

CONNECTION

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

Number 24



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

Tuesdays

7:00 pm Bible Study
(September - June)

Tuesdays

11:00 am Prayer Group

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



September 2017

In this issue:

Letter from the Bishop	2
From the Pastor's Desk	3
Message from the Wardens	4
Parishioner Profile	5-8
Music Review	8
Book Review	9
2017 Wine Fest	10-11
Cane's Corner	12-14
Around the Parish	14-19
Parish Directory	19

Pastor: The Reverend Robert Szo

Assistant: The Rev. Dr. Brett Cane



www.ParishCS.ca

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

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



The Right Reverend Dr. L. McMenamie
900 Vancouver Street
Victoria BC V8V 3V7
p 250.386.7781 ext 250 tf 1.800.582.8627
bishop@bc.anglican.ca bc.anglican.ca

August 9, 2017

To be read at all Services at St. Mary, Saanichton, and St. Stephen, South Saanich,
on Sunday, August 13th

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It is with sadness that I write to inform you that I have accepted the resignation of
your incumbent, The Reverend Robert (Rob) Szo, effective September 25, 2017.

Rob has served faithfully and well at both St. Mary and St. Stephen, since taking
up appointment in our Diocese in 2012. I am grateful to Rob for, through his
wisdom and good counsel, he has helped to nurture and shape the Parish of
Central Saanich.

I will be in touch with the wardens to discuss future ministry at The Parish of
Central Saanich.

I know that you will wish to express your appreciation of Rob and his ministry in
some tangible way. Please pray for Rob, Christine and their children Marianne
and Timothy, and for me, as we share in these days of transition.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Logan McMenamie", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

The Right Reverend Dr. Logan McMenamie
Bishop, Diocese of British Columbia

/plg
cc Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Dean, Archdeacon of Haro, Diocesan Finance Officer,
Personnel/Parish Files

RENEWED HEARTS RENEWED SPIRITS RENEWED PEOPLE

From the Pastor's Desk



“Being called to preach and serve a pastoral role has given me a front-row seat to see God working in your lives.”

This will be my last letter as Rector of the Parish of Central Saanich.

I have very much enjoyed my time here over the past five years and want to sincerely thank you for the warm welcome you gave to me and my family as we moved across the country to this beautiful Island. I especially want to recognize your commitment to serve Christ in this community over the past five years. You are a dedicated and energetic parish and have given much of yourselves to build a stronger ministry at St Mary's and St Stephen's. I want to give a special thanks to current and past wardens, council members and staff.

When I arrived five years ago, this was a newly formed Parish. It has been immensely gratifying to see a stronger parish rising from past challenges, and to see closer friendships build among the people of the two congregations. It has been wonderful to see productive collaboration on new events such as Wine Fest and bonds forming during the bible studies and weekend retreats that so many of you took part in.

Now, as you get ready to welcome an interim priest and later a new rector, the parish is in excellent shape. There is a strong and committed leadership team in place and a solid foundation from which to grow. Challenges remain, but that's the case with any church anywhere. The temptation is always to huddle together and to focus on our own needs. But we are called to grow spiritually as disciples while we intentionally give ourselves away in service to the world in the name of Jesus Christ. This giving away takes the form of outreach and evangelism, with the end result a healthy church that is focused on the needs of the world around it. Please keep doing that and look for new and creative ways to do it. You'll be amazed at how the Lord gives you new opportunities and uses your efforts to bless others. As you engage in ministry, you'll see the grace of God working in the lives of others and in your own life, and you'll be humbled.

Being called to preach and serve a pastoral role has given me a front-row seat to see God working in your lives. It has been incredible to see Jesus working in you, and I will remember those moments with fondness and gratefulness. My hope and prayer is that you will continue to be faithful to Christ and that you'll continue to devote time each day to reading Scripture and to prayer. Encourage each other as you've been doing, and look for new ways to invite the hurting, lonely and the curious to consider Jesus for themselves. Above all else, keep your eyes on Jesus, “the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart” (Hebrews 12:2-3).

*In Christ,
Rev. Robert Szo*

“The good news is that under Rob’s leadership he is leaving our parish in a much stronger position than when he arrived.”

I would like to read a letter to you from your three wardens, myself as Rector’s warden and Derek Osman and Lynda Clifford as your People’s Wardens.

This is a difficult day for us and for the entire parish as we find we have to say goodbye to a man who has faithfully led, pastored and served our two congregations for five years. Rob has accepted a position at “Church of Our Lord” in Victoria, which is a congregation under the umbrella of the Anglican Network in Canada.

The good news is that under Rob’s leadership he is leaving our parish in a much stronger position than when he arrived. As a result we should be very confident of the future of both congregations and the parish, and in our ability to secure a strong Pastor for our community.

There will be continuity in that all of your wardens, Derek, Lynda and myself are remaining in place. Derek is out of town on a long planned trip and is unable to be with us today.

In addition, Brett will be remaining with us and will be assisting the interim priest that will be appointed by the Bishop. Brett, amongst other reasons, cannot be the interim because the interim cannot remain in the parish after the new rector is in place, and it is Brett’s desire to remain a member of this parish.

As I said earlier, we have every reason to be confident of the future of the Parish of Central Saanich, both St. Stephens and St. Marys, as we prayerfully and in unity begin a new chapter for both congregations and our community.

All this in the name of, and in the service of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Greg Robinson

There will be a special Joint Service at St. Mary’s at 10:00 am on Sunday, September 24, which will be Rob Szo’s last service as our Rector and Pastor.



October 29, 2017

Pacific Edge Chorus

December 5, 2017

Sweet Scarlet Vocal Ensemble

February 4, 2018

Victoria Cello Quartet

April 22, 2018

Knacker’s Yard Celtic Traditional Folk Band

Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

St. Mary’s Church, Saanichton

Sponsor Tickets

(Entire Series plus a \$40 income tax receipt): **\$100**

Series Tickets

(4 concerts for the price of 3): **\$60**

Tickets for individual concerts: \$20

Available at Tanner’s Books and at the door

To reserve contact us at 250-652-1611 or

stmarys.saanichton@shaw.ca



To begin at the beginning, Greg's father, an Air Force navigator instructor, died in 1944 in a training accident. His mother married Greg's "Dad" when Greg was three. He was a jack of all trades – banker, business owner-operator, including a camera centre, etc., so there was some moving around on the prairies until the family settled in Medicine Hat long enough for Greg to get through High School in one place. His dad and step brothers were university material, but, to the chagrin of his family, "I was not an academic" – a year in a bank convinced him of that. So in his late teens Greg divided his time between working at a TV station, playing in a rock 'n roll band and driving a red convertible.

From early on Greg knew what he really wanted was to fly. He joined the Air Cadets, and when he took an aptitude test, "Pilot" was way up on the chart. The family dispatched Uncle Stan to talk Greg out of flying – resulting in Uncle Stan getting his own private pilot's license! In 1965, Greg got his commercial License, and joined the RCAF. After Pilot Training at Centralia Greg spent seven years with the Air Force, flying a variety of planes, from Tutor jets to Hercules Transports. He flew the far north and around the world, and instructed in tactical flying on the Hercules.

But Greg was more interested in flying commercial passenger planes, so in 1972 "with no French and no University" he joined Air Canada, flying out of Montreal. Later the Robinsons moved to Oakville and Greg flew out of Toronto, and then, from 1995, out of Vancouver until retirement in 2003. Greg was also in the Air Force Reserve. He figures that in 40 years of flying he flew over 23,000 hours. Greg maintains that pilot training was so superb that he always felt completely self-confident in the air. Those who joined Air Canada in 1972 really bonded, and have a tradition of getting together every five years; this year they celebrated their 45th year reunion river cruising on the Danube!

Christine was brought up in Boston, and was in a family where "you were expected to go to university and where the women were expected to become teachers, and were expected to be able to type!" She did do those things, obtaining a BA French degree that qualified her to teach (and she did teach) French Immersion courses. She also learned to type, was working at MIT at the time of the first moon landing, and was a secretary (and a waitress) while

continued on page 6

Parishioner Profile *continued*



going through university. She also got her private Pilot's License - on her first training flight on a far too hazy day she had to be talked down to land as she couldn't see anything to identify where she was. At least she asked for help - when Greg got lost he flew down to where he could read the highway signs to orient himself (true story!).

Christine joined Air France where she put her French to use as a Passenger Agent at the Boston International Airport. That was in the days when you checked passengers in with the question "fumeur ou non fumeur?" (!) When Air France closed its Boston operation, Christine moved to the Air Canada Passenger Agent desk, so Greg and Christine were bound to meet some time. It happened in 1978 when Greg walked into the Air Canada Employee Lounge, and Christine, the only other person there, offered him a cup of tea. Greg's bizarre response - "Would you like to see the cockpit?" - was an unlikely start to a romance, but it led to marriage later that year. Christine became (apart from some substitute teaching French Immersion) a full-time stay-at-home mum to Greg's children by a previous marriage.



Greg's French was atrocious, so his Air Canada in-flight announcements in French were by rote. Once Christine was flying as a passenger, and the man next to her called his French announcement "awful". When Greg repeated in English he said to Christine "His English isn't so hot either!" Then Christine was invited to go through to the cockpit, and when she returned the passenger said "You must know someone up there", to which Christine responded - "Yes, my husband - the man who was making the announcements."

Greg's and Christine's spiritual journey also had its drama. Greg grew up in an Anglican home, but for him religion was boring and irrelevant - "I was an agnostic". Not so for his brothers- James is the Rector at an Anglican church in Lethbridge, and Len has been a Warden there. Christine was brought up in an undemonstrative Catholic family, and rebelled, becoming an atheist, saying that "parents unwittingly model the character of God to their children".

Early in their marriage, when visiting James in England, they went to a Christian party which was not only surprisingly fun and friendly, but resulted in them "being ambushed by the Holy Spirit", says Christine. They talked until 4 a.m., during which Christine experienced God whispering to her, "I love you". Greg, armed with Mere Christianity by CS Lewis, embarked with Christine on a journey which led to them becoming committed Christians. Greg is cautious about the phrase "born again", but "something changed - our lives were on a different trajectory." Although by different routes - Christine's an emotional commitment, Greg's one founded more on rationalisation, the result "was good for our marriage and our family".

It also led, of course, to Greg's love of writings by CS Lewis, to which he later added NT Wright and John Polkinghorne, a theoretical physicist and theologian- a combination Greg finds fascinating and convincing.

So they started going to church, and leaned towards the charismatic side

continued on page 7

Parishioner Profile *continued*



of the Anglican spectrum. Why Anglican? Apart from it being the Robinson family tradition, “I love the Anglican liturgy” says Greg. So when they moved here in 1995, Brentwood Chapel seemed the right fit for them, where Alistair Petrie was the incumbent, followed by Mark Davison. They both became involved in Parish matters – Greg was on Parish Council, did a stint as Warden, was a Chapel Rep on the Central Saanich Parishes Merger Committee and was involved with the Council for Essentials. Along the way he interacted with some fine people from Wycliffe College, including Michael Pountney, the College Principal, and our very own Brett Cane through the Diocesan Youth Ministry in Montreal. Greg’s friendship with Brett continues – they met up

in Jerusalem earlier this summer. Our Pastor Rob is of course also a Wycliffe alumnus, which pleases Greg very much.

The closure of Brentwood Chapel and valiant efforts to keep the disintegrating congregation committed and together was a stressful and painful time for the Robinsons. They attended Crossroads Church for a while, but St. Stephen’s attracted them and eventually became their spiritual home. Now that St. Stephen’s and St. Mary’s are together as the Parish of Central Saanich, they couldn’t be happier. Greg is usually to be seen at both Sunday services. “I love the music at St. Mary’s” Greg says, and of course he plays a part in many aspects of the music at St. Stephen’s.



Greg has been involved in music pretty well all his life as a guitar player and singer. You will see him on the Parish float in parades, in the band Twelve O’clock Rock, and several times a week playing at the Hospital, the Mount Newton Centre, Pathways, for a handicapped group, and of course at St. Stephen’s. Greg recently had surgery behind his nose which, although it has affected his sense of smell and taste, has improved his singing voice! There’s a bright side to everything! Another passion the Robinsons have is support of GENDEMI a home for young women in Kampala, Uganda.

And of course “although I didn’t think I’d ever do it again after Brentwood”, Greg is the St. Stephen’s Rector’s Warden. He says he couldn’t manage without the phenomenal support of his co-Wardens.

As to leisure activities, neither Greg nor Christine read fiction – “the last fiction I read was Harry Potter” says Greg. They both enjoy Christian writing, Christine particularly liking Christianity Today. They do enjoy an annual get-away – it used to be Florida, now it’s Mexico.

continued on page 8

Parishioner Profile *continued*

A visit to Greg and Christine's lovely home with a stunning view of Haro Strait and Mount Baker gives one a touch of what makes this couple tick; there's the old dog Buddy stretched out on the floor, happily letting Christine do some gentle grooming; there's Greg's office with a plethora of models and pictures of the planes he flew; there's a bookshelf groaning under the weight of the biggest books about St. Paul you would ever want to tackle, alongside, of course, CS Lewis and NT Wright; and in another room Greg's brother James and his wife are practising hymns. It's lovely, it's relaxed, and Greg and Christine say they are as happy with their church and their faith as they have ever been. What a couple! What a blessing!

Music Review

by Ruth Lorette Hickling

Sacred Pathway Keith Duke

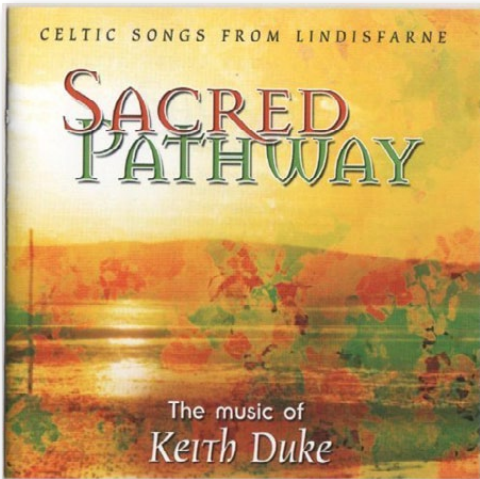
It was so hard for me to choose just one of the three exceptionally beautiful Keith Duke albums I have, for review.

"Sacred Weave" has been my all time favourite this summer. Yet I first fell in love with this Celtic Christian music, listening to "Sacred Pathway" which includes the "Irish Blessing Song" and a long spoken poem.

The third CD, "Sacred Dance" is especially joyful and includes some happy jigs. "Christ Be Near" however, is the first song on Sacred Pathway, and it can give me the deep comfort which few songs can.

Keith Duke writes music which is overall Celtic in sound but with the influence of beautiful ancient chants. He merges this somehow with the twentieth century. He has been very much inspired through his work with the Priest Poet David Adam of the Holy Lindisfarne Island, in Ireland.

The music is deeply spiritual, joyful, sweetly sorrowful and incredibly moving. It is meant to be used for private prayer, meditation and also for celebration of the Eucharist. I can neither express to you how much I love it, nor tell you how much I play it, including during my home practise yoga sessions.



Much use is made of traditional Celtic instruments including the tin flute and bodran, the goatskin drum. Vocals are the smooth voice of Keith Duke and clear soprano of Lucy Bunce.

When I started writing these reviews, I vowed to cover music which was still available in cd format. That goal is becoming more and more difficult unless one is searching for mainstream music.

I believe the CD's could be ordered from Amazon U.K. with a lot of extra hassle and expense. It is much easier if you have the ability to download from iTunes. Any of Keith Duke's music is highly recommended.

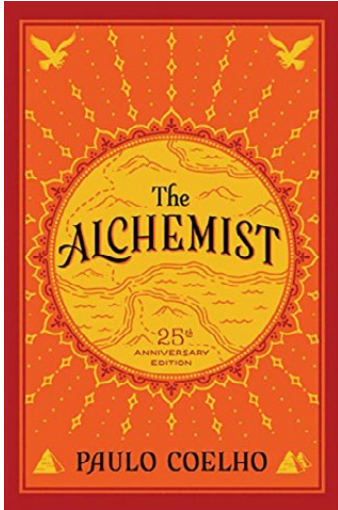
I first heard his music on the <https://pray-as-you-go.org/home/> site, which offers daily meditations approx 10-13 minutes in length. Beginning with spiritual, reflective music, a piece of scripture is read, then thoughts given for further contemplation and prayer. As in the case of Keith Duke, their music selections are beautiful. It is the ten minutes of repose near the end of my day which I truly look forward to, eyes closed, ear phones on.

The site is free and you can sign up for the daily meditations or use the free app on your iPad as I do.

If you are at all drawn to Celtic Music, you will not regret giving Keith Duke a try.

The Alchemist

by Paulo Coelho



I keep an eclectic array of authors and titles of various genres in my Kindle library. From Historical Fiction to Medieval Fantasy to Spiritual Guides I have about 127 titles in my Kindle library, including, in Historical Fiction, Conn Iggulden's anthologies of Genghis Khan and Julius Caesar, Bernard Cornwell's Fiction of King Alfred, the Saxons and medieval England, and Jan Guillou's Crusades Trilogy of Swedish Templar Knights; in Medieval Fantasy, Tolkien's Lord of the Rings and G.R.R. Martin's Game of Thrones; and under Spiritual Guides, James Martin's "Jesuit Guide to Almost Everything", Pope Francis' "The Church of Mercy", and Paul Coutinho's "An Ignatian Pathway". Based on this, Amazon's search engine regularly suggests titles it "thinks" I might enjoy. Two months ago, "The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho showed up in my suggestion box. I couldn't believe I had never encountered this before: every genre in my library intersects in this short, seemingly historical fiction that has a mystical, fantastical air and is rife with spiritual wisdom...every page cites a gem, a nugget, a pearl of spiritual wisdom. The Alchemist has been compared to Saint-Exupery's The Little Prince, Khalil Gibran's The Prophet as well as Jesus' parables.

This is the 25th anniversary (!) of this New York Times best seller. Am I the last person on earth to have found this gem? It seems that everyone I have recommended it to has read and enjoyed it. The book has been reviewed by Tony Robbins, Bill Clinton, Madonna, Rush Limbaugh, Will Smith, my daughter. Even the author Paulo Coelho says he re-reads "The Alchemist" regularly and every time it inspires in him his power to build bridges of understanding between himself and others; that "there is always a chance for reconciliation" in this world of political, economic and cultural clashes. As in the Bible, the truths expounded in this short but profound book transcend time.

The Alchemist is a simple fable of Santiago, a young Spanish shepherd boy, and his quest for his Personal Legend...his Treasure, his destiny, his mission on earth. He learns of his God-given life purpose through a recurrent dream that he has, and is encouraged to follow this dream during a visitation from a wise old man named Melchizedek. He travels from Andalusia to North Africa and across the desert to the pyramids of Egypt, where it was promised he would find his Treasure. He meets Melchizedek again in the desert and learns that when you seek your Personal Legend "the whole universe conspires to help you achieve it". In his quest, he learns to recognise, interpret and follow the voice of God. Like all good fables, he does ultimately find his Treasure. This is not a spoiler since the lessons are found in the searching.

Samples of the wisdom Santiago discovered during his quest are:

- "Intuition is really a sudden immersion of the soul into the universal current of life"
- "People need not fear the unknown if they are capable of what they need and want"
- "Once you get into the desert there is no turning back....when you can't go back, you have to worry only about the best way of moving forward."

Like Paulo Coelho, I have begun to re-read this gem of a book. I found a study guide online, which I will use to explore its deeper meanings and to listen for God's voice. Does He have anything more to say to me through its passages?

2017 Wine Fest

A Successful Fund-raiser for the Community

Report by Sandra Scarth



July 15th was a perfect day for the third annual Peninsula Wine Fest sponsored by the Parish of Central Saanich, St. Mary's and St. Stephen's Anglican churches. This year there was no sudden gust of wind to blow the tents across the field just hours before the opening and no rain to thoroughly soak everyone at the end of the day. Under sunny skies, over 200 participants enjoyed the taste of local wines, cider, beer and spirits. An attractive assortment of appetizers were served throughout the afternoon by our cheerful servers in red aprons. Made by our skilled volunteer 'Chefs' they were funded in part by local grocery stores and shops. Background music was provided by local guitarist Brad Prevedoros and the Celtic ballads of Jayne Trimble, a former St. Stephen's parishioner.

The Peninsula Wine Fest, based on the theme "From the Community – to the Community" gives local wineries, brewers and distillers an opportunity to display and market their products as a unique group in an enjoyable community setting. Other local community-related participants included artisans, potters, the Old English Car Club of BC, a family business with smoked cheeses and a First Nations artist. The Silent Auction, supported largely by local community businesses, was very successful and the tour of our heritage church and cemetery attracts more visitors each year.

Her Honour Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of BC attended our Wine Fest this year and was warmly welcomed by Bishop Logan McMenamie. They both spoke to the significance of this kind of event that brings the community together in support of local services.

Our goal this year was to raise \$10,000 and we are pleased to report that we more than reached that goal, raising \$10,704 to be shared by three worthy local community-focused organizations. These are the Saanich Peninsula Hospital that will use our contribution to assist in the renovation of the extended care facilities, the Mount Newton Centre Society that provides day care and other services for the elderly and Stelly's Secondary School to maintain and expand their lunch program for disadvantaged students.

Most of all, we have had fun as a Parish organizing this fund-raiser and look forward to doing even better next year.

Food and Decorations

Report by Nancy Choat



Wonderful work by Wine Fest volunteers involved with the food and decorations resulted in 22 hot and cold appetizers. The team prepared the mouth-watering delicacies during the week. Many had done this for previous Wine Fests, so could show newcomers "how it's done". Their work behind the scenes made it all seem effortless and we congratulate them. They are: **Nichola Wade, Lynn Fallan, Catherine Wing, Susan Pullan, Heather Geddes, Patti West, Nelles Shackleton, Susan Alexander, Jane Buford, Tracy Stubbs, Susie Wilson, and Sue Smith** (St Stephen's). Thanks also to our Lady Di, **Diana Abbott** for her leadership in the kitchen. Diana and Tracy Stubbs also set up the shed for the volunteers where they could take a tea/coffee break with **Eva Townsend's** marvelous muffins! **Sue Smith** (St. Mary's) and **Della Garvin** (St.

continued on page 11

2017 Wine Fest *continued*



Stephen's) made 39 flower table arrangements and balloons in the Canadian red and white theme. Sue's were in holders attached to wine bottles while Della's were in mason jars, and all could be purchased with a minimum donation of \$5.00. At closing, only three were unsold! Carboys (thank you **Richard West** for filling them!) with greenery and white daisies, and with red and white balloons attached, marked the entrances to the Wine Tasting area. Thanks also to **Maureen McGuire** for wrapping yards of colourful flags around the roped off area. And, by the way, did you catch the picture, taken at St. Stephen's, of our Bishop Logan, our Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon, and our MP Elizabeth May on the back of Elizabeth May's September Newsletter? More good publicity...

Music

Report by John Smith



They were so good last time that we had them back again – troubadour Jayne Trimble with her guitar and Celtic songs, and our local favourite guitarist Brad Prevedoros. The sound system, for both the musicians and the Lieutenant-Governor was the best we've had, installed by **Daniel Pedlow** and **Bob Westgate**.

Silent Auction

Report by Sandra Scarth



This was supported by a number of parishioners who asked local businesses for support, and by making up baskets. Those who made extra efforts were **Sue Atha**, **Terry Hartley**, **Rosemary Morris** and **Sharon Johnston**. **Lynda Clifford** provided quilted placemats as the basis of six baskets of goodies suitable for gourmet breakfast, afternoon tea or appies and wine. Other items were: tea for 10 at Government House; a three-day stay at Long Beach Lodge courtesy of **Tim Hackett**; a beautiful pottery cookie jar thrown and glazed by **Charlotte Nichols** and a guided tour of a Gulf Island with tour leader **Gary Stubbs**. A surprise offering was a dozen fresh eggs along with the promise of seven weeks of farm fresh eggs from **Kati Wambara's** chickens! Other items were packaged creatively as in past Wine Fests by **Karen Rogers** and **Sandra Wiggins** and set out attractively with the assistance of **Della Garvin**. The Silent Auction garnered great interest and resulted in raising \$5136 for our three local services. A hearty thanks to all involved.

continued on page 20

Outline and Highlights of my 2017 Spring/ Summer Trip



Linderhof Palace, Bavaria



Handing over the Parish of Central Saanich cheque to St. Matthew's Library

Dear friends,

Many, many thanks for all your prayers for me once again, during this year's 98-day trip, April 18-July 23. I am going to follow a similar reporting format to what I used last year.



Outline of trip

I visited (or at least set foot in!) 12 different countries¹, slept in 28 different beds, and flew on 29 different flights! The purpose of the trip was two-fold:

Ministry

- Helping lead, for the fourth time, the tour of the Holy Land for students of the Bristol theological colleges where I served from 2012-2015;
- Taking Sunday services for four weeks at St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, during the chaplain's annual leave and teaching a week-long intensive course ("Anglican Studies") at St. Frumentius Theological College, Gambella, Ethiopia.

Touring

- Visiting family and friends in various locations in Canada, Egypt and the UK/Europe;
- Sight-seeing trips (notably Romania, Edinburgh, Northern Ireland, Faroe Islands, English Cotswolds, Sicily, northern Ethiopia, Switzerland and Bavaria).

Highlights

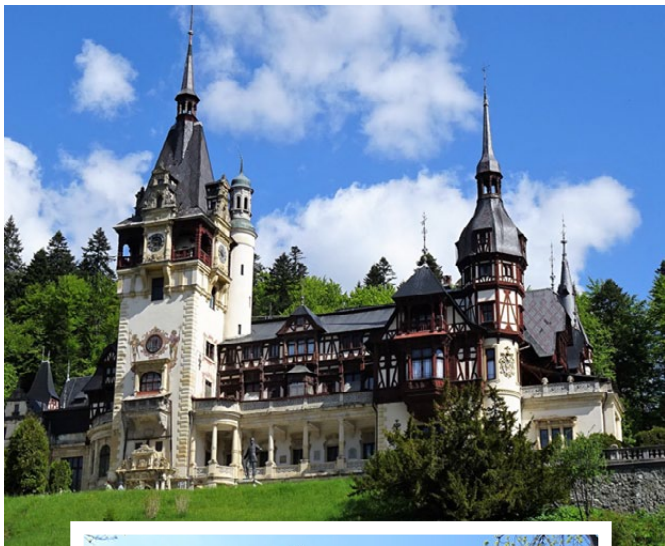
Handing over the cheque!

One of the first things I did on arrival in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, was to hand over the cheque from donations from parishioners for the St. Matthew's Library Project which serves over 2000 children from the neighbouring shanty-town. The final amount we have given this year was about \$3,800 Canadian and this, along with some downsizing and reorganizing has enabled the parish to keep the project afloat. They were most grateful!

"Coincidences"

- Meeting up with the Archbishop of Canterbury in Nazareth
- Meeting, while at a spa in Tiberius, the Israeli owner of my former apartment building in Montreal

continued on page 13



Top: Peles Castle, Romania

Middle: Bran Castle (of Dracula fame) Transylvania, Romania

Bottom: Faroe Islands village

- Meeting, on a UK train, the mother of a clergyman (former Trinity student) who had also met up with Archbishop Welby in the Holy Land; praying with her for her major back issues.

My only conclusion to the meaning of these amazing encounters is that God wanted to let me know he is in loving and wise control in the midst of all the complexities of life in general and my travels in particular!

Tour of Romania

A beautiful country and well-worth a visit! Seeing Bran Castle (of Dracula fame – totally fictitious, though!) and Peleş Castle (late 19th-century fantasy palace) were outstanding sights out of many. I also learned that Prince Charles is a descendant of Vlad the Impaler (on whom the character of Dracula is based – very roughly!).

Visit to the Faroe Islands

Half-way between Scotland and Iceland is this group of islands with only 50,000 people and outstanding natural beauty. I had the privilege to visit a former Trinity student and his family – he is the only IFES (Christian student work) staff on the islands.

Teaching at St. Frumentius College, Gambella

I was very conscious of people's prayer for me during this week when I estimate I taught the equivalent of 50 sermons! I had the energy and enthusiasm to communicate just what I needed, and was able to cross the cultural differences and was well-received by the students. I managed to get through half my material and it seems I will be invited back to finish the course next year!

Recovery in Egypt

Having fallen ill (stomach ailment from bad food) during my last days in Ethiopia, my friends in Cairo were perfectly positioned to provide the care and opportunity for recovery I needed. While in Cairo, I was also able to meet with Bishop Mouneer Anis of Egypt who has episcopal oversight in the areas where I have been ministering in Ethiopia. We confirmed the transference of my "canonical residence"² from my home diocese of Rupert's Land (Winnipeg) to Egypt. With this amicable transfer (agreed to by all the bishops and jurisdictions involved!) I am still free to minister within the Anglican Church of Canada (I remain licensed to officiate in the Diocese of British Columbia at St. Mary's and St. Stephen's) as well as within

continued on page 14

Cane's Corner *continued*



other groups with whom Egypt is in communion, such as ANiC and ACNA³, and thus I can serve as a living link across divides that currently confront us.

Slide shows

Once again, my intention is that people will have opportunities to hear more and see slide shows on my trip in the coming months. They include the following:

- Ethiopia 2017 (fewer slides than last year – can be combined with another one or two as follows for a full showing event: Faroe Islands; UK, including Edinburgh, Northern Ireland, Cotswolds; Bavaria; Switzerland)
- Romania (full showing event)
- The Holy Land, which is an amalgamation of photos taken during past trips with additions from this year (full showing event)

If people would like to host an event or organize one for either congregation or the whole parish, please let me know. I am most willing to do semi-private showings as well!

Looking ahead: I now approach an exciting rest of Summer and Fall, including visiting and ministering near home and further afield in North America - I will be helping with Wounded Healers' weekend conferences in September (Vancouver) and November (Calgary), leading a retreat in Connecticut and visiting eastern Canada during October. Plus, I will be preaching a few times in our own parish and leading a three-week Bible study series on Genesis 1-3 in November!

Thanks again for your many prayers through which I was able to minister effectively on my "grand tour" and be kept safe!

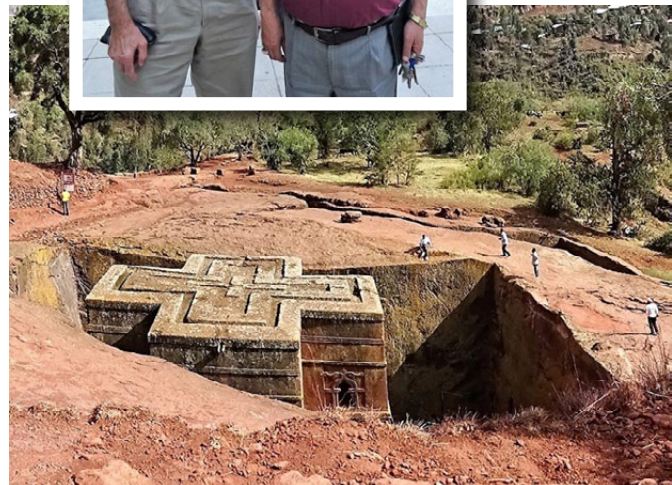
***Yours in His service,
Brett***



Top: Teaching Anglican Studies in Gambella, Ethiopia

Middle: With Bishop Mouneer Anis in Cairo

Bottom: St. George's rock-hewn church, Lalibela, Ethiopia



Enjoying Bratwurst in St. Gallen, Switzerland

¹ Canada, Israel, Palestine, Turkey (Istanbul - airport stopover twice!), Romania, UK (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland), Faroe Islands, Italy (Sicily), Ethiopia, Egypt (Cairo), Switzerland (Zurich), Austria (passed through on the bus!), Germany (Bavaria).

² "Canonical residence" = my home diocese and bishop to whom I am responsible; when a clergyperson retires, they usually remain "canonically resident" in the diocese they retire from.

³ ANiC=Anglican Network in Canada, the Canadian branch of ACNA= Anglican Church of North America: churches that have been established outside the original Canadian and American branches of Anglicanism.

Despite some sadness, illness and suffering among our parishioners this summer, there were also happy events and news that was joyful and celebratory.

News from the Parish

Nineteen men (parishioners and members of the community) attended a Men's Breakfast and Conversation at St. Stephen's on Saturday June 17 in celebration of Father's Day. **Nick Hunter** led the conversation, relating some of his experiences in relationship with his own father, and how his relationship with Jesus fits in with his life. **Bob Quicke** organized the event and did most of the cooking, including sausages and scrambled eggs. If you missed out on this, maybe Bob will organize one for next year!

Rob presented the highlights of a book that he read during his study week in May, entitled *Should We Change Our Game Plan?* There were two presentations to attentive audiences, held on June 27th in the evening at St Stephen's and in the morning of June 28 at St. Mary's. The author, George Hunter, wrote about church growth and Rob's presentations certainly evoked lively discussions.



There was Parish participation at Brentwood Days (June 3rd) and again at Sidney days (July 1st) with a float. **Rachel Moss** (St Stephen's) was the organizer for these successful community events. Complete with live music and support from parishioners running alongside the float handing out leaflets, it certainly increases the Parish presence in the community. Thank you to all who participated!

Brett Cane returned home safely following a three month trip that took him to 12 countries where he slept in 28 different beds and took 29 different flights - Brett's statistics not ConneXion's! See elsewhere in this issue for his article. We expect to hear about his travels not only during his sermons but hopefully at a Parish gathering sometime in the future.

Goodbye from Gil and Cheryl



The following is an announcement that appeared in the Service Bulletin in July:

"I didn't think I'd ever feel more regret or sadness than the day I retired from the diaconate (Oct. 30th, 2016) but today I do!

Due to my wife, Cheryl's mishaps over the last three months, we feel an absolute necessity to obtain one-level living to accommodate her safety. Several circumstances have almost forced us to secure our new home in Victoria and we will be moving there September 15, 2017.

We cannot find words to express our loss of leaving our home in Sidney of 28 years AND our Parish "home" of St. Stephen's (26 years) and St. Mary's (5 years). Nor could we ever express enough gratitude for the love, caring, visits, meals, and prayers during Cheryl's ongoing recovery. She wanted to send some individual thank yous to several people who did so much to make her journey less arduous, however, her injuries still prevent her from writing so she has asked that you all (collectively) accept this epistle as her token of great appreciation to everyone. I can assure you this comes from the deepest part of her heart.

The weekends of July 23rd, 30th, Aug. 6th and 13th will be unavoidably occupied by Cheryl's mother's funeral (in Vancouver); Gil's meeting of Michael to sail home

continued on page 16

Around the Parish *continued*

with him on the last leg of his 6-month deployment on HMCS Winnipeg and our regularly scheduled Parksville vacation.

Our next appearance to say goodbye - personally, will officially be made as "visitors"...we love you and will dearly miss you ALL!"

Gil & Cheryl Shoesmith

Just before going to press, we heard of Gil's emergency visit to the Royal Jubilee Hospital with heart problems. Please keep the Shoesmith family in your prayers.

At a combined service, held on Sunday August 13 at St Mary's, **Nancy Choat** presented **Isabella Kennedy**, last year's recipient of the St Mary's Indigenous scholarship, with a cheque for \$1,000. Isabella is entering her second year at Camosun College, majoring in science. Combining athletics (she's a provincial level soft ball player!), with academics (maintaining a Grade A standing), she manages to balance her life between the mainland and school here on the Island.

There was a Parish "presence" on Friday July 28 at Butchart Gardens, as several parishioners listened to the Victoria Symphony Orchestra with Maestro Tania Miller on a glorious evening: **Brett Cane, Susan Alexander, Diana Abbott, Cathy Quicke, Joy and Nick Hunter, Lynda Clifford, Jessie Kelly, Susan Pullan, Heather Geddes, Catherine Wing and Nancy Choat** with the latter six enjoying a picnic on the grounds prior to the concert.



Blessing of the Animals



Thanks to Al Gerenser as organizer to all others who worked to make the animal blessing such a pawstive success. Showers had been forecast but in the end the weather was purrfect on a Sunday afternoon in August.

Mike Dyer MC'd the event, while our own Rev. Dr. Brett Cane officiated, Rev. Venerable Penelope Kingham from Holy Trinity gave the homily and Father Thomas from Our Lady of the Assumption read a lesson. All three participated in blessing the individual critters.

This was very much an event for the community, and many attending were non-parishioners. Once again the Parish has shown that we play a big role in the wider community by reflecting God's love for all of his creation.

The statistics were as follows: Registered people with pets, 99: Registered people (no pets), 6: Volunteers, 13: Clergy, 3; Total, 121. Animals included Dogs (71), Cats (4), Kittens (2) and a Guinea Pig, for a total of 78. Blessed in absentia was one Horse and Blessed in Remembrance were 10 Dogs and 2 Cats.

A collection was taken up in support of the "Pacific Animal Therapy

continued on page 17

Around the Parish *continued*

Society” and \$509.95 was collected. Also the Sunday School Kids on their own initiative set up a booth and sold baked goods, raising \$320.45 to be used by the Red Cross to assist rescued pets from the fires in the BC interior. So in total \$830.40 was raised in the aid of God’s critters.

News from St. Stephen’s



Margery Lord’s youngest son and grand-daughter visited her from Australia in August.

The St. Stephen’s garden is flourishing thanks to the **Nichols** and **Carol Foster**. **Diana** is still riding her trusty steed (the Lawn Mower!) and **Dave Shields** does the weed whacking and gives Diana a hand. **David Scarth** is retiring from his position of Sexton - a great loss, as he always showed the utmost compassion to people going through a difficult time. It will be a difficult position to replace. **Jen Buscall** is retiring from her position as Financial Secretary and will be sorely missed. **Richard** and **Patti West** had a wedding service in the church followed by a dinner and dance in the hall, music by the Twelve-o-clock Rock (Greg Robinson’s group). A very celebratory and festive occasion, indeed! Margery reports that a much needed and longed for cabinet has been installed in the church, for the altar hangings, made and installed by **Jack Waters**. Although not a parishioner, Jack has done other work for St. Stephen’s and is well known in the area for his work on historic buildings. So the hangings no longer have to be ferried back and forth from the church to the hall. One can only imagine what it was like in inclement weather! And **Diane Hackett** had a significant birthday in August. According to husband Tim, they can now get senior’s rates at MacDonald’s!

News from St. Mary’s



On June 18, **Fern Perkins** conducted a tour of the Ross Bay Cemetery for over 30 people. The emphasis on this tour was about the Métis, people of mixed European fur trade and Indigenous ancestry, and one of the three recognized Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Fern, who is Métis, demystified confusion about the term Indigenous, and took the group to visit graves of many Métis buried at RBC explaining their historical importance to the city and the country. **Dr. Sylvia Van Kirk** assisted Fern, adding stories from her research into fur trade families from the days before Canada existed. In case you did not know, St Stephen’s Churchyard is also a member of the Old Cemeteries Society along with the Ross Bay Cemetery.

And there’s an upcoming tour on Sept. 17. at the Ross Bay Cemetery. You can join Fern’s husband, **Mark Perkins** and learn something about Firefighter History. Retired firefighter Mark Perkins has many stories about the people who served in the Victoria Fire Department and its volunteer predecessors with colourful names: Deluge, Tiger Engine and Union Hook and Ladder Company. If you are a member of the Old Cemeteries Society, the cost is \$2- for non-members, \$5. Meet near Oregano’s in the Fairfield Plaza just before 2pm on Sunday September 17 to register.

continued on page 18

Around the Parish *continued*



On Sunday July 9, **Bishop Logan** presided at a Service of Holy Baptism and Eucharist. It was a joyous occasion as there were two baptisms, one being his grand-daughter, **Bridey Fife McMenamie Wyndels**, (who is only the second grand-daughter of 10 grandchildren!). Her parents are **Rachel McMenamie** and **Firmin Wyndels**. **Jessica Lind Webb**, daughter of **Carina** and **Nathan Webb** was also baptized. Many friends and family members attended.

Significant parishioner birthdays took place in August, including **David Campbell's** 90th on August 15 and **Erica Harrison's** 80th on August 20th. Congratulations to David and Erica!



Shirley Rainey, a much loved St. Mary's parishioner, died on Sunday August 20 after a long battle with cancer, with her son Mark by her side. Her last days were spent in Palliative Care at the Saanich Peninsula Hospital where she had been a volunteer. The many friends (and some dogs) that came to visit and spend time with her were witness to the impact that her friendship, indomitable spirit and zest for life had on us all. She taught us how to face life's challenges with acceptance, patience and grace. "Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass. Life is about learning to dance in the rain." Shirley showed us how to dance in the rain. Shirley lived a full life despite her initial diagnosis more than 20 years ago. She traveled the world, lived life to its fullest and touched countless lives through her church and through her social engagements, clubs and gatherings. Shirley's Memorial Service will be at St. Mary's church on Saturday September 9 at 11 am followed by a reception and a committal service at St. Stephen's cemetery.

St Mary's Craft Group



Started back in March 2012 by the late **Shirley Rainey**, this group of women meet in the Boardroom at 9:30 on the third Monday of every month. Not only do they enjoy being creatively productive, they share a sense of camaraderie that comes from being together. Stories are shared, jokes are told and there's lots of talking and laughter. No one person seems to be in charge; everyone's in charge! It all began when Shirley asked several parishioners about meeting to make items for the annual Holly Fair. There was an immediate positive response by several: **Sue Smith**, **Jenny Jenner**, **Catherine Anne Wing** and **Terry Parent**. Others began joining them: **Susan Alexander**, **Susan Pullan**, **Jessie Kelly**, **Olga McColl**, **Lynda Clifford** (St Stephen's), **Marcia McMenamie**. The turnout each month varies but their work and sharing of ideas continues. Some bring their knitting, crocheting or needlework and embroidery. Several sort and package donated jewellery while others decorate paper gift bags. And so began what is known as the St Mary's Craft Group. And the most important item of the morning? "What time do we go to the

continued on page 19

Around the Parish *continued*



R and R Diner for lunch?” Results of their efforts can be seen and purchased at the Jewellery and Handcraft Stalls at the annual Holly Fair. If you are interested in joining this fun social handcraft group, contact Catherine Wing at catherine.wing@shaw.ca

Marjorie Denroche, a long time St. Mary’s parishioner and contributor through The Guild and Thrift Sales, is resting at home. Her family are spending time with her, including Stephen and his wife from Vancouver, Alan and his wife from Yellowknife, and daughter Joanne who comes from Whistler when she can. From Marjorie’s bed in the living room she has fabulous views of Sidney, Mount Baker and the hummingbirds on the deck. She remains alert and enjoys seeing friends, but if you plan to visit, please call first. She’d love to see you if she is able.

Susan Alexander was recently observed joining a musical congo line at a Butchart concert, August 15. Way to go, Susan!

Travel News

We forgot to mention in the last ConneXion that **Christine** and **Greg Robinson** spent time in Romania. Gosh, it seemed Greg had just returned from his infamous trip with **Brett Cane**, where he met the Archbishop of Canterbury! And with the summer we’ve had, there must have been lots of people travelling and having visitors. A few of these came to our attention: **John** and **Sue Smith** enjoyed a three day “get away from it all” (including church duties and Brooke!) in Qualicum Beach in late July. **Lynn** and **Len Fallan** went camping for a few days in Parksville in August. It seems they had just returned from their wonderful holiday abroad, mentioned in the last ConneXion. **Derek** and **Betty Osman** visited family in Fort Nelson in mid-August, dodging the wild fires.

September seems to be a popular time of the year to travel. **Susan Pullan** will be touring England with her sister, visiting family and taking in the sights. And **Nancy Choat** will celebrate Canada’s 150th with a trip to Ottawa with friends from her university days.

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich Directory

Pastor: The Reverend Robert Szo 778-679-8074 robszo@shaw.ca

Parish Council: Ex Officio

Rob Szo, robszo@shaw.ca

Rector’s Wardens:

St. Mary’s
St. Stephen’s

vacant

Greg Robinson gregoryrobinson@shaw.ca

People’s Wardens:

St. Mary’s
St. Stephen’s

Derek Osman, derek.osman@shaw.ca

Lynda Clifford, lgcliff@shaw.ca

Members:

St. Mary’s
St. Stephen’s

Karen McColm, Ken Pedlow

Jen Buscall, Allan Carlson

Synod Delegates:

St. Mary’s
St. Stephen’s

Nancy Choat

Greg Robinson, Don Wilson

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

Bob Quicke is at the St. Stephen’s office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 1:00 and on Fridays from 9:00 to 2:00

2017 Wine Fest *continued*

Behind the Scenes

Report by John Smith



Thanks to the small army of helpers who helped put up and take down, and to traffic cop and hot dog man **Richard West** – that is **Derek Osman** wrestling with the tent.



Kids and Food

Report by John Smith

Josie Dyer supervised the kids' tent, **Don Wilson** had a Level Ground display, and **Richard West** and **Brad Watson** churned out hot dogs. Thanks to all of you.

Vintage Car Display

Report by John Beresford



Just over a dozen members of the South Island Branch of the Old English Car Club brought out their cars (and two commercial vehicles) for the vintage car display at the Wine Fest. They were joined by one Volvo.



In addition to being members of the congregation of St. Marys, **John Beresford**, **Roy** and **Susan Pullan** and **Derrick** and **Pat Sparks** are also members of the OECC.



The first Sunday Serenade Concert of the 2017-2018 Series at 2:30 pm on Sunday, October 29 at St. Mary's Church will feature the Pacific Edge Chorus, which is the new name of the City of Gardens Chorus, a Sweet Adelines 4-part harmony women's chorus. See the Sunday Serenade advertisement on page 4 for ticket details.