-urgent calls can be made on Wednesdays and Sunday afternoon.

Need the Leaflet Mailed to You?

If you want to receive a bulletin, or if you know someone in the parish who does, please call or email the parish office and let us know. We will mail or deliver it.





Staying Connected

Some parish members can't be present and don't have computers and email addresses. We would still like to let them know the news of the parish and make sure they know that they are cared for. You can do your part by phoning someone you know and checking in with them. You can also let the office know their name and Cathie will send them a bulletin and some encouraging words. The church office phone number is 250-286-1613.

On-going at St. Peter Anglican Church

Worship Opportunities

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer on Zoom

Services are formatted from the Book of Alternative Services. Zoom link and bulletin are emailed to parishioners. Call the church at 250-286-1613 if you would like to be added to the email distribution.

Weekly Events

Monday, 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour on Zoom or in the garden by the hall at the church

Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. ACW In the Library

Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Mindfulness beginning September 8 in the church library

Serving the Community at St. Peter Anglican Church

Sunday to Friday evenings Eight 12-Step groups meet in the building

Parish Staff & Leaders

Bishop's Warden: Lois Tirebuck

People's Warden: David Storrie

Deputy Wardens: Bill Ritchie and Tony Smith

Treasurer: Holly Finn

Musicians: Georgia Smith and Kate Fitzsimmons

Custodian: Gwen Demerse

Prayer Chain: Kate Fitzsimmons

Communications Director: Trina Soltys

Envelope Secretary: Frank Maga

Healing Prayer Ministry: Sue Vickery

Lay Assistants and Readers: Bill Ritchie

ACW President: Bev Lawrence, Lois Tirebuck

Mindfulness: Jane Jennings

Coffee Monday: Jennifer Coolen

Sunday School: Jane Monchak, Diana Hicks

Altar Guild President: Frances Hudock

Librarian: Jane Jennings

Community Garden Liaison: Rick Monchak

Safe Church: Judy Antonelli

PWRDF Rep: Barb Henshall

Building: George Wagner

Spirit Editor: Jane Monchak



COLOURING PAGE!

