

CONNECTION

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

Number 28



St. Mary's Church

1973 Cultra Avenue,
Saanichton, BC V8M 1L7

Worship Services

Sundays

9:00 am Choral Eucharist & Sunday School

Second Sunday

7:00 pm Evening Prayer in the style of Taizé
(January - 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: St.Stephens.Church@outlook.com
Web: www.ParishCS.ca



September 2018

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Pastor: Rev. Lon Towstego

Assistant: The Rev. Dr. Brett Cane



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 four months.

- **September 2nd:** The first services at St. Mary's and St. Stephen's by our new incumbent Rev. Lon Towstego.
- **September 9th:** The monthly contemplative Services in the Style of Taize will resume at 7:00 pm at St. Mary's.
- **September 14th:** The Ladies will return to provide the weekly Soup's On! Friday noon-time gathering at St. Stephen's. We anticipate re-connection with friends, both new and longstanding, over a delicious bowl of soup.
- **Friday, September 21:** The Rev. Dr. Brett Cane will be giving a slide show of his recent time in Poland (Four Polish cities and urban centres resurrected from the ashes of WWII along with a tour of Auschwitz). St. Stephen's Church Hall; 11 a.m. (45 minutes before "Soup's On" and 45 minutes afterwards).
- **September 28th – 30th:** Diocesan Synod at the Songhees Wellness Centre, Victoria.
- **Saturday September 29th:** St. Mary's Thrift Shop, 9:30 – Noon.
- **November 3rd:** Once again it is the next installment of the Great and Glorious Gargantuan Garlic Gala which is an annual fund raiser in support of the work of Hilda Shilliday and Mengo.
- **November 7th:** The Saanichton Village Association's Saanichton Spaghetti Supper at St. Mary's Hall.
- **November 25th:** The St. Mary's Holly Fair takes place on Saturday from 9:30 am until 2:00 pm. For details contact Leslie Pedlow.

Sunday School at St. Mary's by Irene Feir

If we at St. Mary's are to continue to grow, it seems important that we provide a Sunday School. A year and a half ago we had two families with young children join our church and we started a Sunday School for them. Unfortunately for us, they decided to return to their Baptist roots and then we were back to sometimes one or two children. Since then, I have always come prepared to teach a class if there are two or more children who want to come into Sunday School. In accordance with the Safe Church rules, there must be two adults with each group of children (even if there are only two or three children). Several very able people have offered to help, but we need someone to be the leader.

Teaching Sunday School is actually fun. You can tell or read a story, discuss the story with the children who will have endless insights into its meaning, do a craft (which may be art, or cooking, or whatever), do a skit, play a game (active or board), sing (if you are talented musically). The number of children present often dictates the way in which the lesson goes. The time is not overly long - usually about 35-40 minutes. The children and teacher(s) go out after the Children's Message and come back in for Communion with their families. If there is unfinished work in the Sunday School they can go back to it; if not, they stay in church.

We have various books etc. in a file drawer in the nursery - all sorts of different programmes - or you can make your own by choosing stories about people and events in the Bible. There are several free sites on the internet which offer printable stories, colouring pages, crafts, games etc.

Please give some thought to whether this is something you would like to do.

A Message from Rev. Canon Peter Parker as he departs as our Interim Priest-In-Charge



Dear Sisters and Brothers and Friends, in the Parish of Central Saanich,

By the time this edition of *ConneXion* is in your hands you will be welcoming The Rev. Lon Towstego as your rector. But while it is being prepared, I am still your Interim Priest-In-Charge, and there are things I wanted to say to you – so as you read it, you can think of this as kind of “posthumous” message!

The Body of Christ is an eternal and rich and mysterious community, and it is also, after our crucified and risen Lord, both deeply spiritual and completely human. For that reason, we experience together some of the most sublime joy and exaltation, and also some of the ugliest suffering imaginable. There is a wonderful mystery here: when we suffer, we suffer not just with, but in Christ. When Jesus went to the cross the suffering of all humanity was on his back; “by his wounds we are healed.” In this body we call Church, truly, when one suffers, all suffer together; yet we are called in all things to Rejoice.

Because we are human and fall short of the divine potential that is within each of us, we end up causing each other some of the sufferings we experience. This is true even within this wonderful parish of Central Saanich. I am certain I have at times been the cause of some suffering; and I have witnessed it happening between people, here, and indeed in every Church I have served. But the Good News of God’s love is a constant, non-negotiable reality in this body of Christ. It is the Good News of God’s healing and restoring love in Christ which, in the end of the day, always wins. Reconciliation, wholeness, peace, is the inevitable outcome in this Body of Christ. Please never forget this: it is this gospel of love which defines us, never the sufferings and squabbles, or the hurts and insults we inflict on each other.

If there is one area of ministry I wish I had been able to promote more deeply in the parish, it would be in the journey of reconciliation with our First Nations. I believe deeply that our Church and our Nation must walk forward on this walk, if there is to be hope for a healthy Canadian community we can be proud to call home. We must teach ourselves to look back with honesty, and to look forward with hope and generosity. Taking down statues and changing street names alone won’t do it; it will need a face to face, person to person reaching out from both sides, with a willingness on both sides to listen. I hope you will continue forward in this journey which we have really just begun, nationally and locally.

The other area in which I have massively underserved you is in pastoral visiting. This has been the victim of time scheduling. It has been lovely trying to get to know you all via Sunday mornings, but it would have been so much better at your kitchen table or in your back yard.

Having said all of the above, the overwhelming message I have to say to you, is thank you. Many times, I have spoken of the radical hospitality of God for all. You have consistently and wonderfully modelled that Godly Hospitality, to me, and to many others I have seen welcomed here in the churches of the parish. Thank You. Sanctuary Guilds and servers have figured out my idiosyncrasies in

worship. Thank You. Musicians have learned music I have brought in. Thank You. Your wardens have nudged, challenged, and supported me. Thank You. Council members have adapted to yet another clergy leadership style. Thank You. Our Office Administrators have deciphered my notes and instructions and kept me on track. Thank You. Children (and the rest of the congregations!) have humored my odd children's illustrations. Thank You. In Coffee hours, at the back of the Church, in Bazaars and potlucks, (and I can't leave out Soup's On!) you have graciously and generously fed me and made me feel welcome and appreciated. Thank You. Sunday by Sunday, at worship, you have prayed with me, exchanged the Peace with me, and borne witness to our shared faith, just by being there. Thank you.

I cannot tell you how pleased I am that my wise friend and colleague Lon will be your new rector. Together you will give new meaning to the phrase "From strength to strength." This Parish of Central Saanich will remain in my prayers, and in my very fond memories. May the Lord Jesus Christ by His Spirit strengthen and guide you always.

Yours in Christ's enduring love,

Peter

A Message from Rev. Lon Towstego at the start of his ministry here in the Parish of Central Saanich



I thank our Bishop Logan McMenamie, your Bishop's Consultation Team, our wardens and all of you for the privilege it is to come into your midst and serve. I feel called by God to this place and time. I thank and have gratitude for the ministry of my friend and senior colleague the Rev. Peter Parker and to his wife Marion. Peter has done a tremendous job as Interim in this parish which will help the transition in so many ways.

I am writing this in mid-August and am very excited and keen to be in your midst soon. I pray in rotation for eight individuals or families each day from the Parish. It is a very interesting experience to hold names before God, usually not knowing you at all. I trust that through Christ and in Christ you are known and loved. God knows all of our needs, wishes, dreams, struggles, hopes and more.

My wife Marian and I have wandered the geographical parish and area of Central Saanich whenever we have had free moments or hours. It seems a diverse and multi-faceted community that God has created with beauty and challenge living together. It is my prayer and hope that we, parish and priest will continue to serve this community well together.

I imagine that you have many questions about me and for me. My goal is to get to know as many of you as soon as possible. We plan to hold "coffee chats" with the new parish priest where I can interact with groups of you. As we move along I will look to connect with all of you on a close basis. We will walk gently as we move through the first few months. I come to listen. I will learn my way around and learn some of the details of parish life. We will have lots of questions for each other.

I see it all as an adventure and a journey together. Wi'la mola' ma' naux, "We are travelling together."

"See he makes all things new" Revelation 21:5b.

The Rev. Lon Towstego

Parishioner Profile: Lon & Marian Towstego by Sandra Scarth

Introducing and welcoming Lon and Marian



Lon is a prairie boy, born and raised in Saskatoon and still has close ties to that community. His parents were practicing Christians, but because his father was Roman Catholic, and mother Protestant in United and Anglican settings, they compromised in the raising of their four children (Lon has two sisters and one brother). They sent Lon to a Roman Catholic kindergarten, but as a family attended a Gospel Hall church.

A note about Lon's name. Although children are often named for relatives or famous people in history, Lon says ruefully that his mother chose a different route. She was fascinated by Lon Chaney, the character actor famous for his roles in silent movies, most notably as Quasimodo, the Hunchback of Notre Dame and Erik of the Phantom of the Opera, so that is who he is named after! His last name is an unusual Ukrainian name and according to Lon, the easiest way to pronounce it is to think of "toast to go."

Like many prairie boys, Lon loved hockey and modestly admits he was "pretty good" at it. He didn't play for any well-known teams but never missed going to watch the Saskatoon Blades play. Watching Canadian Football League (CFL) football is also a current joy and way of relaxing.

He also fell in love with motorcycles and bought his first machine at twelve with help from his mother. Although riding was a hobby, it gradually morphed into his first career. He started out by racing and repairing motorcycles. He then went into sales, opened a small store and eventually became a store manager of Honda dealerships in Saskatchewan. His career took him to BC in 1986 where he initially managed a Honda Store at Granville Island in Vancouver and later others in Courtney and Nanaimo. Yamaha, Suzuki and Ducati were other brands that he was involved with in the business.

Although he was successful in his work, he felt something was missing. He went through a rough patch in his mid-thirties and attended a weekend session of the Order of St. Luke's at Mt. Washington that was focused on healing. He took his first communion and the experience that weekend changed the direction of his life. His faith is based on the Holy Spirit, biblical guidance and today by living by A Rule of Life involving daily prayer, reading, stewardship and practice. Lon knows that he is not at all perfect and like all of us falls short. One of his favorite phrases is: "That there is a God and I am not it!" He enjoys and continues to explore Celtic Christianity and its ties to creation.

He studied at the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad in Saskatoon and has two degrees, a Master of Divinity and a Bachelor of Theology. In his calling to ordained ministry, he trained in an intercultural setting

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Parishioner Profile *continued*

by overseeing a rural parish in Belize. He came back to BC in 2006 and took on the Curacy at St. Paul's, Nanaimo for the standard two years.

He followed this by being appointed as a Chaplain for five years in the BC Correctional system, serving and training first at the Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Center and later full time at the Nanaimo Correctional Center. It was a pretty hectic schedule. He was one of the Spiritual Persons with the founders of the Therapeutic Treatment Center, a recovery center in the jail system to help men start on a path of recovery while they are incarcerated. This program grew and is running well today. His call to the chaplaincy in prisons came out of volunteerism he had done as a lay person and a strong sense of working with the marginalized and trying to bring God into difficult settings. The Gospel call "you visited me when I was in prison" rang true for Lon. He also deeply recognizes the impact that crime, drugs, and abuse of alcohol have. He therefore felt that by working with inmates in rehabilitation we can ultimately make safer communities.

During this period, he also took on the position of Interim Priest at St. Phillips, Cedar, which was to be one day a week, but turned into a half-time job. He realized that he felt more fulfilled working within a parish rather than in the jail system and that becoming a parish priest was what he was called to do.

Marian grew up in Vancouver, the youngest of four girls, with parents who were life-long Anglicans. She trained as a nurse at Royal Jubilee Hospital. Upon graduating she moved to Nanaimo with her family and worked in recovery floor surgical nursing and later in the endoscopy unit. She served as a nurse for over forty years.

Lon and Marian met at an Alpha course. They were both lay people. Many of the participants of their small group (that Lon facilitated) continued to meet in a bible study group, became a close-knit social circle and are still friends today. During this period, Lon became attracted to Marian because of her genuine caring nature, her real and deep faith and her great smile. When Lon and Marian were dating seriously, Marian, an introvert by nature, questioned whether she could manage being the wife of a minister. She surprised herself by accepting immediately when he proposed to her and the rest is history. They married in 2004 and have just celebrated their 14th anniversary.

Marian found that she was not comfortable taking on leadership roles in the church. She is very proud of Lon and sees her role as supporting him in his Ministry and can do that best by being an active parishioner. In St. Peter and St. Paul, where they have come from, she has participated in the prayer shawl ministry, attends bible studies and other events and is often willing to lend a hand or do a bit of baking.



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Parishioner Profile *continued*



And I expect she is a good baker given the luscious blueberry cake I enjoyed at their lovely home in View Royal! Marian reads scripture in worship and administrates chalice. She will ease slowly into schedules in Central Saanich as she works out her personal worship pattern.

In April of 2011 Lon was appointed as rector of the new parish of St. Peter and St. Paul that joined congregations from several churches. Initially this was quite a challenge, but gradually things fell into place as new members joined and helped the parish to mature.

Currently Lon is involved in several Diocesan committees and ministries. He was involved with the Truth and Reconciliation Hearings in Victoria; he co-chairs the Reconciliation and Beyond Team in the diocese and is a member of Aboriginal Neighbours. He is particularly interested in broader reconciliation in the community. In 2014 he was appointed as an Archdeacon of the Diocese with responsibility for the Selkirk Region. He steps aside as Archdeacon as of September 30, the end of Synod, to free some of his time to focus on the Parish of Central Saanich and because of the geographical move into the Haro Region.

Lon and Marian have six grown children from former marriages, and four much loved grandchildren. They also cater to a most relaxed Rag Doll cat, named Aquarius that barely made a move the whole time I visited. They enjoy entertaining their friends. Lon barbecues and I suspect that Marian does a lot of the rest of the organization! Lon is an avid reader, not only of books on theology, but also thrillers, history and current affairs.

They share a strong interest in travel and have had some quite wonderful trips. Highlights include Italy and Spain where they loved walking down Las Ramblas in Barcelona; Peru, including Cuzco and a trip down the tributary of the Amazon River; snorkeling with sea turtles in the Galapagos Islands; Machu Pichu; two trips to Iona and a few days in Iceland on a return trip from Scotland. When I asked what were the most memorable, both agreed that the view on one part of the road up to Machu Pichu literally took their breath away, and the sight of a rainbow over a waterfall in Iceland compelled them to sing How Great Thou Art!

We have become used to our Interim Priest, Peter arriving in a swirl of dust on his bicycle and were expecting to see Lon roar up on his motorcycle. “Not likely”, says Marian, who as a retired nurse is concerned about the safety of riding a motorcycle. Lon says that to get Marian on a motorcycle, he would have to buy a Honda Goldwing model that costs in the range of \$30,000 new, not exactly what he had in mind. Marian just smiles. Lon hopes one of these days to get a small motorcycle to change up the commute. He currently owns an old Can Am dirt bike that is a bit of a collector’s item and is in perfect condition.

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Parishioner Profile *continued*

Looking forward, Lon wants people to know that this is the only position he applied for when he made the decision that it was time to move on. He felt called to our Parish. He is planning to continue his commitment to life-long learning by taking a Doctorate in Ministry via primarily distance and contextual education. This is a new three-year program that is both academic and practical, as it will be integrated with work at the Parish level. He will attend the college and or other off-site locations a few times each year for short periods.

We look forward to welcoming Lon and Marian to our Parish.

Summer Camp

by Ken Pedlow



From July 30th until August 3rd a Summer Day Camp for children aged 4 to 12 was held at St. Stephen's Church. The theme for the program was "One of Us" - Jesus is Born. This was a program of Bible stories, games, crafts and more put on by a team from Crosstalk Ministries in Montreal. They were assisted by Camp Coordinator, Dave Shields and his group of volunteers who provided refreshments and logistical support for the camp. The camp was five days long and ran from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm each day.

The camp taught about the birth of Jesus and the children made a jesse tree with ornaments to remind them of the lineage of Jesus. They also made advent calendars with 31 scriptures that tell the gospel of Jesus. The 25 children in attendance had a valuable experience and a good time was had by all. On the last day of the camp, Friday August 3rd a service was held at 4:00 pm at St. Stephen's to bring the camp to a close.

Funding for this camp was provided by St. Stephen's and also a contribution from the Vision Funds of the Diocese. Costs included bringing the team out to Victoria and advertising in local media. Although a lot of work was required to put this camp on, the success in the end was well worth the effort. Our Sunday School teachers, Katherine and Marianne worked with the two team leaders, KC and Kalven, from Crosstalk Ministries. Also, two of our own young youth leaders, Rosalia (14) and Shane (13), gained experience as youth leaders. For several of the kids this was their first exposure to Christianity.

August 12, 2018



St Stephen's Annual Blessing of the Animals was again a huge success. A total of 91 attendees and their pets had a really good time.

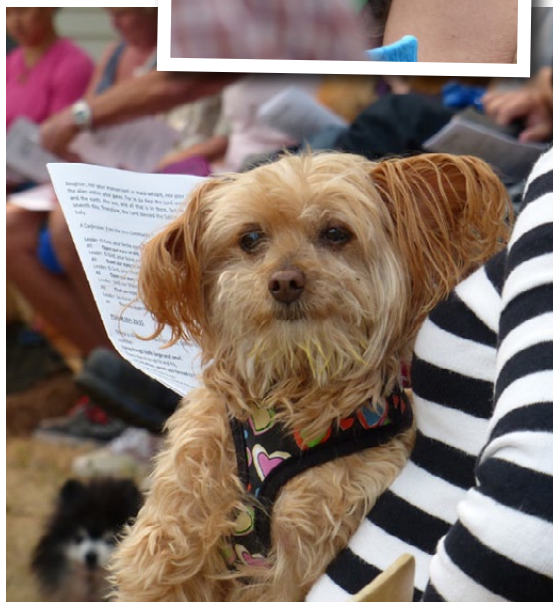
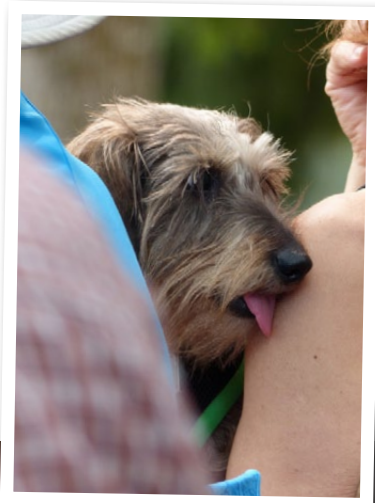
We had four clergy involved in the blessing of our fellow members of God's good creation, including our own Rev. Peter Parker and Rev. Brett Cane, the Venerable Penelope Kingham from Holy Trinity, and Father Thomas from Our Lady of Assumption.

There were numerous people involved in setting up chairs, tents and doing all the other odd jobs that go with this event. Brett was our MC and the music was provided by 12 O'clock Rock, (the Praise Band plus one from St. Elizabeth).

A huge thank you to everyone for an incredible job getting everything organized and promoting and staging it all. This included in particular Al Gerenser who was responsible for the vast majority of organizing and planning, as well as Greg Robinson and Peter Simpson plus a number of volunteers from St Mary's and The Pacific Animal Therapy Society.

Attendance:

- 1 Hamster, 1 Mouse,
- 1 Rabbit, 3 Cats,
- 3 Guinea Pigs,
- 4 Priests, 5 Band members,
- 6 Volunteers,
- 35 Dogs,
- 91 Peeps.



Outline and Highlights of my 2018 Spring/Summer Trip



Taking the waters in Spa Town Karlovy Vary, Czechia

Lake of Fire, São Miguel Island, Azores



Pena Palace

Dear friends in the Parish of Central Saanich,

Many, many thanks for all your prayers for me once again, during this year's 115-day trip, March 31-July 23. I am going to follow a similar reporting format to what I used in previous years.

Outline of trip: I visited (or at least set foot in!) 15 different countries, slept in 38 different beds, and flew on 19 different flights! The purpose of the trip was two-fold:

Ministry

- Helping lead, for the fifth time, the tour of the Holy Land for students of the Bristol theological colleges where I served from 2012-2015.
- Showing slides and addressing a church group in the UK.
- Preaching at and leading two Sunday services at St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 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, the Ukraine and the UK/Europe.
- Sight-seeing trips (notably 3 islands during the transatlantic voyage, Lisbon, England, Sicily, Southern Germany, Czechia, Poland and Switzerland).

Highlights

- **Transatlantic voyage:** the reason my trip was longer this year was that I decided to cross the Atlantic by boat! The 13-day trip on a Spanish cruise liner stopped at two islands in the Caribbean and one in the Azores. It was very relaxing and enjoyable as well as a great opportunity to visit some very interesting places on the way.
- **Tour of Lisbon and environs:** I made landfall in Portugal and was delighted with my tours of of Lisbon and the nearby coastal towns, including the amazing fantasy castle of Pena Palace.
- **(Re)Discovering Magdala in Galilee:** Our annual tour of the Holy Land was one of the best yet and we made an exciting discovery of recent excavations at Magdala (where Mary Magdalene came from), buried for 1900 years but recently uncovered to reveal the ruins of a very prosperous and devout town (in contrast to the poorer and less

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Cane's Corner *continued*



Magdala



University town of Tübingen, Germany, on the River Neckar



Above: The restored "Zwinger" in Dresden



Right: Magnets of rebuilt Market Square Houses, Warsaw

impressive Capernaum) thus supporting Biblical testimony to Mary as one of the women from Galilee who were able to support Jesus and the disciples out of their own funds (Luke 8:2).

- **Teaching at St. Frumentius College, Gambella:** I was once again very conscious of people's prayer for me during this week of intensive teaching on "Anglican Studies." There were over thirty full-time students and clergy. In spite of the high temperatures (35 degrees) 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 – my course received a very high rating, apparently! Last year, I managed to get through half of my material and I intended to complete the other half this year – but only got through half of the half! So, I have been invited back to finish the course next year. After that, it will be offered again as a three-year course and rebranded to appeal to members of other churches as it is felt that my material was of value to more than just Anglicans!
- **Touring in Central Europe and Spa Week:** I enjoyed traveling with a friend to see medieval walled towns and Baroque palaces along the "Romantische Strasse" in Southern Germany followed by a week in the Spa town of Karlovy Vary in Czechia. I don't know if my arthritic knees are any better but I did enjoy "taking the waters" and walking around the streets and parks of this stylish town. This was followed by visits to Dresden and cities in Poland where city centres have been amazingly reconstructed after extensive damage in World War II.
- **Visit to Auschwitz:** I took a side trip from Krakow in Poland to visit this infamous site – one of Hitler's death camps. It was very moving and I noted that, even though there were thousands of people touring the site, there was very little conversation as we witnessed the exhibits of inmates' personal belongings and the buildings where 1,300,000 had been incarcerated and brutally treated and the gas chambers where 1,100,000 of them had died, of whom 90% were Jews.

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:

- Transatlantic trip and Portugal
- Germany, Czechia and Switzerland
- Poland (including Auschwitz)

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Cane's Corner *continued*



"Cathedral Island",
in Oder River,
Wroclaw, Poland

Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp – the entrance for trainloads of thousands taken to their deaths

A showing of the latter will take place before and after "Soup's On" at St. Stephen's on Friday, September 21. If anyone would like to host another event 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 a full rest of Summer and Fall, including visiting and ministering near home and further afield in North America - I will be in Winnipeg and Montreal (including leading a men's retreat there) at the end of October.

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

Recipe Page

Watermelon, Feta Cheese, Red Onion and Black Olive Salad

Recipe from Nancy Choat

The title pretty-well sums up what goes into this refreshing summer salad.

- Cut up chunks of watermelon. Any amount will do.
- Crumble up lots of feta cheese over the watermelon.
- Add a few spoonfuls of drained black Kalamata olives to the above.
- Thinly slice a small red onion and mix in.
- Mix the above ingredients and let them stand for a few hours (in the fridge) before serving.

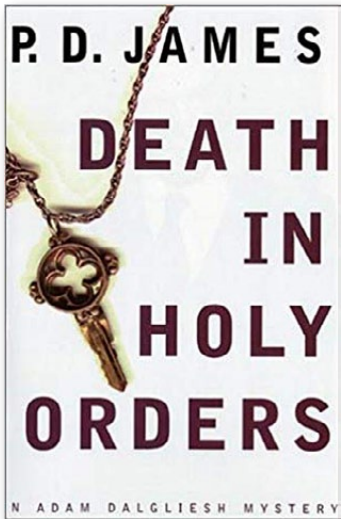
The nice thing about this refreshing salad is you can delete any of the ingredients you don't care for and still have a nice salad that literally goes with anything. And NO dressing is required!

Note: as the juice from the watermelon will accumulate in the bottom of the bowl, it is best to serve it with a slotted spoon.



Death in Holy Orders

by P.D. James



P.D. James writes in her autobiography “Time to be in Earnest” that she regards herself as a Christian and is a communicant member of the Church of England, although she has difficulty with some theological doctrines and could hardly claim to be a good Christian. So we should not be surprised that in her 11th Adam Dalgliesh mystery, “Death in Holy Orders”, she chooses St Anselm’s, an isolated Anglo-Catholic theological college on England’s East Anglian coast, as her setting. Archdeacon Crampton visits one weekend along with a pair of visiting academics, and a policeman on the verge of a breakdown. The Archdeacon feels strongly that he has a duty to close down the college. It is expensive to maintain, is remote, has only twenty carefully selected students, is elitist, in short it is an example of everything that is wrong with the Church of England. And he says so in his homily at Compline on Saturday evening. Within a few hours he is dead.

“St Anselm’s was part of the world. The students might be ordinands and their teachers’ priests, but they were still men. The college might stand in defiant symbolic isolation between the sea and acres of unpopulated headland, but the life within its walls was intense, tightly controlled, claustrophobic. What emotions might not flourish in that hothouse atmosphere?” Commander Adam Dalgliesh, son of a Norfolk rector, had spent several happy summers at St Anselm’s as a boy and feels comfortable being back at the college. The four priests/lecturers, the ordinands, as well as the other resident staff are questioned . . . and questioned again . . . and Dalgliesh and his team gradually unravel the complicated plot.

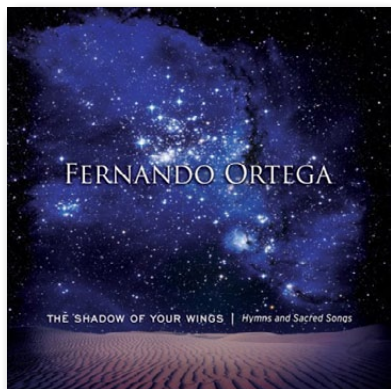
Along the way, P.D. James comments on the Church of England possibly being defunct in twenty years, and asks how we are to bring young people into the church and reconcile that with the history and mystery of the C of E. n She gets passionate about St Paul. “Somehow I can’t take St Paul. Seems to me he was a bit of a troublemaker. There were those little groups of Christians all minding their own business and getting along all right, by and large. No one’s perfect. And then St Paul arrives unexpectedly and starts bossing and criticizing. Or he’d send them one of his fierce letters. Not the kind of letter I’d care to receive. . . .”

P.D. James also includes various nuggets of wisdom: “What is truth?” To which Dalgliesh replies, “It’s my job to make an arrest. The jury decide on guilt or innocence; the judge sentences.” “And the result is justice?” “Not always. Perhaps even not often. But in an imperfect world it may be as close to it as we can get.”

“Death in Holy Orders” works both as a murder mystery and as a complex meditation on faith, love, loyalty, vengeance and personal responsibility. Highly recommended.

The Shadow of Your Wings Hymns and Sacred Songs

by Fernando Ortega



While listening to music from one of Spotify's playlists, a beautiful voice kept coming up, urging me to search for the name of the musician. Inevitably, I found I was listening to Fernando Ortega. While investigating him further, I was surprised to hear an instrumental piece which was the Common Doxology. Of course, I was then delighted to find he had become a member of the Anglican Church, although currently belonging to an Evangelical Free Church. While some of his music is liturgical, it also contains elements of Folk, Classical, Celtic, Latin American World and rustic hymnody (according to Wikipedia.) All of his work is deeply moving.

Fernando Ortega is the product of eight generations of family from Chimaya, New Mexico. The more I discovered about him, the more I liked him as a person. He speaks and writes honestly about his journey and struggles with faith, subsequently echoed in the lyrics. Understandably, he strongly dislikes the label of being called a "Contemporary Christian Musician." The music he writes and sings soars eminently beyond those narrow confines. Not all joy and praise, his music is reflective, contemplative, and conflictingly emotional. He said in an interview "Just because a song doesn't mention God, doesn't mean it isn't influenced by Christian thought."

"The Shadow of His Wings/Hymns and Sacred Songs" is a compilation of music styles. Some of the arrangements are written to scripture: 2Thessalonians 1:2, 1Peter 1:24-25, Psalm 95. The beautifully written piece for Psalm 19:14 is the song which first drew me.

May these words of my mouth and this
meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight,
Lord my Rock and my Redeemer.

It is a soft piece, sweetly lulling and comforting.

Ortega accompanies himself on the piano, along with Ron Block playing guitar, among other artists. Strings are played by the Turtle Island String Quartet. There is a lovely instrumental piece on the album, "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" which was written for piano and oboe.

The all over feel of this CD, produced in 2006, is calming, peaceful and softly inspirational. While he has produced many more recent and wonderful albums, "The Shadow of Your Wings" is an excellent introduction to his music and available on Amazon.

Around the Parish by Margery (St. Stephen's) & Nancy (St. Mary's)

As we look back on this amazing summer we've had, some of us found it a bit too warm to be comfortable while others "escaped" the heat and spent the time elsewhere. Where ever you've spent this summer, Margery and Nancy have kept two sets of eyes and ears on what's been happening here in the Parish and would like to share some of it with you.

The most important and exciting news is we will be welcoming a new rector, Lon Towstego and his wife, Marian, as well as saying goodbye to our interim rector, Peter Parker at the end of August and the beginning of September. Their messages can be found elsewhere in this edition of *ConneXion* but a combined service and farewell reception was held at St Mary's on Peter's last Sunday with us. (August 26th). We wish Peter all the best and give him our thanks and blessings for being our interim priest for almost a year. Reverend Lon's first Sunday is September 2nd.

The Parish of Central Saanich made itself known by having a float in two holiday parades: one being Brentwood Bay days, Saturday June 2 and the other being the celebration of Canada Day in the Sidney Parade, July 1st. Our rector even gave a reprieve from attending church to those parishioners who wished to participate in the July 1st parade. Many thanks go to Rachel Moss and her crew for making both these events such a success. The weather cooperated, and each parade was well attended. We can only imagine the amount of work that goes into not only decorating the floats that carried the musicians but the also the organization it took to get the sound equipment and instruments etc. along with the decorations to their proper destination. Well done Rachel and a big Thank You to all who participated in performing both on and off the float. If memory serves us, this the third year the Parish has participated in these parades? What a great Outreach.

Welcome Back Brett! As was quoted in the Service Bulletin: "The Parish has missed you, prayed for you and now gives thanks you have returned safely". After being away for over three months and travelling in 35° C heat (I guess we can't complain about our heat here back home), he returned to take the Sunday service at both churches August 5th (while Peter and his wife were away with the family celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary, which actually doesn't take place until September 7th). Brett mentioned that he travelled to half of the half of the places he didn't cover in his last trip with still more to come! Stay tuned!



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Around the Parish *continued*



A very successful Strawberry Tea and Historical Fashion Show was held on Saturday June 16 from 1 to 4 pm at St Stephen's. Tours of the church, led by Norma Sealey, were held prior to the 80 patrons who enjoyed fancy sandwiches and strawberry shortcake (and tea of course!) while watching a fashion show that gave us a history (literally) of Canada through the Victorian and Edwardian eras. A silent auction table as well as door prizes were also part of the event. Decorations were based on the Victorian theme with fancy cups and saucers and embroidered table cloths decorating the 40 plus tables. Della Garvin performed her magic with exquisite old fashion floral table centres using the colourful cups and saucers. It certainly was a Parish effort as the sandwiches and strawberry shortcake were made and served by a great team of parishioners from both churches. Norma provided her famous asparagus and cream cheese sandwiches and helped out in the kitchen along with Diana Abbott, Susan Pullan and Catherine Wing, while Nancy Choat and Lynda Clifford made the short cakes. The strawberries were at their peak and purchased from Mitchell Farms, thanks to Sandra Scarth. Sandra Scarth and Lynda Clifford came up with the idea as a fund raiser for St Stephen's and St Mary's stepped in to help out. Well worth the time and effort as it brought in a of over \$2,000.

On June 26 a Stewardship workshop was held at Holy Trinity church for the Haro Region. It was one of three seminars in locations across Vancouver Island to introduce the diocese to the National Stewardship Program entitled, "giving our thanks and praise". The Diocese of British Columbia has adopted this resource and will be using it as part of a diocesan-wide stewardship program beginning in the Fall 2018. This workshop is designed to orient parish wardens and treasurers to the new resource and develop an action plan to begin or build on an existing stewardship program in the parish. About 50 people from various churches in the Haro Region attended the two hour session. The parish of Central Saanich was well represented with Derek Osman, Lynda Clifford, Nancy Choat, Ian Stewart and Leslie Pedlow attending.

Throughout the summer there have been several sightings of parishioners attending the concerts at Butchart Gardens during July and August, including: Brett Crane, Susan Alexander, Jessie Kelly, Heather Geddes, Nancy Choat, Jenny Jenner, Susan Pullan, Diana Abbott, Catherine Wing. You never know where you're going to find members of the Parish of Central Saanich. Someone said we should have cards to pass out to people we talk to at such events!

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Around the Parish *continued*



St Stephen's and St Mary's churches have each received a limited edition of a print commissioned by the Diocese of BC by Indigenous artist, Frank Nelson. Frank wrote this about the print:

“Within all First Nations cultures we have been provided with gifts from the Creator. The houses of killer whale, raven, wolf and eagle dictate our discipline in our life and demands that the Creator makes of us to maintain integrity, respect, honour and humility. We are not to place ourselves over and above anybody; we are all the same— children of God”. The design, in the shape of a house front, depicting four clans of the North Coast people, is symbolic of all creation, suffused with the life of God. The house is the house of Christ, made up of all and diverse people of God — a strong house serving our chief, the Christ. Frank Nelson was born on Gilford Island and was a member of the Musgamag Tsawataineuk Tribe of Kingcome Inlet. Chief Frank Nelson died in 2016. Each church will choose where they wish to hang the framed print, but because the design of the print is in the shape of a house front, it would preferably be placed over a doorway to symbolize entering the House of Christ.

News from St. Stephen's



St Stephen's was the perfect location for a very successful Day Camp, held July 30th to August 3rd . Dave Shields, who coordinated the camp, along with the volunteers and the Crosstalk Ministries team from Montreal deserve a huge amount of credit. See more details elsewhere in *ConneXion*.

Dave has also been kept busy weed whacking the acreage while Dianne Abbott continued to do her “oh so straight lines” mowing on the ride on mower while Deb Butler and Carol Peaker weeded the garden beds. What a team. And not to be outdone, Don Wilson has harvested his famous garlic crop, which is reported to be a whopping amount this year. Should be great for the Garlic Dinner in November.

Exciting News: Brad and Kim Watson (remember their wedding last year?) are expecting a bundle of joy in November. Congratulations!

Word has it that Eva Townsend is wanting to make some pies so if anyone has been black-berry picking and would like to donate some to her, Eva will do the rest.

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News from St. Mary's



Mitchell Beauvais, 2018 recipient of the First Nations Bursary



Liam Paul, 2017 recipient of the First Nations Bursary. See page 19

An apology to Pat Stanlake for incorrectly referring to her cat as Mrs. Bradley in the last issue of *ConneXion*, when in fact her name is Mrs. Bennett. Alison Stewart finally had successful hip surgery on June 29 and at the time of writing, has been pain free and doing remarkably well, according to husband David. Hip Hip Hurray! Rachel McMenamie's marriage in late August was held outdoors on a farm on Oldfield Rd. When I asked Marcia, the bride's mother, where it was being held, she said: "Under a tree somewhere near here"! Her father, Bishop Logan presided, and her two young sons and daughter were her "attendants". How charming could that service have been with smiles all around?

On June 28, on behalf of St Mary's, Nancy Choat and Fern and Mark Perkins presented Mitchell Beauvais, a First Nations graduate from Stelly's with a letter congratulating him on being awarded the \$1,000 First Nations Bursary. At the Awards Ceremony held at Stelly's High School, along with the letter, Fern and Mark presented him with a Metis sash and gift blanket, "to honour your great accomplishment, and symbolizing your maturation and transition from childhood." The gift blanket represents the Métis symbol of community, ceremony and survival.

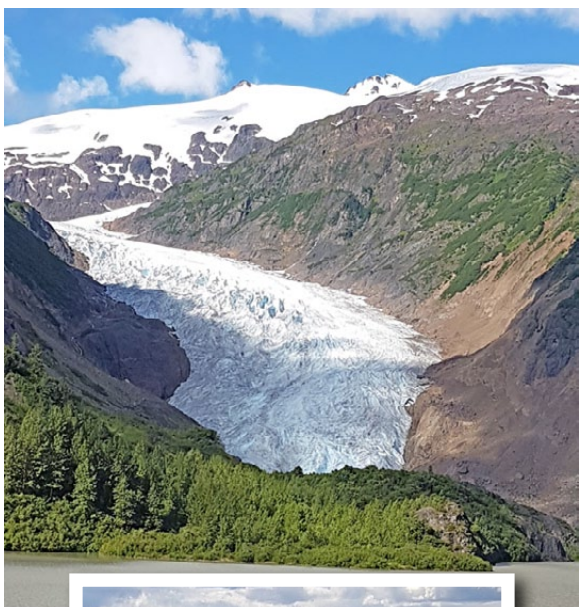
In applying for the \$1,000 Bursary, what follows is some of what Mitch wrote: "I have been accepted to the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Victoria, where I will pursue a Major Study in Visual Arts and a Minor Study in Film Studies. Aspiring to study Visual Arts feels natural to me. I have always felt that I did not choose art, that art chose me. I enjoy visualizing a message or moment in time and conceptualizing how to put my vision into work that is communicative to others. An example is the 19-foot mural in the band room at Stellys that I painted. It was commissioned by the Music Program and art teachers and celebrates the music program while honouring First Nations culture. I was honoured to accept this project as I am of Metis ancestry and leave a legacy of my talents at my high school. When not attending school, working at Thrifty Foods Saanichton (since 2016) or attending Cadets (since the age of 12), I have made time to give back to my community, volunteering at the Keating School Spring Fair, the Rotary Club Casino Night and the Rotary Club food trailer at the Saanich Fair. I have also assisted junior cadets with special instruction (outside the Cadet program) for the past 6 years. While I study at university these next four years, I will continue to immerse myself in opportunities to work and

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volunteer in the community, specifically with youth. By doing so, I hope to discover where I can apply my strengths, skills and abilities that will lead me to an appropriate career choice.” Note: Photo availableb

Then, on Sunday July 29, a cheque for \$1,000 was presented to Liam Paul, last year’s recipient at the Stelly’s Award Ceremony, at the 9am service. Nancy Choat and Fern Perkins did the presentation, with Nancy providing some back-ground information about the First Nations Bursary.

Travels



Scenes from the Baillie’s Yukon trip

The Robinsons (St Stephen’s) went to Edmonton to attend a wedding while Bob and Charlotte Nichols did some travelling in Eastern Canada. Bob Quicke took some time off to attend a week-long course at Regent College. The Fallans (St Mary’s) decided to stay in Canada this year and spent time in Newfoundland, then flew to Montreal for a few days, then took the train to Ottawa and to Waterloo, visiting family, before flying home. And they were no sooner home from that holiday, when Len and Lynn took off again to Parksville for their annual family get together in August. Roy and Susan Pullan (St Mary’s) also spent time in Parksville attending their grand daughter’s wedding. Diane and Tim Hackett (St Stephen’s) enjoyed holidaying in Leon, France and Italy for five weeks. Nick and Katie & Hugo – Di’s kids - visited them in Italy as did a couple from here. They spent three weeks in a villa with a swimming pool, which Diane tells me “was my delicious pleasure”. I bet.

And here’s an account of Lynda Clifford’s visit to the Maritimes and Montreal with her two granddaughters in August: “We have a few days in Halifax when we plan to visit Hope for Wildlife, you may have seen it on TV, animal rescue Center. So, a little R ‘n R time before we join a tour for 10 days; then the Bay of Fundy, PEI, Cape Breton, Fortress of Louisbourg, Peggy Cove and around Halifax, then to Montreal for an overnight just to break it up and then home. Be gone two weeks, about now I am thinking I am nuts, but I hope it is a good time for all. I sure hope the weather is decent though. Rather deal with wet swim suits and not wet shoes! I am looking forward to seeing Pier 21 too. My son went a few years ago, as I never thought I would get there, felt good he had been, but now I get the chance! I don’t remember much as I was only four years. but there are bits I do recall.” You have to love the way Lynda “tells it as it is”.

Bob and Barb Baillie (St Mary’s) decided to take a trip in their van to northern BC and the Yukon. Barb said it was amazing and she had no idea what a large province BC is! Nothing like taking to the road to really see the sights.

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich Directory

Pastor: Rev. Lon Towstego 250-208-9949 ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca

Parish Council: Ex Officio

Rev. Lon Towstego

Bishop's Warden:

Greg Robinson gregoryrobinson@shaw.ca

People's Wardens: St. Mary's

Derek Osman, derek.osman@shaw.ca

St. Stephen's

Ian Stuart, istuart1@mac.com

Lynda Clifford, lgcliff@shaw.ca

Members:

St. Mary's

Karen McColm, Ken Pedlow

St. Stephen's

Allan Carlson, Dave Shields

Synod Delegates:

St. Mary's

Nancy Choat, David Stewart, Ken Pedlow (alt)

St. Stephen's

Don Wilson, Greg Robinson (alt)

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