

CONNECTION



The Quarterly Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

Number 19



St. Mary's Church

1973 Cultra Avenue,
Saanichton, BC V8M 1L7

Worship Services

Sundays

9:00 am Choral Eucharist & Sunday School
1st Sunday Service of the Word

Third Sunday

7:00 pm Evening Prayer in the style of Taizé
(September - June)

Wednesdays

10:00 am Holy Eucharist
10:30 am Friendship Coffee
11:00 am Bible Study
(September - June)

Office: 250-652-1611 Hall: 250-652-7942
Email: stmarys.saanichton@shaw.ca
Web: www.ParishCS.ca



St. Stephen's Church

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

Worship Services

Sundays

11:00 am Holy Eucharist
and Church (Sunday) School
4th Sunday Praise & Worship in the Hall

Mondays

7:00 pm Bible Study
(September - June)

Tuesdays

11:00 am Prayer Group

Thursdays

Praise & Worship every fourth Thursday

Office: 250-652-4311
Email: ststephens1862@shaw.ca
Web: www.ParishCS.ca

June 2016

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Pastor: The Reverend Robert Szo

Deacon: The Reverend Gil Shoesmith



www.ParishCS.ca

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

St. Mary's Church St. Stephen's Church

Dates to Note

Our Parish website – www.ParishCS.ca – is the best place to keep in touch with what is going on, but here are significant dates to note for the next three months:

Flight Path to Freedom Walk/Run for Refugees

Saturday, June 18th from 9 am to noon. Register at Holy Trinity Church. Details below.

The second annual Peninsula Wine Fest

Saturday, July 9th from 1 pm to 4 pm at St. Stephen's Hall and in the field. Details on page 4.

Service of the Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, August 7th from 2 pm to 4 pm in St. Stephen's Churchyard. Details on page 8.

GEMS Summer Camp: "Spy Girls: Courage & Strength"

August 9th – 12th at St. Stephen's Hall. Details on page 16.

Also, please note the following:

- The last **Soup's On** at St. Stephen's Hall until September will be on Friday, June 3rd at noon.
- **Brentwood Days Parade**, June 4, and **Sidney Days Parade**, July 1: a Parish float is planned. Details at www.parishcs.ca/events/parish-float-in-brentwood-days-and-sidney-days/2016-06-04
- The monthly **Taizé** service is planned for Sunday, June 19 at St. Mary's Church, but check for confirmation closer to the date.
- **Operation Track Shoes** is June 10 – 12; Have a look at Events on the Parish website for more details, www.parishcs.ca/events

Flight Path To Freedom

Come, join us, on a walk on the paved path around Victoria International Airport to support our refugee commitment.

It takes place on June 18 and all ages and skill levels are welcome to participate. After you register, you are free to travel at your own pace along the short 3.5 km or 5 km route, or challenge yourself to complete the full 9.2 km distance. Light refreshments will be available when you finish your walk. Register between 9 and 10 a.m. on the day of the walk at Holy Trinity parking lot (West Saanich Road @ Mills Road). Registration is \$10 per person/\$25 per family of 3 or more. Income tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more. 100% of the monies raised will support the commitment of RAPID in our sponsorship of our Syrian Refugee Family. For more information contact Sue Smith, sueandjohn@shaw.ca





“By wanting to pass on a ‘living spiritual heritage,’ I don’t mean a building”

At the recent annual conference for the clergy of the Diocese, our guest speaker identified a question we should ask ourselves, as we consider what the future of the Anglican church might be:

“As a Christian, what do you want to pass on to the next generation?”

I’ve been asking myself that question, and I’ve come up with this answer:

I want the next generation to have the knowledge that Jesus is their Saviour and that they have an opportunity to receive forgiveness of sins and new life in his name, if they turn to him in faith. This is what I call a ‘living spiritual heritage.’ Also, I want the Anglican church to be a place that humbly and faithfully invites others to explore a relationship with Jesus, and makes the effort to help all ages grow in this faith. Finally, I want it to be a church that engages in generous and sacrificial outreach to the community.

By wanting to pass on a ‘living spiritual heritage,’ I don’t mean a building. Our buildings are beautiful and help us enter into worship of God, but they’re not the Good News, nor do they contain the Good News in themselves or bring anyone to salvation. You could stand in both our buildings and be overwhelmed by beauty and a sense of wonder and peace, but by themselves they can’t tell anyone what the Good News is. They are cherished places for us to meet for worship and fellowship and for that I give thanks, but I don’t want to confuse a building with a living spiritual heritage that will bring future generations into a living and growing relationship with the Saviour. The buildings will hopefully be important to future generations, but mainly as the places where they go to worship with other believers, as their parents and grandparents did before them.

What about you? What’s your answer to the question? What do you want to pass on to the next generation? Is it a living and growing spiritual heritage? An appreciation for Anglican worship? Something else?

I’d love to hear your answer to the question. Please email it to me: robszo@telus.net

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Rob Szo
Pastor

Peninsula Wine Fest

July 9, 2016
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

St. Stephen's Church
7921 St. Stephen Road,
Saanichton

- ☞ A wine tasting event set on the beautiful grounds of St. Stephen's Church
- ☞ Enjoy appetizers, live music, a silent auction and a vintage car display
- ☞ \$40 per person



This year, eight local wineries will have their products available for tasting. This includes their best wines, ciders, and, new for 2016, one of the wineries will showcase their spirits!

For those wishing to sample these wines and enjoy complimentary appetizers, tickets are available for \$40. A souvenir wine glass and demonstrations of wine tasting are included with your paid admission.

For anyone wishing to visit the event without the wine tasting experience, admission is FREE. We do ask that you let us know you are coming by requesting an "Adult Entry with no Wine Tasting" ticket on our website.

- Non-alcoholic beverages also available.
- Guided tours of historic St. Stephen's Church and cemetery.
- Entertainment provided for all ages. Returning this year are Brad Prevedoros and Jayne Trimble. The children can look forward to Josie helping them make cards again, and also getting their face painted while watching balloon animals being made.
- Apparently there will be a challenge between British vintage cars and Volvos. Come and see who you think has the most intriguing presentation.
- Also new for this year is the opportunity for you to make a donation. Tax receipts will be provided for donations that are \$25 or more.
- All proceeds will support community programs endorsed by the Parish of Central Saanich.
- Building upon the success from last year, the target for the Early Bird ticket sales (\$35) was surpassed as we sold out five days sooner than the target of May 15! Word-of-mouth promotion has certainly helped.
- Children are welcome, but please, no pets

So, bring your friends and family out for a fun and entertaining afternoon on July 9th, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.



Scenes from the
2015 Wine Fest



Information & Tickets:

www.ParishCS.ca **250-652-1611**



Photo by Syd Langhelt

“The Bishop also highlighted the incredible response of the Diocese in assisting 138 Syrian refugees”

The Diocesan Synod was held on April 22 & 23 at the Nanaimo Ecumenical Centre. The Parish of Central Saanich sent three lay delegates, Nancy Choat, Ken Pedlow and Don Wilson, along with Rob and Gil.

On Friday evening, following the opening Eucharist, Bishop Logan made a presentation on his Sacred Journey. He sees it as a start in the process of reconciliation with First Nation's people to be followed up with implementation of the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, support for native language preservation and the reading of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People on National Aboriginal Day in each parish.

On Saturday morning, the Bishop announced the ending of the Diocese's companion relationship with the Province of Myanmar. The Bishop also highlighted the incredible response of the Diocese in assisting 138 Syrian refugees.

Much of Saturday was spent discussing the new Diocesan Vision and the recently released Waller report on a proposed Diocesan-wide fund raising campaign. There was lots of discussion around Where Have We Been?, Where are We Now?, and Where are We Going? The goals identified include revitalizing the Diocese, finding new ways of being church/Christianity, reaching out to young people, improving communication and making better use of property and people.

Presentations were given by the new staff of the Synod office regarding Diocesan finances and planned communication improvements. We discussed these presentations in groups and the issues of communication and trust between the Synod office and the parishes were a common concern.

In the closing remarks the Bishop reiterated the reframing of the 10 Diocesan Visions into three groups, five of which are the essential core foundation, three of which look inward and support faith formation and those which look outward and support faith in action. He concluded by recognizing the hurt still felt over recent parish restructurings and the closure of Camp Columbia.

Stability is the word that comes to mind when talking with Keith and Irene Feir. For example, they were Grand Forks High School sweethearts and will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this August; Keith was with the same bank all his working life; and Irene, a 'cradle Anglican' has been a parishioner at St. Mary's for about as long as they have been in their Saanichton home, which is 41 years. Their home is a treasure trove of beautifully framed family photographs (Irene does the framing), a stunning collection of turtles, including one live one, Ernestine, of indeterminate age, projects in various stages of progress, and Cfer, the 21 year old cat (Cfer is 'C for Cat', of course). Stability is definitely the word, or maybe it's longevity. Whatever it is, one gets a heart-warming sense of a well-anchored couple.

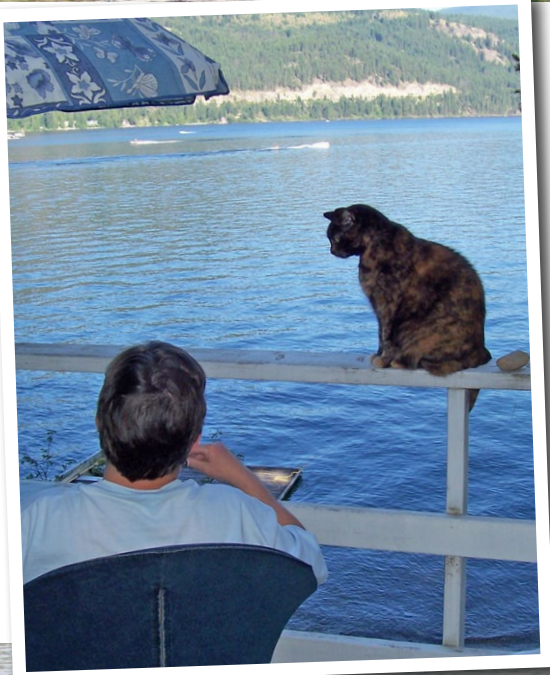


Back in the '60s and '70s, banks moved their employees around a lot. The CIBC moved Keith and Irene from Prince George to Haney to 100 Mile to Quesnel to Victoria, where they have lived for 41 years in their home which peacefully abuts a field at the end of their road. Their son, Bryan had lived in five homes by the time he was seven. Settling in Victoria meant a number of things. They didn't have to move each time Keith was transferred to different CIBC branches in the CRD; Irene, a teacher, got her degree in education; and they were able to achieve their wish to have two children by adopting Alayne, who although 8 years younger than Bryan, was bossing him around by the time she was four. Also Keith was able to plan for early retirement at 55 ("I thought he should go until 70" says Irene) and in fact he retired at 53.

One can't go far in discussions with the Feirs without getting on to the subject of Scotland and things Scottish. It all started with highland dancing lessons for Alayne (for 12 years!), and has mushroomed since then to become a major part of their lives. Keith is $\frac{1}{4}$ Irish and $\frac{3}{4}$ Scottish; his mother was very interested in the family's Scottish heritage, carried on by Keith's interest in genealogy. Irene was the secretary of the Victoria Joint Scottish Council "for ever", and Keith, after many years on the board of The Sons of Scotland, a fraternal benefit association, is now the national Grand Chief which is a three year position, a highlight of which will be 'Grand Camp/Tartan Up' in Vernon in July, 2018. His position requires them to attend meetings all over Canada. Then there are the Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival, of which Keith and Irene were joint Chieftains in 2012, and Prince Andrew was Chieftain in 2013. And each St. Andrew's Day Keith arrives at St. Mary's in a kilt to serve haggis made, of course by Orr's, a Scottish butcher.

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Parishioner Profile *continued*



Scenes
from the
Feir's
summer
home,
Christina
Lake



Son Bryan, a formidable mathematician, has a career in electrical engineering and computers, and lives and works in Toronto for Seiko Epson. Alayne and her husband live in Shirley, where they are frantically busy running a craft distillery – you just can't escape the 'scotch' connection with these folks.

When Keith and Irene settled in Saanichton in 1975, it was natural for Irene, as a cradle Anglican, to go looking for an Anglican Church, for she had Alayne to be baptised. She didn't have to look far, receiving a friendly welcome from Ivan Futter, the Coopers (the Church Hall Coopers, that is), the Jacksons and the Schwazers, and has been involved in virtually every aspect of St. Mary's life since then. She comes by her Anglicanism honestly. Her grandfather (of United Empire Loyalist origins) came from Ontario to teach at Latimer Hall, became principal of the Anglican Theological College at UBC., and was also the Rector of St. Helen's Church in Point Grey for 35 (!) years. Keith also comes from a church family, his grandfather having been a minister in the United Church. But, unlike Irene, "it didn't stick with me".

Somehow Irene has avoided being a Warden, but she has worn pretty well every other available St. Mary's hat at one time or other. She was for several years the church secretary at St. Mary's, but unlike Leslie, had no office, no computer and no printer, so things like the weekly Service Bulletin were done at home and taken out for copying. When the office did get a computer, Father Michael Avery's doctoral thesis was on it, so Irene didn't dare touch it (Father Michael being computer-challenged). Irene was initially paid \$1,200 a year, which went to \$2,000, which probably hardly covered her expenses. Irene also became secretary of the Parish Council, replacing Dick Jackson, and included Hall Rentals in the job description. Being a fine "stitcher" (she calls herself), she has been a never-ending provider of church supplies, ranging from purificators to the red aprons worn by parishioners at Thrift Sales and the Holly Fair. Talking of the Holly Fair, although she says she never had a title, Irene was for years one of its organizers.

And then, there was also St. Mary's Sunday School. With attendance in the 30-35 range, this was a major

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Parishioner Profile *continued*

undertaking involving several women, including, of course, Irene, (whose daughter Alayne was a server for 8 years). At one point, with St. Stephen's Hall going through renovations, Sunday School for the two churches was at Saanichton Elementary School, with all involved attending a joint service there. Then the Bishop stepped in and Sunday School returned to St. Mary's.

Keith's part in all this was exemplary – he says modestly that the part he played was not to complain. But he also joined a Men's Group, which involved the Cooper/Hankin/Jackson trio, and he has faithfully audited the church books for 20 years, with some years off for 'good behaviour'.

All these activities leave little room for travel, though Keith and Irene have been to Scotland (where else?). However nothing will deter them from their annual holiday at their summer place at the Feir family compound at Christina Lake. With no electricity or plumbing originally, Keith and Irene built their three bedroom cottage by hand, as well as several upgrades. As shown by the superb picture framing and other projects to be seen in their home, the Feirs are master craftspeople.

And Irene is not done yet – she is on the St. Mary's Operations Committee, still keeping watch over the welfare of St. Mary's. And Keith is still not complaining.

The Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals service at St Stephen's is an Outdoor Service which includes music, prayers and readings from scripture. Each animal receives a Personal Blessing from one of our priests and a signed Blessing Certificate.

Churches around the world celebrate what St. Francis of Assisi apparently started almost 800 years ago: blessing our animals. Francis taught that human beings are only one of a myriad of creations of God and all are blessed.

The Blessing of the Animals service honours the tradition of connecting to community through a shared love and respect for all of God's creatures.



Sunday, August 7th, 2016 at 2 p.m.

Rain or Shine

St. Stephen's Anglican Church

7921 St. Stephen Road

(off Mt Newton X Road), Saanichton, BC

www.blessingoftheanimals.ca/

**Our collection goes to the
Pacific Animal Therapy Society (P.A.T.S)**

A Deed Most Foul on Mount Forsaken?

This story is dedicated to the memory of Ruth MacKay, a dear friend and co-author of many of these Stories from the Cemetery

The steamship Brother Jonathan outbound from San Francisco arrived at Victoria on October 23, 1864 with 325 passengers on board, most of them heading to the recently discovered gold fields. Word of William "Dutch Bill" Dietz's major gold strike on a stream they named Williams Creek in the Cariboo had reached the outside and the gold rush was on.

Isaac Cloake, a passenger on The Brother Jonathan, was not your typical young and headstrong gold seeker, willing to risk all for a show of colours in the pan. He was 62, born in Sussex, England, and was well educated. In his early twenties he had been involved in the hop growing industry in Sussex and Kent, counties well known for their quality hop fields. He lived and travelled in America for many years and, by his own admission "had seen many wild episodes during his stay in the Territories".

Cloake and a fellow passenger from Kent named William Towner joined forces to find land on the Peninsula for growing hops; this would turn out to be their field of gold. On December 14, 1864, Isaac purchased a 99 acre piece of land for \$100 in North Saanich. He built a cabin on his land at the foot of Mount Forsaken, known today as Cloake Hill, off Lands End Road. His closest neighbour was Daniel David Moses who lived on the next lot to the west and was also growing hops.

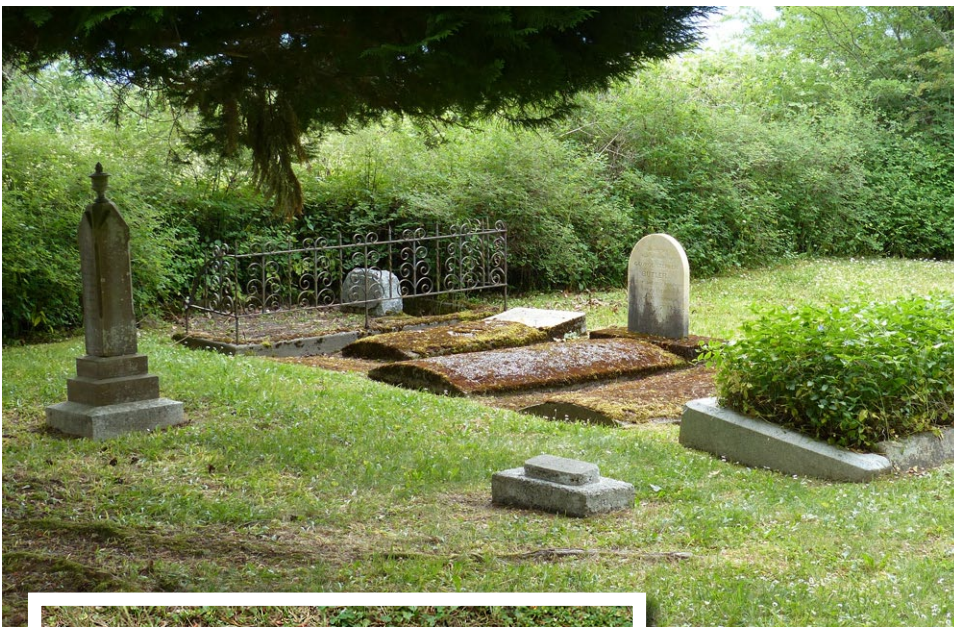
The British Colonist reported that Cloake had planted two and a half acres of hops in March of 1865, and on the Fourth of July the hops were "standing about 10 feet high". In 1867 he purchased another 100 acres further south along the Old (West) Saanich Road. The adjacent land owners were Henry Wain and Alexander Caulfield Anderson. Wain was from Kent and had been employed as a carpenter by the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Victoria in 1850. A.C. Anderson was a former HBC trader, explorer and trail-maker and is buried with his wife Eliza 'Betsy' Anderson in our cemetery. Over the following decade Cloake and his neighbours produced enough hops to not only satisfy the needs of the Victoria brewers but supply foreign brewers as well. Ironically, the two hop varieties most often grown in the North Saanich district in those days were Nugget and Brewers Gold.

In addition to hops, Isaac grew wheat and barley on his holdings and, in partnership with A.C. Anderson established the first apple orchard on the Saanich Peninsula. It was through this association with the Anderson family that Cloake became a member of St. Stephen's church. A.C. Anderson's son Walter recalled that Isaac was very particular that his name was properly spelled. At an 1873 political election which took place in Henry Wain's roadhouse, Walter, who was assisting, recalled that "old Cloake came to the polls and gave his name... Isaac Cloake. A cloak is a garment, but add an e and it becomes a proper name' he informed me."

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Stories From St. Stephen's Cemetery *continued*

On the night of September 16, 1876, Isaac Cloake's cabin on Mount Forsaken burned to the ground; the next morning his charred remains were found in the ashes. Two separate inquests were held with respect to his death; the first by William Reay, a local justice of the peace who rendered an open verdict. As there was a strong suspicion of foul play, a second inquest was held by the Superintendent of Police, Charles Todd, who was also the deputy coroner in Victoria. The jury rendered the following verdict: "Deceased was found dead amongst the remains of his house, which was burned down." With this open verdict, 'several of the jurists suspected that the burning of his rickety residence had been designed to cover the murder of the old man.'



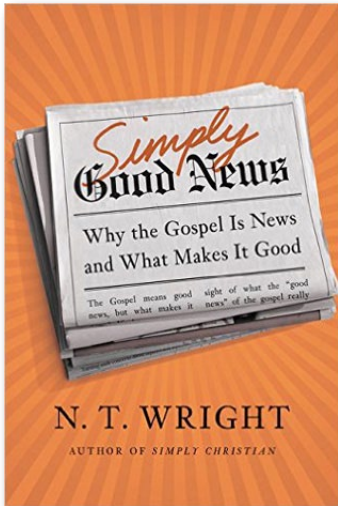
This should have been the final chapter in the Isaac Cloake story, but it was not to be. Fifteen years after Cloake's death and burial at St. Stephen's cemetery, a native woman named Fanny Battleman came forward to accuse her former husband Chin-Ha-Mot, known as Seymour in the non-native community, of murdering Isaac Cloake. The account of Seymour's trial was published in the Victoria Daily Times and the Victoria Daily Colonist in July and August, 1891. The court proceedings revealed that Fanny was a woman scorned; Seymour had rejected her for a younger woman and she was determined to see him punished for a crime he may, or may not have committed. At the end of the day, not only was Seymour not convicted but suspicion was cast on William Hutchings, a farm labourer who worked and lived with Isaac at the time of his death.

Isaac Cloake was buried in Plot 18 in our Cemetery on September 18, 1876. The grave marker as shown here reads: 'Issac Cloke - PIONEER'...the last straw for a man who hated to see his name misspelled.

Note: We gratefully acknowledge the use as reference material of Brad Morrison's two articles about Isaac Cloake, published in the Beachcomber on April 2 and 9, 1997.

Simply Good News

Author: N T (Tom) Wright



“...the Gospel story is actually good news and not simply good advice.”

As some of you may know I am a voracious reader of everything written by the man that Newsweek called “the world’s leading New Testament Scholar”, namely N T (Tom) Wright. He is also a renowned first century historian. This is a review of one of his newer books “Simply Good News”. To understand what Tom Wright has to say, I suggest that this book is a very good place to start.

In *Simply Good News*, Tom takes us back to the first century world of Jesus in order to understand how His original audience would have received and understood His message. He offers a clear and thoughtful analysis of what the “good news” really is, for His followers then and now. He also contrasts the world view that evolves from this good news with other world views that make up the culture of the western world today.

He makes the point that the Gospel story is actually good news and not simply good advice. His point is that the Gospel story is something that happened that has changed the course of human history.

Here is a quote from the book:

Biblically the Christian faith is presented as good news. That is the original meaning of the Old English word gospel. I am arguing that the idea of seeing the Christian faith as news that is good is itself, ironically news to many people today. In many churches the good news has subtly changed into good advice. Here’s how to live, they say. Here’s how to pray. Here are techniques for helping you become a better Christian, a better person, a better wife or husband. And, in particular here’s how to make sure you’re on the right track for what happens after death. Take this advice, say this prayer, and you’ll be saved. You won’t go to hell; you’ll go to heaven. Here’s how to do it.

This is advice, not news.

The whole point of advice is to get you to do something in order to get a desired result. Now, there’s nothing wrong with good advice. We all need it. But it isn’t the same as news. News is an announcement that something significant has happened. And good news is what Jesus and His first followers were all about.

His concern is that too often Christians have taken the view that the good news is simply about individual salvation. It isn’t that Wright downplays the importance of personal salvation but he makes the point that the good news is much more than that.

I found this book an easy read considering that the subject matter is the most vital subject that we as humans can face. Why are we here? Where do we fit into world history from a God’s eye perspective? Where is our world and our lives ultimately headed? What is my part in all of this? From a Christian perspective we look to Jesus through the Scriptures for

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those answers and in this book Tom Wright carefully guides us through those scriptures to shed light on the answer to all of those questions.

Here is a link to a you tube video with N T Wright addressing the subject of this book: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cEljaHOcGFc>

I can't recommend the book highly enough but there is still one more piece of good news. The Parish of Central Saanich is tentatively planning to hold a course based on this book in the fall.

Music Review

by Ruth Lorette Hickling

TAIZÉ Music Of Unity and Peace



Music is a very important part of our worship and congregation. Some days it just seems to keep one simply alive. If you have any beautiful music you would like to share, I would love to hear about it. Please email me at ruthlorette@shaw.ca

One more beautiful Taizé evening Sunday service at St. Mary's in June and then we will be without until the autumn comes. I have come to adore the candles in the darkness, the quiet solitude and the gently soothing music which inspires my soul.

The music on this CD was written by and is sung in the Taizé Community which nestles in the fields and woodlands of Burgundy, France. It was founded in 1940 by Swiss born Brother Roger, originally as a haven for refugees from the German occupation of World War II. After the war, Brothers from different communities joined and it became a working monastic community. Increasingly popular with youth, Taizé has now grown as a retreat and a pilgrimage destination.

Anna Barry, the producer of these recordings explains the "pieces selected here are basic, simple, haunting chants, which are sung many times by the congregation." Representative of the international visitors who attend the community, the pieces are sung in Latin, German, French, Italian, Spanish and English. Gratefully, translations are included within the CD cover.

Brother Roger wrote of the transformative power of prayer and singing, that "Nothing is more conducive to a communion with the living God than a meditative common prayer with, as its high point, singing that never ends and that continues in the silence of one's heart when one is alone again."

Truly, I feel the grace and breath of God during a Taizé service and leaving, my heart is full of peace, calm and continues with song long after.

So while we enjoy our summer sunshine, those of us who will miss the service or anyone else whose interest I may have piqued, can enjoy the music on the CD "Taizé, Music of Unity and Peace" produced by Deutsche Gramophone. It is available through Amazon.ca

Just when you think you have nothing to write about for Around the Parish, all sorts of news comes forth, some exciting and some sad but it's important to share with parishioners the news, both good and bad, from St Mary's and St Stephen's! Let me know of any stories to be told.

News from St Mary's



Games Night
at St. Mary's



Stations of
the Cross,
Good Friday



Finally(!), **John** and **Cathy McAllister** who were married two years ago at St Mary's (John's a member of the choir), are going on their honeymoon... a river cruise down the Danube for three weeks. Now, THAT's a trip worth waiting for!

Audrey Henbury has had to move from her own home to Norgarden in Sidney due to failing health. But she is hoping to be able to visit St Mary's when someone can drive her. In the meantime, Audrey will attend Holy Trinity, which has its own bus.

Rita and **Joe Lott** were present for the christening of their second great grand-daughter, Annabella Bree English on Sunday April 3rd. Annabella is a sister of Emily who was also christened at St Mary's. Annabella and Emily's parents are Jessica and Ken English. Congratulations!

Pat Stanlake celebrated her 96th birthday on May the 4th! It is indeed wonderful to see Pat attend church most Sundays! And she manages to walk up to take communion without ANY assistance! Quite the remarkable woman.

Another successful Spring Fling was held on Saturday May 14th - a perfect day for people in the community to come and spend over \$1900! There was also a planter sale (Nancy C., Sue Smith and Shirley Rainey made up over 40 planters) which made \$346, the proceeds of which go towards the Syrian refugee family being sponsored by seven Peninsula churches. The planters were also sold at the church service following the Spring Fling as well as at the Soundings concert on May 22, so an additional \$320 was raised.

We were saddened by the sudden death of **Deirdre Beresford**, cherished wife of **John**. A memorial service was held at St Mary's on April 21st with many parishioners joining the family to say their goodbyes to Deirdre.

Stacy Gabriel, daughter of **Ted** and **Sybil Bagshaw** passed away on February 17th at the age of 46, following a gallant battle with cancer. Sadly, Ted, who had been in Palliative Care at Saan Pen, died on May 16. Our prayers go out to Sybil as she grieves the loss of her daughter and husband.

And a memorial service was held at St Mary's on March 5th for **Elizabeth Godbehere**, a former long-time parishioner. A reception followed in Cooper Hall.

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Around the Parish *continued*



Above: Stations of the Cross, Good Friday

Below: Ian and Rainy McLeod



We welcome new parishioners, **Kate Ponto** and her partner **Sage**. Kate and Sage recently spent time with Sage's family in South Africa.

Rainy and **Ian McLeod** have now relocated to a place of their own, right around the corner from the church. They are delighted with the move as they can now walk to the church. Congratulations on your move, Ian and Rainy! And Rainy is now singing in the Choir!

Lots of people have been and continue to travel: **John** and **Sue Smith** to New Zealand for a restful month; **David Cooper** to parts south followed by a cruise, and **Shirley Rainey** spending a month travelling around Merry Ol' England visiting friends and classmates. And last but not least, **Brett Cane** continues his three and a half month 11 country trip which began on April 16. About now, Brett should be somewhere in Caucasus (Armenia, Georgia) and Sicily. He first visited Winnipeg, Montreal and Toronto, then Istanbul, followed by ten days in the Holy Land. His next stops will be Ethiopia and Cairo followed by a visit to the UK for the ordinations of former students, then Germany and Switzerland before returning to home! Doubtless he will be gathering lots of information for future sermons!

Jean Perry has now a new home in Brentwood Lodge, as of April.

And **Jenny Jenner** has a new hip, which means she can now enjoy her walking without pain. Well done, Jenny!

News from St Stephen's



Parish
Weekend with
Bishop Bill
Hockin

Parishioners were saddened by the death of parishioner, **Ruth McKay**, who was St Stephen's librarian for many years.

Greg Harrison (son of Doreen) is now home from Vancouver after a successful heart transplant. We continue to pray for his continued recovery.

Tim and **Diane Hackett** were in Lyon France recently, to attend the graduation of daughter, Katie from EMLYON Business School. Katie graduated with a Masters in Quantitative Math. What a nice excuse for a trip to France!

And the **Scarths**, **David** and **Sandra** enjoyed a much deserved vacation in Hawaii a few weeks ago, while the **Robinsons**, **Christine** and **Greg** enjoyed some warmth and sun in Mexico.

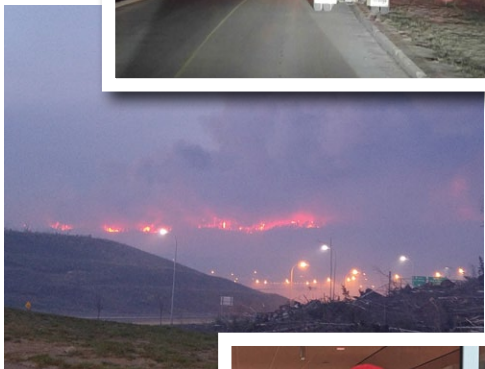
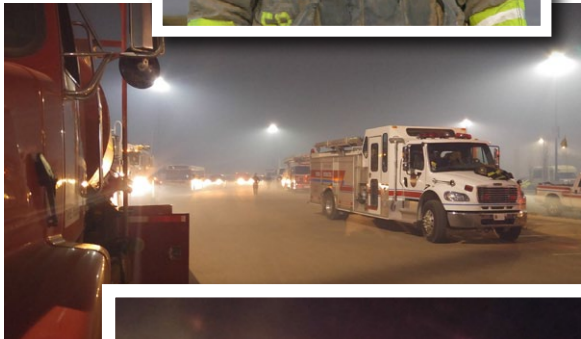
And **Jo Walker** sends love from her new home in Vancouver to fellow parishioners!

Maureen McGuire has joined the Parish and has been attending services at both St. Mary's and St. Stephen's. Welcome, Maureen.

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Around the Parish *continued*

Scenes at
the Fort
McMurray
fire.
Photos
by Chris
Gosling



Chris arrives
at Victoria
International
Airport.
Photo by
Nancy Choat

St Stephen's held a successful Spring Faire on Saturday, April 16th. There were lots of things to choose from, including baked goods, plants, a silent auction, and refreshments! Parishioners from both St Mary's and St Stephen's helped make this the success it was.

Both churches said Farewell to **Kate Van Giesen**, the Parish's Youth and Family worker. Kate left April 17th to get married and live in Kamloops. We all wish her much happiness in her new life.

Three Parish Stories

The first story is one that everyone will be able to relate to after watching TV and reading the news! **Chris Gosling**, a St Mary's parishioner since 2003 has been working in Fort McMurray since 2008 at a variety of jobs, returning to his home in Brentwood Bay when he could. Along with his regular work, he is a volunteer firefighter, attending 8 to 12 fires a year until this year. On May 3rd his life changed along with the entire city of Fort McMurray and surrounding towns. I can't cover all of what Chris experienced for the next five days, but if you talk to him and see the pictures on his cell phone, you'll get a first-hand glimpse into what he dealt with as a fire fighter on the front lines of one of the worst natural disasters in Canadian history. He worked 48 hours non-stop with no respite, being despatched to various parts of town to hook onto a fire engine and help put out fires. He worked in areas where entire neighbourhoods were destroyed - "this was quite a shock to me". On his third day of duty, working on the front line, the entire crew had to pull back admitting defeat as the fire destroyed million dollar homes right before their eyes! Entire streets were destroyed, where he had just been the previous day... nothing left, burned out cars everywhere... a scene of total destruction. Chris traveled to Edmonton and flew from there to Victoria airport on Sunday the 15th, where a group of parishioners welcomed him home. He does not know when he will return to Fort McMurray. The basement suite he and his son rent there is still intact! Thank you, Chris for sharing your story with us.

Audrey Quackenbush, a long time St Mary's parishioner has a "feel good" story I asked her to share. She sent this to me and it is written in her own words. Many who attended the St Mary's Spring Fling on May 14 met Audrey's granddaughter, Audra.

This story starts with a phone call from a young woman telling me she is Angela Markov's daughter, and me immediately saying "you're my granddaughter". I can't tell you how thrilling it was for me to say that. The name was her Mother's maiden name and she knew it was a name I would recognize and know it was not a scam. Angela

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Around the Parish *continued*

was married to my eldest son David, now deceased, and they had this lovely little girl. We were in touch for a few years and then they disappeared. For 36 years I have wondered where she is, and she has wondered who she is.

Audra decided to join the Navy and as they were checking her credentials found her birth certificate had been reissued three years after birth. Finally her Mother had to tell her the name of her real father. Google gave her all the information about the family, and she was able to get in touch with Grandma. She has lived in Langford for eight years, is married to a Navy man, who is away just now. On our first meeting she arrived with home baking. She is a joy to have around and we both enjoy our long chats about family, and getting to know each other.

She has promised to help at our next sale!

Thank you for sharing that Audrey!



And finally, as St. Mary's Rector's Warden, I attended Synod in Nanaimo on April 22nd and 23rd along with Ken Pedlow from St Mary's, Don Wilson, from St Stephen's and of course Gil, our Deacon and Rob, our Rector. You can read Ken's synopsis of Synod found on page five of this issue of ConneXion, but I wanted to give a glimpse into what it was like travelling with three men (Don went on his own ahead of time) to and from the event. Picture this: Rob driving my Mercedes with the license plate 'C Nile', and listening to Johnny Cash! And yes, we took the Mill Bay ferry across, stopping at Tim Horton's for the required coffee break before heading north. Imagine the looks Rob got when we arrived at the Ecumenical Center where Synod was held! So, there IS a lighter side to these events and I enjoyed the experience of being driven to and from Synod, 2016! You will have to ask the other passengers if you want more details!

GEMS Girls' Summer Camp

August 9th-11th



Jesus will be the center of this event. He will be taught through a study of gospel teachings every day, He will be taught through a sharing of love and friendship among the volunteers, youth and girls and He will be taught through activities that illustrate his teachings.

The GEMS ("Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior") girls will be getting together for three half days sometime during the month of August. They will meet on a Wednesday to Friday with the possibility that the girls will meet from 11:00-3:00 or from 12:00-4:00 each day. Their mom's would have a campout on the Thursday night. The camp-out would begin on the Thursday evening with a potluck and sleep over, and end Friday morning after breakfast.

The girls would be encouraged to invite a friend and we would open GEMS up to any girls in the Parish who would be of age to join us in September.

This is an opportunity to engage with the greater community, build relationships and spread the Gospel. Not only will this strengthen our relationship with women and girls in the local community it will also strengthen relationships among the girls who already attend our church. The girls will invite non-believing friends and we will specifically invite some of the girls who attended the camp last year, who are of age, and do not attend church.

Farewell to Bambie Maree



As we were finalizing this issue, news came of Bambie Maree's departure as St. Mary's Music Director. We wish her well and our thanks for her contributions to St. Mary's music for four years.

A search is underway for a new Music Director.

Recipe Page

Watermelon Salad with Mint Leaves

Thanks to Nancy Choat



Here is a refreshing and easy salad to serve during our warm summer days ahead!

Ingredients

- 1 (5-pound) watermelon
- 1 Vidalia or other sweet onion
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- Salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh mint
- 4 ounces feta cheese, crumbled
- 6 whole mint sprigs

Directions

Cut the flesh from the melon and cut into bite size pieces, removing and discarding the seeds, and set aside. Peel and slice the onion into rings.

In a small bowl, combine the vinegar, salt, pepper, and whisk until salt is dissolved. Slowly whisk in the olive oil, a few drops at a time. Add in the chopped mint, taste, and adjust seasonings.

In a large bowl, combine the melon, onion, and feta. Pour the dressing over the melon mixture and toss gently until everything is coated and evenly mixed. Garnish with mint sprigs.

From the Editors

The circle of contributors to ConneXion continues to widen – there are so many people to thank for their contributions and help that we end up saying: “Thanks, everyone!” However, special thanks to Len Fallan for many of the pictures in Around the Parish, and to John Beresford who continues to be polite even when the deadline for getting material to him has passed! Also, thank you to Nancy Choat who is taking ‘Around the Parish’ from what was a boring recital of events to a fun read. If you have an anecdote about someone or something in the Parish, tell Nancy about it – as long as it’s printable, she will likely use it!

Also, a special thanks to David Scarth for his fine series of Stories from the Cemetery, the final one appearing in this issue. With the death of his collaborator Ruth MacKay, he has decided to terminate the series. Thank you, David. That doesn’t mean, of course, that we won’t see other contributions from him!

We always print enough copies for you to give ConneXion to visitors, so don’t hesitate to do so. It is a nice way to promote who we are and what we do.

*The Editors,
John Smith and Sandra Scarth*

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Margaret Bedard, Allan Carlson, Greg Robinson

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Nancy Choat, Ken Pedlow
Don Wilson

Leslie Pedlow is at the St. Mary’s office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 12:30

Tracy Stubbs is at the St. Stephen’s office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 1:00
