CONNEXION

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Central Saanich



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



Number 29

December 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 three months.

- December 1st: Saanichton Village Association Breakfast with Santa at St. Mary's 9:00 11:00 am and Saanichton Community Christmas Event in the Village 9:30 am 1:00 pm.
- Bible Study 'Jesus The New Way'. A video study by Bishop N T Wright. Wednesday, December 5, 12 and 19 at St Mary's at 11:00 am. Thursday, December 6, 13 and 20 at St Stephen's at 7:00 pm.
- December 8th: Children's Craft Afternoon at St Mary's Church Hall from 2:00 4:00 pm.
- December 9th: Soundings Vocal Ensemble at St Mary's at 2:30 pm.
- Christmas hamper activities: **December 12th** assembly and wrapping and **December 16th** delivery.
- December 23rd: Service of Lessons and Carols at St Mary's at 9:00 am. Children's Pageant & Communion with the Praise Team at St Stephen's at 11:00 am.
- December 23rd: A Child's Christmas in Wales at St Mary's at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm.
- **December 24th**: Christmas Story & Family Communion at St Stephen's at 4:00 pm.

Christmas Eve Holy Communion at St Stephen's at 7:00 pm. Christmas Eve Holy Communion at St Mary's at 9:00 pm.

- December 25th: Christmas Day Holy Communion at St Mary's at 10:00 am.
- **December 30th**: Holy Communion at St Mary's at 9:00 am. Service of Lessons and Carols at St Stephen's at 11:00 am.
- January 11th: 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.
- January 13th and February 10th: The monthly contemplative Services in the Style of Taize will resume at 7:00 pm in St. Mary's.
- Saturday, January 26th: St. Mary's Thrift Shop 9:30 Noon.
- February 2nd, 2:00 pm: Induction Service for Rev. Lon Towstego at St. Mary's.
- **February 17, 2019**: Annual General Meeting of the Parish of Central Saanich; 10:00 am Joint service at St Mary's, meeting to follow after a lunch break.



Saanichton Community Christmas Saturday, December 1, 9am (St Mary's) Begin at St. Mary's with a pancake breakfast and have your picture taken with Santa. Then enjoy the festivities throughout Saanichton.

Children's Craft Afternoon • Saturday, December 8, 2:00 pm to 4:00pm (St Mary's). Children aged approximately 3 to 10. Parents welcome to stay. Refreshments, Christmas sing along. Bring along an item for the Food Bank

Soundings Vocal Ensemble • Sunday, December 9, 2:30pm (St Mary's) See reverse side for ticket information

Lessons & Carols • Sunday, December 23, 9:00am (St Mary's)

Children's Pageant & Communion • Sunday, December 23, 11:00am (St Stephen's)

A Child's Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas - Sunday, December 23, 2:30pm and 7:30pm.

Presented by Vox Humana Chamber Choir Doors open 45 minutes before each performance Entry by donation (St Mary's)

Christmas Story & Family Communion Monday, December 24, 4pm (St Stephen's) Designed for all ages, but especially families with young children

Continued on reverse side

From the Pastor's Pen



"We must make our homes centers of compassion and forgive endlessly."

Pastoral Care

We usually end our worship services with sending words like: "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord."

What does our service to God look like? Why do we do it? How do we stay accountable to each other and to the larger church family?

We all have different gifts and we will talk more about that as the new church year begins and we walk through a time in Luke's Gospel. There are two distinct and slightly differing possibilities of how we might live this out. One is to look within our own church family and serve and care for each other. The other is to look outward into God's world and seek ways to be the light of Christ in the world. The two are mutually dependent on each other and are equally important. To do the outward work well, we need to have our spiritual batteries charged regularly and be cared for and care for others through celebrations, difficulties and opportunities. This article is about Pastoral Care.

As clergy we are trained in Pastoral Care and we bring some skill sets that are helpful. One of the guiding books for me has been a small, simple book called "The Ministry of Listening" by Donald Peal. It is available at https://tinyurl.com/yae8c6zn and or I have one copy that I am happy to lend around.

An important factor to understand is that it is not only the ordained that are involved with pastoral care. Laity add to and enhance the role of clergy in Pastoral Care in unique and important ways.

What is Pastoral Care? Mother Teresa said, "we must make our homes centers of compassion and forgive endlessly."¹

Scripture tells us in Matthew 22:36-40 "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? He said to him, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

This tells us to begin by first looking within ourselves and our relationship with God. We then look within our closest family circle and seek wholeness, restoration and forgiveness of self and others. This process prepares us and makes us ready to care for others. We will never be perfect, but we prayerfully listen to God and other people around us to know when we are able to serve.

Pastoral Care of others in our church family begins by agreeing with the model of family, for our church community. We are the body of Christ and the size of our parish allows "family like" interactions and life together.

¹ "A Gift for God, Prayers and Meditations,1975, Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Pastoral Care Team

Mike Dyer: 250-656-1527 mijos@shaw.ca

Margery Lord: 250-655-8967 mlord1939@shaw.ca

Rainy Macleod: macleodErin@outlook.com

Patricia Winters: 250-544-1625 winterscarter@hotmail.ca

Eva Townsend: 250-652-3007 richardtownsend@telus.net

If you have physical or spiritual concerns, please contact one of your team members. If you cannot reach a team member or feel the need to connect with clergy, please call or email the Rector at 250-208-9949 or ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca We recognize that not all families are functional or have great relationships. We are all "wounded healers" and really need to do our own work to become ready to offer help to others. We need self-awareness and understanding in order to keep our own issues from interfering. Having an accountability circle where we can debrief and do the self-care necessary to stay healthy is very helpful.

Our primary role in pastoral care for others is to listen, listen, listen. We often want to jump in and fix and diagnose or too quickly offer our own story. Usually people in need or crisis are keenest to tell their own story. We are all involved in Pastoral Care by simply staying in touch with each other and deepening friendships. The parish has named some particular people, some of whom have been already part of the team and some who are new. The team will be commissioned on December 2. As your parish priest, I have prayerfully considered the people who have been asked and have agreed to be on this team. I will work closely with the team.

Pastoral care happens in homes, in hospital rooms, coffee shops and elsewhere. As an organized Pastoral Care Team in our parish, it is my hope that they can be able to hear of the spiritual and physical needs of people. We then can decide how best to respond in each specific situation. The role of the team is not to be there instead of the clergy, but as well as and in conjunction with me. If you feel the need to see or talk to me specifically, I will do all that I can to be available. Also, if you are seeing a Pastoral Care Team member and feel at some point that you would like me involved, you can simply ask the team member. The concept is to offer more depth and improve the possibility to better care for each other.

Some of the team members are already trained and qualified. Others will be trained soon. All have or will have Criminal Record Checks complete and Safe Church qualification. We are arranging with Marcia McMenamie, our Diocesan Safe Church Coordinator, a specific Safe Church Session for this group in the new year.

Our team members are dedicated and want to offer care, prayer and thoughtful input. Please reach out as you wish. Our two parish office admin people, Leslie and Bob, can continue to be liaison people, or you can call or email any team member directly. We will always treat your inquiries with respect, confidentiality and treat you with dignity and grace.

Pastoral Care done well is being a friend and yet much more. We also have emergency prayer teams at St. Mary and St. Stephen.

When would you ask for Pastoral Care? If you are lonely, hurting, sick, hospitalized, isolated or experience a loss or major change within your family. If you are unsure, please ask.

You will find the list of our current Pastoral Care Team members and their contact information on the left.

Thank-you.

Parishioner Profile: Jackie Kolson



The wedding day



The grandchilden a few years ago

first got to know Jackie at St. Stephen's when she was a new warden and have come to admire her quiet, steady manner in challenging times. She is a good listener and a compassionate responder. She says she was terrified when she first became warden, as she had no experience and kind of "fell into the job!" Modesty is her hallmark.

Of Irish/Scottish background, Jackie was born September 1946 in Winnipeg where her father was attending the University of Manitoba. "I was supposed to arrive a boy and be named Jack, but quickly became Jacqueline." She met her sister Carolle who was 361 days older and has never let her forget that they are the same age for four days! When her father graduated from the University in 1949, he re-enlisted as an officer with the Royal Canadian Navy.

The family was shipped off to Victoria where Jackie's younger sister Margaree (named after a ship) was born in 1951. Another September baby. Like most other navy families, Victoria was the first of many postings. In the span of 20 years, the family moved to Montreal, San Francisco, Ottawa, Quebec, Halifax and back to Victoria in 1965. Jackie ended up graduating from two different high schools and repeating a grade due to the different educational standards between provinces.

In 1966 she started her first year of higher education at the University of Victoria. The following year, her father retired, but was offered a government job in Ottawa, so Jackie started her second year at Carlton University. "It was 1967 – Canada's 100th Birthday, so it was an exciting time to be in our country's capital." Good at mathematics, she thought she might aim at an accounting career. That dream was cut short in August of that year when her dad was diagnosed with cancer and died in November. Her mother decided to move back to Victoria where there was more family support and Jackie decided to put university on hold and find a job.

They were living in Esquimalt and while having a cup of coffee at the Tudor Lunch, Jackie was hired on the spot by the manager when he found out she was twenty-one and could take lunch orders into the Tudor Pub next door. "I had never been in a pub before and it was beyond my comfort zone, so the job lasted only three weeks." But during that time, she delivered orders in the pub to a dashing young sailor who very quickly asked her out on a date. "I didn't even know how tall he was as he was always sitting waiting for his order." She agreed to a first date and the sailor turned out to be Howie Kolson. On a later date, Howie arrived at her house and said he had a present for her. Jackie and her mother were both excited, until he opened the box to reveal a baby crocodile! Jackie and her mother shrieked and ran in two different directions! Below: Jackie's Daycare





Her mother was not at all sure about this fellow, but Howie persevered in his quest to win Jackie over. (The crocodile was given to a friend very quickly!) Ten months later, on December 7, 1968 they were married at St. Paul's Naval and Garrison Church, known today as St. Peter's & St. Paul's Anglican Church. This December will be their 50th wedding anniversary.

Howie had a very different early life. Born August 14, 1945 in Yellowknife to a Polish father and Chipewyan mother, his life changed dramatically when his father died in 1958 after a hunting accident. At that time his mother was pregnant with their eighth child. A year later his mother died, and all eight children were dispersed as no relatives could be found to take them all in. Howie, aged thirteen, ended up in a boy's home and found the life strict and loveless. He moved to a foster home when he was fifteen where life was much better. He attended Bonnie Doon High School in Edmonton and joined the Navy in 1963 at age eighteen.

In 1970 Jackie and Howie's first son Michael Charles was born, but sadly passed away a few hours later. Howie junior was born in Halifax in 1973. Their daughter Jade arrived in 1978 when they were living in Nanaimo. They ended up back in Victoria in 1979 and took up residence in Brentwood Bay. In 1981 after working in the banking field for ten years, Jackie decided to look after some of her neighbour's children so that she could stay home until Jade was at least in kindergarten.

As Jackie says, "Well, the kids just kept coming, and in 1992 I became a licensed family daycare that is still operating today!" One of the greatest blessings of this job is being available to spend so much time with her grandchildren. "I didn't know what I wanted to be when I grew up until I became a Nana!" Jade and her husband Warren have three children. Jackie says they are lovely and is so proud of their achievements. The oldest is Niah, eighteen, who has been accepted into the Canadian College of Performing Arts in Oak Bay. Jaelyn is twelve, "incredibly creative" and goalie for the Peninsula Bantam female hockey team. The youngest, Cage, is nine and is a math whiz who likes to play hockey and teach his Nana computer games. Both Niah and Jaelyn took part in the summer camps at St. Stephen's and in Parish youth groups.

Not satisfied just to run a daycare, the entrepreneurial Jackie bought a small lawn and garden business in 1995. When she was offered the contract for the maintenance of St. Stephen's cemetery, she hired her sister Carolle to help. Howie Sr. took over the management of Equinox Landscape and Garden in 2010 after retiring from both

Parishioner Profile continued





Above: Jackie and her sisters on the helicopter ride

Left: Niah



the Forces in 1991 and as Special Constable to the Legislative Assembly in 2005.

The most important things in Jackie's life are her family and her faith. She and her sisters are very different in personality, but there is a bond that keeps them connected. For many years they have met in September to have a celebration of their birthdays by doing something special. One year it was a helicopter ride. Jackie is not certain what they can do to top that one!

Jackie has many interests, both inside and outside the church. She has been involved in the prayer shawl ministry, the prayer chain, a home group and has been a lay reader for several years. At home she loves to read and do a variety of crafts. She is particularly fond of making wreaths. Howie is a real outdoorsman and loves going hunting and fishing most years somewhere on the Island.

Jackie's faith has grown over the years. She always believed in the existence of God and would often go to church on her own. She would join the choir or teach Sunday School, although she found church itself rather dry. She stopped going to church for many years until 1974. They were living in Vic West and she had a great urge to go back to church. The closest Anglican Church was St. Saviour's that was also the Anglican Renewal Centre.

That is when she renewed her faith and found that she could have a personal relationship with God." When they moved to Brentwood Bay, she trusted in God to lead them to the right church. One Sunday morning in 1979, she and the children arrived at St. Stephen's, walked into the Hall and were greeted by the Sunday School teacher who said, "We have been waiting for you." It was Eva Townsend, and the rest is history, a history Jackie says she has shared with so many wonderful Saints that have passed on and many who are still here.

It is hard to imagine St. Stephen's without Jackie, one of our current Saints!

Ministry with Refugees

A Report of the Diocesan Refugee Committee For Synod, September 2018

"... churches within the diocese and groups working with the Diocese have completed the settlement of 44 families" n the space of about four months in late 2015 - early 2016, the refugee ministry of the Diocese of British Columba changed from a group of cases that could be counted on the fingers of two hands to a significant undertaking that to date has rescued hundreds of refugees from a life of persecution, violence and death.

Prior to 2015 and the sudden worldwide awakening to the plight of millions of refugees the Diocesan Refugee Program settled approximately 3 to 5 refugee families a year. Following the September 2015 picture of the Syrian boy on a Turkish Beach there was a great Canadian outpouring of interest in supporting refugee settlement. The Diocese of British Columbia, being one of the few Vancouver Island Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAH) with the Federal Immigration and Refugee Ministry, became a vital facilitator in this humanitarian work. Working under the Diocesan SAH are groups that identify with a particular Anglican parish or combination of parishes (44 in all), those that are interfaith, including both Christian and non-Christian traditions, and those that combine members who represent faith groups and those who do not.

As a result, to date, churches within the diocese and groups working with the Diocese have completed the settlement of 44 families, (159 people, including 85 children), are working on the arrival or ongoing settlement of 27 families (81 people, including 38 children), and are awaiting the arrival of 78 more families (201 people, including 86 children). This is over 440 people to whom the Diocesan program has given and continues to give hope. Additionally, we have a waiting list of 197 further people, and receive calls every week, and occasionally every day, enquiring if we can assist others.

The majority of the work necessary to land and support refugees is done by volunteers. However, the Diocesan program is the mechanism through which this is accomplished, and is responsible for, among other things, ensuring the fitness of volunteer groups, providing necessary training, monitoring the work of the constituent groups, and the all essential direct work with the Federal Immigration and Refugee Ministry to enable the refugees to come to Canada. Much of the work of the Diocesan program is done by volunteers, however the very technical and complicated application process and monitoring is done by paid staff. It is done with ability, commitment and great faithfulness by Rebecca Siebert (Greater Victoria & the Gulf Islands) and Tony Davis (the rest of the Island). The Diocese has generously provided funding to date for these positions. In November and December of 2017 Diocesan Counsel, despite significant competing demands for resources, voted to financially support continuation of the work of these staff to the level of one full time employee.

The work of Rebecca and Tony is supported by the volunteer members of the Diocesan Refugee Committee, who, among other things help with training, developing policy, liaising with the larger community and reporting to the Diocese.

This ministry has involved the efforts of approximately 800 volunteers in 74 Constituent Groups. The Diocesan Refugee Program has become one of the Diocese's most engaging ministries, with strong ecumenical and community involvement aspects. In the face of 22.5 million refugee's worldwide our work is a drop in the bucket. But it is a very important, life giving drop to those we have been able to help.

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40-45.

Ministry with Refugees continued

The above report was written by Brian Rendell, the Bishop's Appointee to the Diocesan Refugee Committee and Rebecca Siebert, the Refugee Sponsorship Program Coordinator. The addendum below was written by Sandra Scarth, Chair, Diocesan Refugee Committee.

Our Parish, with help from six other churches have been or are supporting 16 newcomers from three families, two from Syria and one from Eritrea and Ethiopia. Thanks to all who have offered financial and other supports. This is a Ministry well worth supporting. I hope to give updates on how all the families are doing in our next issue.

Book Review

Boundless Compassion

by Joyce Rupp



he sub title of this book is 'Creating a Way of Life', which lets you know right away that it is going to be a challenging and hopefully transformative read! Joyce Rupp gives us a six-week encouraging and inspiring guide, to help us to open our hearts wide and deepen our compassion, following Jesus' example and desire for his followers.

In 190 pages Joyce covers a lot of ground, as she describes her own experience of growing in compassion, "recognizing the dignity and worth of every person – regardless of race, gender, culture, creed, political stance, or personal behavior. The light of divinity dwells within each one, no matter how hidden that goodness might be." She includes quotes from wisdom figures from various spiritual traditions and scientific research, supporting the theory that the more we practice thinking and acting in a certain way, the stronger those particular neurons in our brains grow and our new way of being becomes second nature!

There is a short chapter for each day and each chapter ends with a reflection on what we have just read inviting us to answer two or three personal questions as to how we can incorporate the learning into our lives. There is also a prayer asking for God's help in doing this and a Scripture verse to carry in our hearts for the day. On day seven of each week, we review what has been most significant for us in that week's readings and we rest!

Boundless Compassion takes us on a personal retreat, where we are invited to have more compassion on others, particularly those who are marginalized, to welcome and be compassionate to ourselves, both the parts that we find easy to love and our shadow side and to act compassionately to our planet and all living beings. By becoming and living out compassion we will be able to change ourselves and our world, one heart at a time!

by Joy Hunter

Cane's Corner



6485 West Saanich Road

Clarke and Julia Scheibe



usually bring you news of ministry and travels in far-off places, but for this issue, would like to let you know of an exciting ministry right in our own back yard! Heading south on West Saanich Road from Brentwood Bay, just before (and opposite) the new Urban Bee Café and gift shop is the home of the Canadian branch of the L'Abri Fellowship. This movement began in Switzerland in 1955 when Francis and Edith Schaeffer decided in faith to open their home to be a place where people might find satisfying answers to their questions and practical demonstration of Christian care. It was called L'Abri, the French word for "shelter," because they sought to provide a shelter from the pressures of a relentlessly secular 20th century. As time went by, so many people came that others were called to join the Schaeffers in their work, and more branches were established.¹

Canadian L'Abri moved to Central Saanich in June of 2017 and is under the direction of Clarke and Julia Scheibe, assisted by Liz Snell. The acquisition of a spacious house with accommodation for the Scheibe family, Liz and up to eight short-term guests along with a library, dining and living rooms was a real gift of God. Outside, there is a large lawn, a lovely garden and a chicken coop with 60 chickens!

Guests come to stay for a few days up to a few weeks. People come for many different reasons, from a variety of backgrounds, world views, ages and occupations. Many come to address living as Christians in the modern world. Some do not see themselves as Christians, and come looking for a place where their questions will be taken seriously.

L'Abri can be described as a study-center in the context of a small community but it is not for intellectuals or intellectual pursuits only. Study and discussion are integrated into the "real daily life" of living with families and working at all kinds of practical tasks. A guest's day comprises not only time for personal study but also practical work around the property and in the community. There are also times of quiet, relaxation and fellowship.

One of the hallmarks of L'Abri is "Lunch Discussions", an opportunity to discuss a question raised by those present at lunch on Tuesdays and Saturdays. This is partly where I come in, as I spend Tuesday lunches and afternoons at L'Abri as a support for Liz while the Sheibes have their day off. In this way,

¹ Eight branches in seven countries. Some of the material in this article was gleaned from http://www.labri.org/history.html and http://www.labri.org/canada/

Cane's Corner continued



Left: Working in the garden Below: Community member of the feathered kind





Lunch Discussion



Lecture room/library

I get to know the guests and make myself available for discussion and even guided tours of the area! These lunches are also open to outsiders as are the Friday evening 7:00 p.m. lectures (including a 6:00 p.m. soup and salad supper if desired).

These lectures cover a fascinating array of topics which demonstrate that our lives are not divided between "sacred" and "secular" activities, and that Christian faith integrates all of human life, including our minds, our hearts, our work, our play, and our relationships. Art, history, philosophy, economics, psychology, education, politics, science, contemporary society, and all other realms of thought are examined from a Biblical viewpoint. Recent topics have included "The Spirit at Work: How God Relates to our Jobs", "Is Sex A Human Right?", "Film and Narrative", "Video Games and the Christian Worldview" and "Evangelicals and Trump". Our own Nick Hunter spoke on "Christianity and Theater" in the spring along with myself on "Worship and Space". Many of these have been recorded and are accessible on the Canadian L'Abri website (http://www.labri.org/canada/).

The folks at L'Abri would welcome any of us at one of the lunches or lectures or even just to come and make use of the library or grounds for a personal time of retreat or reflection. The best thing to do is to e-mail Clarke or Julia or Liz at canadianlabri@gmail. com to see if a visit would be convenient. You can also sign up to receive the weekly e-mail advertising the Friday lecture that week. They would also appreciate your prayers as they seek to be a shelter and light to those looking for faith, fellowship and direction in a very challenging world.



Lounge/library

Diocesan Synod and the 'Transforming Futures' Initiative

By Ken Pedlow with thanks to Nancy Choat, David Stewart and Don Wilson for the use of their presentation materials.

he 98th Diocesan Synod convened on the weekend of September 28-30, 2018. It was held at the Songhees Wellness Centre located on the Songhees (Lekwungen) First Nation. Along with our Rector, Rev. Lon Towstego, the Parish of Central Saanich was represented by Nancy Choat, David Stewart and Don Wilson among the 165 delegates attending. As was indicated in the presentation to the parish congregations at the October 14th services, the Synod had a very positive atmosphere with a lot of enthusiasm being exhibited. In keeping with the location, it also had a strong indigenous people's participation including Rev. Dr Martin Brokenleg leading many Synod activities and with the investiture of Chief Robert Joseph as an Officer of the Order of the Diocese of British Columbia. The Sunday of the Synod coincided with Orange Shirt Day and delegates participated fully in the remembrance of the tragic legacy of the native residential school system. The work of reconciliation was a major theme of the Synod along with the usual administrative components that all Synod's include.



At this Synod the greatest piece of work undertaken was the study and adoption of a 7-year Vision initiative called: "Transforming Futures: Growing Vibrant and Effective Parish Communities". The history of this initiative goes back to the 2014 Synod which accepted the need for diocesan renewal (Renewed Hearts, Renewed Minds and Renewed People) if we are to ensure a thriving Church for our grandchildren. The 2016 Synod showed we were not ready to proceed with the proposed implementation plan (Waller Report). Regional and parish meetings were implemented to get consensus on the need to move forward.

Synod delegates Reviewed the \$444,000 allocated from the Vision Fund on 50 projects throughout the diocese (the summer camp at St. Stephen's was one of these), demonstrating how diocesan renewal could occur if funds were available. A motion was passed as follows:

That this synod 1) Endorse the "Transforming Futures" shared fundraising initiative as recommended by Diocesan Council and presented to Synod; and 2) Encourage all parishes to participate in the "Transforming Futures" initiative at an appropriate time over the next five years.

The details of Transforming Futures are as follows:

- Each parish to raise 115% of annual average giving--about \$7 million over 7 years for the diocese--over 3 to 5 years.
- 60% of funds raised stays in each parish to support outreach and long-term viability.
- 40% of funds raised supports our diocesan family allowing common projects to be undertaken, e.g. Refugees, training workshops, youth and lay ministry development, remote ministries, communications, new faith communities, ongoing First Nations reconciliation, advocating economic and social justice.

Diocesan Synod and the 'Transforming Futures' Initiative continued

"...we will focus our actions in four prospective areas."

The next steps are for Parish Council to review, support, and develop an overall plan to identify potential projects and for Parishioners to identify specific projects that will spread the message of Jesus Christ throughout our region and help us to be renewed as a people of God.

Beyond the Transforming Futures Initiative, more broadly our Diocesan Vision of "Renewed Hearts, Renewed Spirits, Renewed People" has morphed into an action plan a three-point, ten facet direction for renewal which will help us to face the challenges of our generation and those following us, and to bring renewal to the parishes of our diocese. In broad terms, to become the renewed people, relevant in God's world today that we wish to be, we will focus our actions in four prospective areas:

focus 1:	Reconciliation: in all aspects of our lives as God's people: with First Nations, with our communities, within our own Parishes.
focus 2:	Engaging God's World: Becoming aware of where God is already working in our communities and getting in there to help Him.
focus 3:	Emerging Communities: identifying and supporting new and innovative ways of worshiping God.
And focus 4:	Raising up and formation of Lay Leadership programs, Worship Resources, and especially Youth and Family Life Ministry.

As Bishop Logan would say: As we focus on these areas of the vision, we believe that God, through the Spirit, will renew us and our communities on these islands and inlets. We are all called to support this Diocesan initiative.

• 2/3 cup margarine

Recipe Page

War Time Fruit Cake

Recipe from Susan Pullan

- 2 ½ cups flour
 - ur $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp salt
- 4 cups raisins
- 2 eggs
- 2/3 cup cherries 1 ½ cups peel or mixed fruit
 ½ cup grape juice or substitute ¼ cup corn syrup

• 2/3 cup sugar

- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. lemon flavoring ½ tsp almond flavoring
- Preheat oven to 300. Sift the flour salt and sugar together.

With fingers work in the margarine. Then add all the remaining ingredients in order and mix well. Bake for two hours. This can be made in a tube pan.



Under Score



"When planning music, I study the Scriptures assigned for that Sunday." ften, as I am researching music for the services at St. Mary's, I come across something interesting about the origin of the music, lyrics or the life of the composer of that song. It's at times like that when I wish I could share these illuminating finds with everyone who will be singing the hymn. So that is the genesis of this column.

When planning music, I study the Scriptures assigned for that Sunday. The Old Testament lesson in the lectionary for November 18th is from 1 Samuel. "Tell Out, My Soul" was recommended as being appropriate for use with the Scripture. Before deciding to incorporate it as the closing hymn for the service, I asked Bob to look it up on the Internet, so he could play the tune for me to hear. In doing so, he discovered an article on the web site of Discipleship Ministries which told this story about Timothy Dudley-Smith, the writer of those lyrics.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) has been a leading voice in British hymnody for more than five decades. Born in Manchester, England, Bishop Dudley-Smith was educated at Pembroke College and Ridley Hall, Cambridge. In 1950, he was ordained an Anglican priest, and was Bishop of Thetford, Norfolk (1981-1991). Bishop Dudley-Smith has written more than 400 texts.

His father influenced his love of poetry, and his first and most widely sung hymn, "Tell Out, My Soul," was written while he was at Cambridge. He says of its conception, "I did not think of myself as having in any way the gifts of a hymn-writer when in May 1961 I jotted down a set of verses, beginning 'Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord.' I was reading a review copy of the New English Bible New Testament, in which that line appears exactly as I have put it above; I saw in it the first line of a poem, and speedily wrote the rest." In an interview in 2006, the author acknowledged that this hymn was a "significant starting point" in the publication of his hymns.

We frequently attend the Choral Evensong held Sunday afternoons at Christ Church Cathedral and so are familiar with that service. The poem which Dudley-Smith wrote as the lyric very much reminded me of The Magnificat as we read in Luke. Still I wasn't sure as to why the lectionary linked this Hymn to the passage in 1 Samuel. At least, not until Bob read this part of the internet article.

In the Anglican tradition, the Evening Prayer service usually includes two canticles, The Magnificat, Mary's Song (Luke 1:46-55) and the Nunc Dimittis, Simeon's Song (Luke 2:29-32). Choral settings of these texts abound. In addition, the canticles are often sung in a chant-style, a musical form that allows the choir and congregation to sing directly from the Scripture. Metrical paraphrases were less common in the Anglican Church. A metrical paraphrase draws out the salient themes and places them in stanzas and a structured poetic form.

[Dudley-Smith's] text is a metrical paraphrase of the Magnificat. The Magnificat is patterned after The Song of Hannah found in the second chapter continued on page 15 of I Samuel. The similarities between the songs may be found especially in the praise of God's mighty acts and the liberation and salvation for the lowest of society.

So now you know both the connection with our Scripture lesson on November 18th and the story of how one of the Anglican Church's prolific hymn writers got his start.

Discovering the "hidden" history behind the hymns which many of us love and enjoy can frequently add to our attachment to them as well as can deepen our appreciation for the message which they carry. As time goes on, we hope to share with you some of the other stories behind well-known hymns that we use in our services.

Order of the Diocese of British Columbia

by Ken Pedlow

Lynda Clifford receives the Order of the Diocese of British Columbia



he Order of the Diocese of British Columbia honours and gives special recognition to members of the diocese (and in the case of honorary awards, those not part of the diocese) who have given outstanding service over a significant period of time in their baptismal ministry.

The Order is composed of the incumbent bishop of the diocese as the head of the Order, former bishops of the diocese, officers of the Order, honourary officers, members of the Order, and honourary members.

In a ceremony at Christ Church Cathedral on October 20, Lynda Clifford, People's Warden for the Parish of Central Saanich received this special award. Lynda was recommended for the award for her service during difficult times, as follows:

"During a period of upheaval, with the departure of the rector, the retirement of the cemetery verger and the arrival of a part-time interim priest, Lynda has maintained a calm dedication to her role as parish warden at St. Stephen. She worked hundreds of hours with the consultant learning new software to put the parish's finances in order. She served on the Bishop's Consultation Committee and supported the interim priest. She fulfils all her duties with cheerfulness, wisdom and sensitivity

Those of us who see Lynda working around the parish on a daily basis know that she takes on time consuming tasks such as providing refreshments for the Blue Bus ministry at the Tsawout Reserve, collecting for and organizing Christmas baskets and even re-placing doggie bags on the grounds of St. Stephen!

Congratulations Lynda! We are very proud of you.

Music Review

That's Christmas to Me

by Pentatonix



hen I first saw the flyer for the Soundings vocal ensemble's Christmas concert at St. Mary's on December 5th, I noticed their music selection included some arrangements by Pentatonix. Then and there I knew who I was going to write this review on!

Pentatonix sing a cappella, beautifully. Originally from Arlington, Texas they are known for their covers characterized by pop-style arrangements with vocal harmonies, basslines, riffing, percussion and beatboxing. The name Pentatonix was chosen for the Pentatonic scale with five notes per octave, representing each member of the group. Included in their influences are dubstep, electro, reggae, hip hop and classical music. They are three times Grammy Winners and have multi-Platinum sales. The album "That's Christmas to Me" was certified gold in 2014.

In anticipation I ordered their just released CD "Christmas is Here." After listening to it however, I by far favoured their older one. It is bright, happy, full of spirit music which I promise will get you moving and keep you going through Christmas baking, house decorating or a long evening wrapping presents.

In researching their history, I discovered that sometime around 2012, Pentatonix became involved with The Trevor Project, an American non-profit organization founded in 1998. It was the leading national organization focused on suicide prevention efforts among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth. In making a public service announcement, the group members shared their experiences of overcoming bullying. Unfortunately, when the 60 second spot aired it was met with considerable controversy as the producers edited out the LGBTQ references. They also failed to acknowledge the orientations of Grassi and Hoying who are both part of the LGBTQ community.

"That's Christmas To Me" includes songs such as "Silent Night" and "Dance of the Sugarplum Fairy." "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" is brilliant, jazzy and Gospel. If there is one song worth buying this album for, it is the goose bump worthy "Mary did you Know." Rather than me try to describe it, I will include the YouTube link below, so you can view and listen for yourself. See if it draws all the sacred, silent Holy beauty of Jesus's birth into your heart. Then let go and simply know that you find yourself with awe and in prayer. Truly.

That's Christmas To Me is available on Amazon for \$16.95.

The new album cannot be criticized musically. Their choice of music however is mostly "Seasonal." Another noteworthy CD is "A Pentatonix Christmas Deluxe" which includes a gorgeous rendition of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah." This link is included also.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifCWN5pJGIE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrLk4vdY28Q (Thanks Lynda C.)

Around the Parish

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



fter a glorious summer of heat and sun, we are now enjoying some wonderful fall weather, much to everyone's delight. With darkness descending on us early these days, it's nice to have some sunshine and bright blue skies during the day. As this issue of ConneXion precedes the Holiday Season, the highlights of the events taking place in late November and December will be reported on in the next Around the Parish. In the meantime, let's take a look at what went on during the last three months.

On Sunday August 26th, a Farewell Thanksgiving Service was held at St Mary's with a Eucharist and Liturgy that celebrated the ending of our pastoral relationship with the **Reverend Canon Peter Parker**. Over 100 parishioners and half a dozen children attended the combined service as we thanked Reverend Parker for his leadership and faithful ministry as Interim Rector for a year prior to the hiring of Reverend Lon Towstego. A reception followed in Cooper Hall where Peter had his chance to have the last say before departing! We all wish him well and thanked him for his unwavering dedication to the many challenges of running a two-church parish as a part time Rector. Good Luck, Peter!

We had no sooner said our farewells to Peter than we were celebrating the arrival of **Reverend Lon Towstego** and his wife, **Marian**, on Sunday September 2nd. By the time this issue of ConneXion is published, most of us will have introduced ourselves to Lon and Marian as they immediately seemed to fit right into our Parish life. The transition from Reverend Parker, interim priest in charge to Reverend Towstego, full time priest in charge, seemed seamless to most parishioners and we look forward to working with Lon as a new chapter in the life of the Parish of Central Saanich begins.

Transforming Futures was the main theme for the 98th Synod held at the Songhees Wellness Centre in Esquimalt. 165 delegates, as representatives of the parishes in the Diocese of British Columbia attended the event, which took place over the last weekend in September. Don Wilson, Nancy Choat and David Stewart (who were voted as synod representatives at the last General Meeting) attended on behalf of the Parish of Central Saanich. Our rector, Lon Towstego was a visible presence throughout. This Synod, compared to other Synods, conveyed a feeling of optimism along with spiritualism and togetherness. The youth were very much present, adding to the optimism for the future of the Diocese. The main order of business centred around the fundraising plan for the future, which was to raise 7 million dollars in seven years to support church activities and sustain the type of initiatives that the Vision Teams had created. This motion was passed unanimously. Along with the business of the Synod, delegates listened to presentations from several parishes of how Vision funds had supported their goals in keeping their parishes alive. With this latest fund-raising initiative (Transforming Futures), parishes can now look look at ways they can fund raise, with the support of the Diocese. Those of us who attended from the Parish of Central Saanich came away with a feeling of "let's get started". The first step was a summary of Synod presented

Around the Parish continued



to the parishioners of each church at the Sunday morning services (Oct 14) by Don, Nancy and David. You can listen to what they had to say in detail, (via the Parish web site) by clicking on the Sunday, October 14th "sermon". Lon's enthusiasm has spurred us on to see what we can come up with. Stay tuned as the Spirit moves us to Transforming the Parish of Central Saanich's Future!

Lynda Clifford was invested as a member of the Order of the Diocese at the Cathedral on October 20th. This is a new Order of BC awards program and we are very proud that Lynda was a part of it. You can read why Lynda was chosen elsewhere in ConneXion. Congratulations, Lynda!

Most of you will have realized by now that **Rev. Lon** has begun writing a weekly column which is sent out via our website. If you have not received two or three emails recently entitled Lon's Communication Corner, please advise Leslie in the office so that we can ensure that we have your current email address.

The weekly Bible Study for the Fall, with an NT Wright Video Series: "Jesus the New Way"- "Questions about Life with Jesus" began November 7 at 11 am following eucharist and led by Rev Lon. Each session begins by viewing the topical video followed by discussion in small groups. A repeat session takes place at St Stephen's on the following day at 7 pm each week.

Brett Cane provided two showings of his travels this past summer, in the form of a slide presentation, one at St Stephen's prior to the Friday Soup's On and the other as an evening event at St Mary's with a dessert buffet. Listening to Brett is like reliving history and with his back ground in architecture, he was able to tell us so much more about the places he visited than most commentaries. His sense of humour always makes these slide shows so enjoyable and informal. Thank you, Brett. We know there are more to come!

News from St. Stephen's

We have had some sad times, some losses for our church family. **Joyce Apps**, the lady with the wonderful smile and **Richard West**, the fellow with a dream for Wine Fest, who's Celebration of Life took place on Monday, October 29th at 10:00 a.m. at the Church of Our Lord were two parishioners we will remember. Also, a sad loss of baby twins for **Rachel's brother** and **sister** in law. Our prayers are with the families. We thank God for the lives that have touched ours in special ways. On a happier note, we also rejoice in the birth of twins to **Brad** and **Kim** and we offer our prayers for these two little ones in hospital and their parents and siblings. Kim and Brad were very thankful for the gifts they received from our shower for them, little did we know there would be two! At the last update (November 4), the twins each weighed four pounds! Hurrah!

The marriage of **Bob** and **Cathy Quicke's** daughter, **Heidi** was a joyful event, held at St Stephen's church on Saturday, October 27th with reception

Around the Parish continued



following in the hall, completely decorated for the occasion. Also, the marriage of **Cheryl** and **Gil Shoesmith's** daughter in late September was more cause for celebration. A reception was held at Bear Mountain. When asked at Soup's On how it went, Gil said: "I'm still basking in the afterglow!" And still more cause for celebration was the baptism of **Liam Gallant**, the great grandson of **Alan** and **Marion Noble** held at St Stephen's on Sunday, October 28th.

Soups On has started up again after a summer of "rest" for the cooks and servers. For the first one on September 7th, close to 70 people showed up. Is this going to be "shades of things to come"? We sure hope so. This ever-popular Outreach is becoming very well-known not only in the Parish but also in the Community. Well done, ladies!

The Youth Program started Friday, September 21st and is being held every Friday evening in the Hall. Everyone's welcome to join in the fun whether it be games, movies and entertainment. Once a month a meal is served. **Brett Cane, Katherine Carlson, Dave Shields** and **Lon** and **Marion Towstego** have led this group of mixed young people.

We have received the resignation of **Dave Shields**, a member of Council and coordinator for the Summer Camp program, due to a move to the mainland. We will notice his absence! Both he and **Marianne** have been very involved with youth and certainly camp this past summer. Dave has been an integral part of the maintenance of the grounds.

As we go to press, **Lynda Clifford** is waiting for surgery on her knee. Our prayers are with you, Lynda, as we know what it's like to want to have it over with, sooner rather than later.

The Central Saanich Police Department held a community information evening in St. Stephen's Hall on October 29th to provide information about current internet and telephone fraud scams. The Victoria Police Chorus had some members present to provide musical entertainment.

Diana has done her "last cut" of the season. As a parishioner said: "it's always wonderful to see her on her faithful steed, very stately she looks!" The **Nichols** have put the veggie garden to bed and the St Stephen's Soups-On freezer is packed with tasty veggies due to their efforts; such a cheerful wonderful couple!

David Scarth seems to be getting out and about with his new hip. Always a good sign.

Plans are in the works to create a Pet Memorial Brick Pathway around the large tree, north of the north boundary of the cemetery continued on page 20

Around the Parish continued



News from St. Mary's

near the eastern property boundary, beside a small creek. It will not be a burial but simply a walkway. **Peter Simpson, Al Gerenser** and **Greg Robinson** have been very involved in this. Stay tuned for updates in future issues of ConneXion.

Gary Stubbs has painted the picket fence dividing the cemetery, and also power washed the church. Thanks Gary. He takes care of the grounds and is badly in need of fellow helpers, it's a big job. Peter Simpson, always willing to make any signs that need to be done makes them and presents them; no fuss, no muss. St Mary's asked Peter to make a new sign with Lon's name on it for Taize and before we knew it, Peter had presented the new sign. So much more visible for people driving by the church on East Saanich Rd. Thank you Peter. It's very much appreciated. And lately, Peter was spotted moving the yellow curbs, that came from St. Mary's parking lot, onto the parking lot in front of the hall, with the assistance of a tractor with driver! Just one of the many people that work quietly behind the scenes. Time for some accolades! Along with Peter, let's give thanks to some of the other men at St Stephen's who provide help when asked, like Bob Quicke, Mike Dyer and of course Bob Westgate, the ever-reliable Sound Man. A big thank you to each and every one of you.

The Annual Garlic Gala (also known as the G6), was another great success. Held on Saturday November 3rd, in the Hall at St Stephen's, about 50 people (all ages!) from both churches enjoyed homemade garlic dishes, including Lon's perogies! Don Wilson's famous garlic (15 varieties!) was sold at the event as well as at several services prior to November 3rd. Proceeds from the sale of the garlic as well as from the dinner go to two Ugandan outreach ministries, which have been the passion diligently maintained by former parishioner, Hilda Shilliday. They are the Mengo Hospital Uganda and GENDEMI (Generations Development Mission), which provides shelter, food, care and education for marginalized young women in Kampala. Unfortunately, Hilda is now unable to make her annual visit to these places due to failing health, but she sent a newsy letter, updating us on the difference and some of the wonderful work the donations from the Garlic Galas and sale of garlic have accomplished.

The September Thrift Sale, always a popular event, managed to make more than \$1,800, 90% of which goes to the budget and the remaining 10% to Outreach (to be decided by the Outreach Committee). Speaking of Thrift Sales, **David Cooper** mentioned that apparently, crocheted doilies, purchased at one of our Thrift



Sales, are being used in a pottery class he's taking. Who knew one of David's hobbies is pottery? If you want to know more, you'll have to ask David!

John Beresford has just returned from a quick trip to the UK. The visit centred around a weekend spent on the Endurance Rally Association's orientation for the 2019 Peking to Paris Motor Challenge. For those who have not heard of this adventure, John and his brother Chris will be participating in a 36-day competitive car rally that travels from Beijing to Paris in June 2019 (June 2 to July 7). The event is based on the 1907 Peking to Paris race and the modern recreation of this happens every three years (this is the seventh running). This is an amazing trip (we use the term loosely!) for John and his brother as they managed to be THE only Canadian team that were chosen to participate. There is a total of 110 teams from all over the world competing and yes, it IS a competition. John and Chris will be sharing the driving and all that goes with this grueling trip, in John's 1956 VW Beetle. Some of us even remember those cars! If you'd like to find out more about the rally, you can google endurorally.com. It's quite amazing what they will be attempting to do. More details in a future edition of ConneXion.

Please note that in the last issue of ConneXion (#28), the St Mary's bursary presented to the graduating Indigenous Stelly student, **Mitchell Beauvais** was referred to incorrectly as the First Nations Bursary. It should have been called the First Peoples Bursary. **Fern Perkins** has kindly offered to help those of us who need clarification as to the correct terminology to use when it comes to referring to First Nations, Indigenous, First Peoples and Metis. Here is Fern's explanation (briefly) for those of us who need some education in using the correct words when it comes to Indigenous and First Nations peoples. It's important to understand the history of these terms and which term refers to which group of people.

"Aboriginal is an almost outdated, but still legal term, chosen by the government to replace the misnomer, 'Indian' under the Indian Act. Christopher Columbus thought he had 'discovered' India in 1492. Canada and the province of BC have recently changed to the term, Indigenous, as in National Indigenous Day (June 21) to align with UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples). Not everyone is updated yet. You will even hear older Indigenous peoples use the terms Indian, Native or Aboriginal. "We have all been mis-educated." Senator Murray Sinclair, Chair NTRC

continued on page 22







The local First Nations on the Saanich Peninsula prefer to be called by their specific names. Our neighbours are the Tsawout, Tsartlip, Tseycum, Paquachin and Malahat. Together they make up the W'SANEC (Saanich) First Nations. In the downtown Victoria region, the neighbours are Lekwungen (Songhees and Esquimalt) First Nations.

Métis are the children of First Nations women who were married to Fur Traders, usually about age 14, to be survival guides, translators, interpreters and negotiators. We are both legally Aboriginal and Indigenous, included in the Indian Act. All Métis people originated in the East part of Turtle Island and moved across the continent living on the land, where their families found work and safety. Some of us in BC married back into the local First Nations. If our grandparents registered, we would be First Nations. Many Métis had their history hidden for safety until 1982 when they were recognized as existing by the Canadian government."

Thank you for that, Fern. People can always come and ask you or Mark if they still are unclear of the correct terms to use! It's important to know that **Fern** and **Mark** are Métis Elders in Education, Knowledge Keepers and Role Models from the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria and the Métis Nation of BC. They each hold teaching degrees from BC and the United States. They are each descended from great-great-great-grandparents who were the first Métis families in B.C. and Fort Victoria in the early 1800s. Since retiring, they now teach Indigenous Education in public and independent South Island school districts. They are signatories to some BC Indigenous Education Enhancement Agreements with the BC Ministry of Education. Fern and Mark teach at Stelly's Secondary and other schools from grades 4-12 using a multi-media presentation about who the Métis are. We are indeed blessed to have them as parishioners of St Mary's Church.

Karen McColm, it seems has become a rather accomplished golfer, having recently won a trophy for her efforts. Well done, Karen! Not only can this parishioner golf, but she also wins prizes for her much loved Australian terry, Rain.

Canon Lorry Harrison celebrated a milestone on Sunday October 28th; it was his 70th anniversary of being ordained as an Anglican priest! Congratulations, Lorry!

And **Pat Stanlake** was invited to the Opening of the Saanich Fair on September 1st as a guest of honour! Other sitings of people at the Fair were **Norma Sealey, Lynn and Len Fallan, Nancy Choat,** and **Catherine Wing** to name just a few! Once again Security Patrol was on duty for Halloween. Thanks to those who helped give out candy to the trick or treaters in the guise of keeping St Mary's safe and secure. A big Thank You to Joy and Nick Hunter, Ian and Maddy Stuart, Len Fallan, Derek Osman, Bruce Cowley and Ken Pedlow.

Travels

Some of the travels enjoyed by our parishioners include:

Betty and **Derek Osman** cruised through the Panama in October and plan to spend time with family (an "early Christmas") in Mexico in November.

Greg and **Christine Robinson** enjoyed sun and warmth as they unwound in Mexico for a well-earned holiday in November.

Joy and Nick Hunter enjoyed a wonderful holiday abroad in September to Europe (Prague for certain) and visiting family in England (Cornwall, to be exact). Lots of memories from that trip.

A Thank You from the Smiths





Dear Friends,

Greetings to all from Qualicum Beach. We have now been here for nine months and are settling in well to the local scene. John is involved with the very-active QB Probus Club, a couple of discussion groups, a writing group and is singing with Village Voices, a community choir. Sue has joined the QB Garden Club and the Mid-Island Floral Arts (flower arrangers) group and, at the present, spends much of her time - surprise, surprise - making things for, and helping run, the Christmas Bazaar at our new church, St. Mark's.

When we left St. Mary's last February, we were presented with a very generous parting gift - a 'purse' designated toward the purchase of a tree for our garden. We wanted it to be a living gift that would allow us to remember you, our wonderful church family and friends.

We took time with this decision, but eventually chose a Stewartia, a medium-sized tree with white camellia-like flowers in summer and brilliant colour in the fall. And, in addition, we were able to purchase three lovely large ceramic planters which we will plant up with New Zealand Flax in the spring.

So thank you, one and all, for your much appreciated gift, your blessings and your good wishes.

Over the past months we have enjoyed visits from several St. Mary's parishioners; but, if any of you are planning to be up this way, we'd love to welcome you, too. Our door is always open; just let us know.

With our love to all,

John & Sue Smith sueandjohn@shaw.ca

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich Directory

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

Parish Council: Ex Officio		Rev. Lon Towstego
Bishop's Warden:		Greg Robinson gregoryrobinson@shaw.ca
People's Wardens:	St. Mary's St. Stephen's	Derek Osman, derek.osman@shaw.ca Ian Stuart, istuart1@mac.com Lynda Clifford, Igcliff@shaw.ca
Members:	St. Mary's St. Stephen's	Karen McColm, Ken Pedlow Allan Carlson, Dave Shields
Synod Delegates:	St. Mary's St. Stephen's	Nancy Choat, David Stewart, Ken Pedlow (alt) Don Wilson, Greg Robinson (alt)

Rev. Lon Towstego's Schedule

Tuesday's at St Mary's Church (250) 652-1611 Friday's at St Stephen's Church (250) 652-4311 Wednesday's, Thursday's: Communion, Study and Parish Visits.

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