



St. Peter's Anglican Church, Campbell River
228 South Dogwood St. Campbell River BC, V9W 6Y7

Vision Statement:

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

December 2017 Issue 4

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Notes from the Editor:

Advent Quiet Day has come and gone in the midst of the publishing of this issue of Spirit. I hope all who were able to attend found some peace amongst their hopes and dreams, and if not (like me!), then take some time to prepare your heart and soul as we await the coming celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. As the poet, Kahlil Gibran, from *The Prophet*, so beautifully put:

*In the depths of your hopes and desires
lies your silent knowledge of the beyond;
and like seeds dreaming beneath the snow
your heart dreams of spring.*

I wish you blessings of peace, joy and love at this magical time of year and in the year ahead. Jane

Reports...

Phil's Story

Friends,

The "secret" photo on the last pages of the September issue of our Spirit Magazine was a kick in the pants for this reader. Father Chuck was hiding behind a gas mask in the previous issue of the Spirit. My photo was hiding under a Habit and a full facial beard! If one is experienced in human physiology, recognition will be obvious. Tilt of the head to the right. Right eye partially drooping. Left eye overly wide. Hum, who is that guy? What's up with this photo?

The photo originates from approximately 1988-89. My best guess, Senior Girls - Camp Columbia Summer Camp with Barb Coleman as Chief, our Judy Antonelli, Camp Coordinator and a Saint Peter's member as Camp Nurse. I was Camp Padre from the Parish of Gold River. My memory of this camp is Wow! Senior Girls Camp rocked!

The Habit dress-up photo was from a skit at dinner one evening; my faint recall of the event. I recall that a closet in the main building of Camp Columbia was a treasure trove of old musty clergy, choir and leftover clothing used for dress up skits. That photo is flash from the past 30 years ago. Other memories from this camp recalling....

A local Boy Scout Troop installed an obstacle course in the forest at Camp Columbia that summer. This course had significant challenges for 12-15 year old senior youth. Gals took to this course with vigour. Senior girls camp were the first to utilize the obstacle course. The most challenging was the vertical cargo rope-climb. The challenge was the transition after climbing ten feet vertically, crossing over the top-line, descending the opposite side of the rope-maze and making it back to the ground. My spotting job on the Cargo Net Obstacle was to facilitate the crossover at the top of the net. This was a rope strung between two large trees; a very unstable and wobbling rope to cross over for most. I positioned myself at the top of the Cargo Net. Sitting on the top rope and locking each leg through the rope netting. This allowed me to be hands free to assist the cross over if needed. With encouragement and a helping hand, each camper was able to accomplish this considerable challenge.

The next summer I was Padre to Senior Boys Camp; an equally challenging camp. The most challenging youth during the week could not wait to introduce their Chief, Padre or Cabin Councillor to their parents/guardians at the Ferry Dock. They really liked us....eh? Memories of Camp Columbia. I was invited to perform a full emersion baptism at the beach of Camp Columbia. Full emersion baptism is not widely practiced in our tradition. I recall innovating as the event unfolded. Both candidate and minister survived the experience. Thanks for the memories. Phil

Chuck's Chatter – The Undercover Agent

The one over-riding thing about serving in a small rural parish is that you tend to be living in a goldfish bowl. The number of fish in the bowl equals the number of people in the pastor's family. Everybody knows your business. If they do not, they think they should. If they do, they think everyone else in the world has a right to know also. They also consider it, not just their creator-given right, but also their bounden duty to find out and to make it known to the whole world. The pastor's wife and children are not entitled to any privacy either. After all the congregation hired them, didn't they?

Quite some time back, I was living in such a habitat. Friends we knew from 2000 miles away came to visit us. When they arrived with out-of-province plates on their car, they learned we did not live in a house, but a fish tank. So here they were, mother, father, two daughters and another mutual friend, visiting from away; total strangers to the land in which they now found themselves.

Now the people in the local village all knew in very short order that there were strangers in the area. What the locals did not know was who these foreigners were. Neither did they know what they were about. Why indeed, would such intruders come to their village? The fact that they were not only visiting the resident clergy, but also staying with him and his family, did not matter a hoot. It was necessary to find out, not necessarily in any kind of discrete manner, what these aliens were doing. Were their passports and visas up to date and in proper order? These important issues needed research!

It was interesting to watch the curious. As they drove by, they would slow down and stare at the house as though there was something wrong with it. If they were walking, they would stop in front of the place and look at it with their heads cocked to one side. I was beginning to wonder if the bowl had suddenly changed shape, or the water had turned purple. All they were trying to do was figure out the species of the new fish that had arrived uninvited. After several days, people started getting braver in their search for the facts. They even got bold enough to ask each other what they had learned. I am sure they had nightly meetings to check each other's' notes and compare information.

Then it happened. The principal of this newly arrived school of fish was out in the driveway with his head buried in the engine compartment of his vehicle; changing spark plugs to be exact. Somebody was walking up the street past the house. The garage door was open. This person came down the driveway, past the car with its hood up and a butt sticking out of the engine room. He came into the garage and pretended to ask me something completely irrelevant to his mission.

Although the gentleman visiting us was very close to my own age, he had a lot more hair than I did. He still does! However, his hair is a platinum blond shade. In the darkness under the hood of his car, it looked white. The local inquisitor, not getting a full observation of face, made an assumption. After the opening gambit, the local fact finder put his hand to the side of his mouth and whispered very softly to me, "Is that your father?" I responded in the negative in an equally soft voice with my hand up to the side of my mouth. I suppose this action was necessary in case some of the insects and spiders in the garage might over-hear our conversation, and go spreading stuff before my interrogator had his chance so to do.

The next question asked, with the same motion of hand and quiet voice was, "Who is it then?" I looked over both shoulders, around the garage, motioned for him to put his head right close to mine and whispered even more softly than any of the conversation which had preceded and said, "He's R.C.M.P. from Ottawa." This happened to be the truth.

He then asked, in such a quiet tone I could barely hear it, "What's he doing here?" I could not for the life of me, resist having a little more fun with all this so I repeated the look around the garage to make sure no spies were about and said in an extremely low voice, "I'm not allowed to tell you." He said, "Oh," and immediately skulked out of the garage and wandered off down the street.

Several days later in a town about 20 miles from where the above transaction took place, I bumped into a fellow from that community whom I knew fairly well. We both belonged to the same club. We chatted for a few minutes about a number of different things. Finally, he put his head quite close to mine and said, "I hear you have an undercover agent from the R.C.M.P. staying at your place. I hear he is from Ottawa, down here looking for drugs. Smart too, brought his whole family, so people would think he is on holiday. Did you know him before he got here?" I did not directly deny knowing him. I did, however, sort of string out a good politician's rambling answer. This was a bunch of words which said absolutely nothing and then I ended with something to the effect that he figured the local minister would be the most trusted person he could stay with while he was here doing his job.

Nothing more was said. I was in that parish for another year after my friend's visit. People were never quite sure what my relationship with the R.C.M.P. was. I never could see that there was any compulsion on my part to clue them in. I was friends with most of the local detachment and it was not unusual to have a police car in the driveway. My coffee was always on.

Reverend Chuck Massey

Donuts, too? Spirit Editor ☺

The Spirit of Finance - December 2017

What a busy couple of months! Between getting ready for and having the book sale and then all of the preparation for the Bazaar, St. Peter's has been a hive of activity (and thanks to the ladies in the kitchen for the cookie samples.☺)

We would like to thank all of the people who helped make the book sale such a success. To date we have brought in over \$2,700! That is a lot of books!

As we wait for our new Minister, we give credit to Bill, Cathy and Pauline for their diligent, faithful service. We welcome Rebecca to our family and are pleased that she has taken over the office duties with care and attention.

Our finances look very healthy right now. We have a net income of \$6,338. At the end of September, we had \$29,713 in the bank and, as of October 31, have increased that to \$35,026 in the bank. We are still down in our Envelope offerings (about \$3, 210) from budget predictions to October 31 and we continue to urge you to remember the church itself when providing funds for our various charities and projects.

Category	Actual Jan-Oct 2017	Budget Jan-Oct 2017	Difference	Total Budget 2017
Envelope-General & Special	\$109,124.77	\$112,334.10	\$-3,209.33	\$134,801.00
Net Income	\$6,338.30	\$1.30	\$6,337.00	0

This is a very summarized profile. If, at any time, any of you want to see the complete financial statement, please just let Holly, Jill or Rebecca know.

A special thank you goes out to Anne, Lyn and Roberta for their faithful service in working with the envelopes, counting the collections and making the deposits. We could not do it without you!

God bless,
Your sisters in Christ,
Holly and Jill

Warden's Report

The past month has been a busy one at St. Peter's. Thank you to the many that are always on hand to help. Trina and Holly have been extremely helpful with collaborating with Rebecca to update the duties of Church secretary. The Bulletins are looking very nice.



Brock is very excited about two new members who have joined St. Peter's Choir. The Remembrance Day service went really well and he is busy preparing and practicing for the Advent season. He is gradually introducing the sung Eucharist.

St. Peter's is supporting the two new Syrian refugee families this Christmas. Mary Cook will be giving information to both Pauline and Trina.

As we continue to live through the many changes at St. Peter's we look forward to the Advent Season. As the Wardens, we met prior to the Council meeting to discuss any outstanding issues and to plan the November Council meeting agenda. Again, I remind everyone to please, have written reports, thus freeing Council to use meeting times for discussion and decision-making. This keeps our Council meetings to only a couple of hours. In addition, minutes are posted in the hall Narthex for all to read.

Our Harvest dinner was a huge success. We served over 100 people and everyone enjoyed the Sing Along; a wonderful time of fellowship.

The kitchen is humming with the ACW Ladies baking and cooking for the Old Fashioned Christmas Bazaar. This is a parish event! All parishioners were called on the parish list to help donate both product and time. Close to sixty baskets were made for the boutique.

Pauline, Rebecca and Trina are working on the December – February Volunteer Roster. We are always looking for new people to sign up. We have new readers, coffee roster, chalice etc. In addition, Ian Ritchie-Smith recently served for his last Sunday. He is very busy with school and work. Thank you, Ian, for your dedication as a server. Kathy Fitzsimmons gave a thank you on Sunday November 19. Thank you to Kathy with her mentoring the servers.

Check out the Facebook page to see the "K-cup" snowman hats crafted on Saturday, Oct. 28. There will be more crafting to come in the New Year.

Bill is away on vacation in Hawaii until December 1. We have not had a Parish Council retreat, so this is postponed until the New Year.

As usual, Trina has both printed and handed out the November Newsletter; also there is information on St. Peter's Facebook page and the Spirit will be out on the first Sunday in Advent. Take note in the Narthex the Sunday Advent services.

Advent Quiet Day was Saturday, December 2; Mindfulness is every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. We thank all the members of the congregation for their hard work in making St. Peter's a strong, vibrant community guided by our core values of children, youth seniors, music, fellowship, service, spirituality and worship. We value the many suggestions for change, comments and concerns about church business, and feedback about how we enact our roles. We thank the consultative team for their dedicated faithfulness in moving St. Peter's forward. Thank you to Phil, Parish Council and the consultative team for your support and guidance to make our jobs rewarding and even sometimes . . . fun!!

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Beise, Pauline Woods, and Bill Ritchie

Choir Notes

Not only did we bid farewell to our long-time rector, Blair Haggart, this year but, in September, the congregation also said "good-bye" to Tomoko Bonner, who served as music director for several years. Keiko Bennett helped ably as a "backup" pianist during this time; we are lucky that such talented musicians who "stepped up to the plate."

As of October 1, I am acting as interim music director. (There is more information about me on the parish web site.) St. Peter's choir has settled into a pattern of rehearsing weekly on Fridays from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Our membership is a little flexible, as is natural during a time of change and expected transition in parish life, though long-term singers continue to dedicate their time and skill. Six to eight members have made the extra effort to attend most of the Friday afternoon practices. The phrase "extra effort" is no meaningless platitude; the commitment to making worshipful music is a gift these friends of ours bring us week by week. We are fortunate in having two new members, Lokwing and Lokman Wong, young women who find time in their full high school schedule to share their singing experience and their enthusiasm with us, especially as soloists if the occasion arises. Another student, Lin Bevington, is always ready to support the melody with her clarinet. Martha Massey, as well, brings a great deal of experience and knowledge; the beautiful sound of her flute often graces our hymns and anthems with harmonies that enrich the overall effect.

We have been working towards learning a setting of the Holy Eucharist in contemporary language (Book of Alternative Services [BAS] page 185 ff) with music from the hymnbook and the BAS, introducing it to the congregation in stages. It is planned that this process will continue in the New Year, though this will of course depend on the wishes of the new incumbent when an appointment has been made. We usually spend several weeks working on anthems such as "For All Things Now Living" (Thanksgiving), "That They May Rest in Peace" (Remembrance Day) and "Every Star Shall Sing a Carol" (which we hope to present

during the Advent season). The choir library requires updating. As I am an enthusiastic arranger of music, some of the music we present as anthems consists of arrangements of hymns or of similar music from other sources. This type of selection is intended to avoid subjecting the parish to purchases of new music which is an expensive item these days and which in any case might not be suitable to the choir members, to the new incumbent when the parish search process is complete, or to future music directors. It also reduces, though perhaps does not eliminate, issues of copyright (which seems to me an important ethical and legal consideration).

We look forward to continuing our role in worship, as the congregation moves ahead into the exciting changes that appear to be on the horizon.

Respectfully submitted,
Brock Lupton
Interim Music Director

A Very Big Thank You!

We have been very blessed to have Rosemary Proctor as our organist at St. Peter's for over seventy years! With the exception of a few years when she lived in Calgary and for about 9 or 10 months after the birth of her third son, Rosemary played the organ from 1945 until she tendered her resignation at the end of June, 2017. She is very grateful for the support she received from clergy, choir directors and choir members over the years.

The parish of St. Peter's thanks you, Rosemary, for your beautiful music during Sunday services; at our weddings, funerals and memorials; special services at Christmas and Easter; and as a volunteer musician in the community.



What's Been Happening....

Timeless Treasures - September 23

Going to Timeless Treasures was like stepping back in time to a lost era. Many thanks to Jennifer Coolen for coming up with the idea and organizing a high-end garage sale which really wasn't a garage sale at all! In addition, many thanks to all who donated, cleaned, polished, ironed and arranged the many items: jewelry, crystal, china, silver, linens, lace tablecloths and doilies.



Along with the sale of items, tea, coffee and muffins were available for the shoppers. Over the hum of conversation at the sale a few comments kept being overheard, "Doesn't it feel good!" "Exquisite!" and "Too bad our kids don't want it!"

All proceeds benefited the following charities: Rose Harbour Women's Shelter, Carihi Daycare Program, and Saturday Soup Kitchen at the Radiant Life Church.



Spaghetti Dinner – Sunday, September 24

Thank you Hadley and Al and to all your sous chefs and servers for another scrumptious Spaghetti Dinner on the last Sunday in September; now try and say that fast as you slurp up your pasta! We look forward to the next one!



Book Sale – October 20-21



St. Peter's Book Sale was a great success! Many thanks to all who contributed! Over 30 parishioners and a few members of the community donated over 300 volunteer hours to the success of the sale. This truly is a book-lovers event; we enjoy handling and organizing the books and, of course, many of us just cannot resist the Book Bag Deal! There was a wonderful selection of good quality books including a table of specialty books. In fact, a picture of this table posted on our public Facebook page brought a shopper to the sale because she saw a book she had been looking for on the post!



Volunteers appreciated the soups and goodies dropped off throughout the week; Saturday's workers enjoyed a table-for-two lunch in Dorothy and Bev's "Kitchen Cafe." Shoppers munched on cookies and muffins with a cup of coffee or tea while they browsed.

No books went to the landfill; they were either recycled or donated to other charities or up-coming book sales. Boxes of books fill half the shelves in the basement allowing for donations of books to come in throughout the year. Many thanks again for your support. Jane

Book Club - October - November

We had a wonderful Book Club this fall at St. Peter's; Archbishop Rowen Williams book, Being Disciples – Essentials of the Christian Life. Our newest retired priest, Brooke Mitchell, led the study. She led the discussions with great dignity, thought and insight.

Each week we discussed one of the six chapters of the book: Being Disciples; Faith Hope and Love; Forgiveness; Holiness; Faith and Society and Life in the Spirit. Everyone attending, about 14, contributed a great deal to the discussions.

I wish I could quote all of the Archbishop's comments, so perhaps just a few.

About being disciples: "We have all got to grow into a mature stillness, a poise and openness to others around the world.

Of Faith, Hope and Love: "Faith, hope and love are the heart of discipleship - our learning and growing in Christ."

Of Forgiveness: "Forgiveness is one of the most radical ways we are able to nourish one another's humanity."

Of Holiness: "A holy person makes you see things in yourself and around you that you have not seen before."

Of Faith in Society: "Being disciples means being called to see others from the perspective of our eternal, unflinching, and unalterable love."

Of Life in the Spirit: "To hear what God is saying, we need a degree of stillness, stillness of body as well as heart. Psalm 46 verse 10, "Be still and know."

It is my hope there will be another book club where we will continue to live, love, and learn.

Hilda Shilliday

Saturday Morning Crafters - September and October



In September, we made Quilted Christmas Balls and in October, we made Snowman Hats from recycled K-Cups for the Bazaar. Thanks, Jane and Sherry for demonstrating the crafts.

Harvest Supper - October 28

Thank you, Lord, for the food that was before us, the friends beside us and the love between us. Harvest supper was a delight! Thank you all for the delicious food, great company, beautiful décor and especially the sing-a-long. We were a long, long, way from Tipperary, but somehow everyone, young and old, knew the music! What a memorable evening...

Trina Soltys



St. Peter's Old Fashioned Christmas Bazaar - November 24-25

I would like to take time to thank the congregation and for all those who contributed to make St. Peter's Bazaar 2017 a great success! Many parishioners who came out for last year's bazaar returned to help behind the booths or behind the scenes. Still, more new faces joined us this year. This was truly a Parish Event! The total funds raised were in excess of \$10,000!!

The idea of continuing with the bazaar theme came about in January 2017; Saturday Morning Crafters was created! We met once a month to learn a craft that we sold at this year's bazaar. As well as sharing hidden talents, it provided another opportunity for fellowship.

I would welcome emails if we can count on your help for next year's event, which is on the last Friday and Saturday of November 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Tirebuck, Convener Bazaar 2017
(e-mail:pcd138@telus.net)

A huge thank you to Lois for her leadership!!

"There are different kinds of gifts,
but the same Spirit." 1 Corinthians 12:4





What's Coming Up...

Sunday School - Reverse Advent Calendar Project

The Intermediate Sunday School class has decorated boxes for parish families to take home and fill with one item a day throughout Advent. You can add food, cleaning supplies, personal items, etc. to the box. We have prepared a suggestion list of items that comes with the box. (See also the list for the Food Bank on page 23 of this issue of Spirit). Return the box to church on December 24. We will bless the donations at the 4 p.m. Family Service and sort them for various local charities, and deliver them between Christmas and the New Year. Some of the organizations that we know we will be delivering to are the Foodbank, and the Transition House. Enjoy taking part in this lovely event, taking a moment each day, to reflect on how, together, we can help many, and reflect on how we are so blessed, with God's love, and the best gift of all, His Son, Jesus.

Lessons and Carols - December 3

The Lessons and Carol Service is included in the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, December 3.

Blue Christmas -December 10

Christmas time can be a very lonely, depressing, "blue" time for many people. Over the past year, many have experienced the loss of loved ones and other losses in their lives. This is especially difficult particularly when others are partying and gathering with family members.

As a way of recognizing this, this year's "Blue Christmas" Service will be held in conjunction with the 10:00 a.m. service on December 10. After receiving communion, communicants will have the opportunity to light a candle at the front of the church to bring light to their grief, sadness, separations or losses.

St. Peter's Ladies Advent Breakfast - December 16

The Advent Ladies Breakfast is on Saturday, December 16 at St. Peter's Church in the Hall. The doors open at 9:00 a.m. and breakfast is at 9:30 a.m. This year the Coachman is catering the breakfast. There will be door prizes, carol singing and a guest speaker. Please bring a food bank item for the Campbell River Food Bank.

Tickets are \$15.00 and will be available after church on November 26, December 3 and December 10. For more information, please call Pam (250)286-1847.

Sunday School Christmas Practice and Pageant - December 16 & 17

The **practice** is Saturday, December 16, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Healthy snacks will be provided on dress rehearsal day.

This year's Christmas **Pageant** is Sunday, December 17 at the 10:00 a.m. service.



St. Peter's Family Christmas Dinner - December 25 at 5:30 p.m.

You are invited to St. Peter's Family Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day at 5:30 p.m. Many of us who attend look forward to a large family dinner at Christmas but do not have extended family in the area. This will be the ninth year that we have enjoyed Christmas dinner as one large family - singles, couples and families with children.

We have a lot of fun, great conversation, and a lot of very good food. This is an organized meal with everyone contributing something. The menu features turkey with stuffing, mashed potatoes, carrots, peas, yams, and Brussels sprouts (and great desserts).

If dinner with the family of St. Peter's appeals to you, a sign-up sheet is posted. When you sign up, we will contact you so you can let us know what you would like to contribute or if you would like to help with set-up, decorating or clean up. If you would like more information, please contact Greg Goldstone at 250-850-1520 or email Greg_Goldstone@telus.net



Another Very Big Thank You!

We are very grateful to have had Kerrie Pulford as our Administrative Assistant at St. Peter's for over 17 years. She began working July 2000 and recently resigned her position in October 2017. She is very much enjoying semi-retirement and looks forward to being able to spend more time with her family, which includes trips back east to visit her grandchildren.

All the best, Kerrie!



Articles of Interest...

Hilda's "Address"

Hilda wrote the following poem for her Graduation Valedictory Address from Nurses Training 67 years ago. She said, "I thought it summed up our three-year training in the hospital."

Perhaps the only path to God
Is found through pain and tears,
And sleepless nights,
When all seems lost.
The fight not worth the fighting,
The goal not worth the journeying,
When mind and body shrink,
Before the light of yet another day.
And then,
Unmasked
Unsought
Most freely given
Is strength and warmth and love
We cannot comprehend.

Weaving a Tapestry of Inter-spiritual Community

I was a grateful recipient of a scholarship to attend a retreat led by Mirabai Starr and held at Lake Cowichan Forestry Research Station from September 27 – October 1.

I feel the hallmarks of this time for me were ones of stillness, mindfulness, gaining insight into spiritual practices of other religions apart from Christianity and a wonderful time of fellowship with the other participants.

Mirabai lives the values she teaches; she was a great example of inclusiveness, being non-judgmental, and was able to take our group from a collection of strangers, to a cohesive group of women, caring and concerned for the needs of the other.

Her authentic nature enabled me to assimilate new truths and already known spiritual practices into developing new, dynamic ways of viewing my spiritual practice. Sitting in stillness, as we did daily, was wonderful, especially in such a peaceful, sacred place. Mirabai's

talks were enlightening, especially the ones about the Christian mystics, pushing me further to reflect and study their time honoured truths.

The small groups were helpful and we gained new insights through the tasks we were asked to do and share. Gathering around the fire was a highlight for me, a reminder of the fact that meetings such as these have been taking place for millennia around the world, and we are part of the great continuum. Mirabai wove in truths and spiritual insights of the main monotheistic traditions in an easy, natural way, and her examples of each showed her familiarity and skill in communicating these traditions to others.

I was impressed by Mirabai's perception and ability to take us towards the Divine Feminine by the end of the retreat, and her ability to help us revision our concepts and theologies.

The following poem about the Divine Feminine is the most immediate and tangible idea I came away with. I intend to read her translations of the Christian mystics, to facilitate and continue my spiritual growth. This workshop was a rich experience, one that cannot be easily replicated, as I found that Mirabai, the participants and the place a special resource given by God for our learning and pleasure.

Personal Reflections:

I was challenged by what the mystics had to say about the simplicity of faith, how their whole lives were about God's unconditional forgiveness and love. Moving from knowing in my head to experiencing His/Her love in my soul by letting go was very powerful. From these teachings, love for all beings and the earth becomes the reality that I need to re-commit to and open to again and again. The mystics also reinforced and affirmed the values that I practice in my personal spiritual practice of mindfulness. Finally, I treasured the time I was able to be in community with like-minded people.

Jane Jennings

Moving Forward

We were sailing towards Puerto Rico from the Bahamas, when many of our systems on Sereno failed. This poem questions ones beliefs, and looks to a more spiritual way of seeing the world. The universe did hold us up and we arrived safely in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico on time. I have included the following true article of an amazing rescue by dolphins. I would not have been surprised if we had such a miraculous rescue, but we were given the strength and energy to fix our gear somewhat, until we arrived at our destination.

Good Samaritan Dolphins:

1971, Yvonne Vladishavich was sailing on a yacht in the middle of the Indian Ocean when suddenly the craft exploded. She was thrown clear but the vessel sank and she was left

completely stranded. Far from shipping lanes, there was no hope of rescue. Terrified, she trod water while awaiting certain death. Then she saw three dolphins approach her. To her astonishment, one of them swam underneath her and buoyed her up with his own large body. The other two dolphins swam in the circles to protect her from sharks. The dolphins carried and protected her through the warm waters for many hours until they arrived at a marker buoy floating at sea. They left her on the buoy from which she was soon picked up by a passing ship. It was calculated that from the position of the buoy and the position of her yacht when it exploded, that the dolphins had carried her and kept her alive through two hundred miles of sea.

Moving Forward

Quietly gazing at this beautiful world
Glimpses of the Creator
Wake us,
Take us,
Challenge us to experience
More than we can ask or imagine.

Can we hold loosely our hard-earned security?
The house, car, boat, perhaps a cabin too?
Our comforts,
Our sorrows,
Our planned tomorrows
For a life uncertain, unknown.

Are we brave enough to find the faith
To trust the universe will hold us
Enfold us
Shelter us
Awake us to live
Present, part of God's creation.

Jane Jennings

Our Calgary Connection

The Devolli family arrived in Campbell River June 1999 and moved to Calgary in September 2000. They have purchased a house and settled well there although they do say it is cold.

Xhevat worked in the oil industry and has been unemployed since the economic turn-around in the oil industry Arjeta is a teacher's assistant and works with many elementary school children learning English and the ways of Canada as her family did.

Fisnik, 21, is attending school and apprenticing as an automobile mechanic. He loves cars.

Dea, 22, is attending college and will start her co-op portion soon with one more year of school to be an accountant.

They remember St. Peter's and Campbell River fondly. They spent one Christmas here and Johnnie and a friend freshly cut down a Christmas tree and delivered it to their house with decorations on Christmas Eve. Their custom had been that they celebrated Christmas New Year's Eve and just the children receive presents. It did not take long for the children to teach them the Canadian way. Johnnie's friend a non-church goer commented that this gesture made him realize a special and true Christmas feeling.

Arjeta's mother has since become a Canadian citizen as have they and she spends her time between Calgary and her birth home.



On-Going...

Mindfulness Practice Group Winter Sessions

A new time for the mindfulness group has been announced. The group will be meeting from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. every Wednesday during the winter in St. Peter's Anglican Church Library.

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

St. Peter's Supports Grassroots/Kind Hearts -Third Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m.

Our next Grassroots Kind Hearts Dinner is to be **Wednesday, December 20.**

Each third Wednesday of the month, members of the parish prepare, deliver and serve dinner to our family and friends of the street. As of this writing, we just MAY be serving it at an indoor location, by then! St. Peters has been so so lucky, on our evenings, to date, it has been as clear and nice as one could hope for...although it was getting pretty cold at our November dinner and definitely dark!

As coordinator, I want everyone to know, how much I appreciate the enthusiastic and loving reception this outreach has been received with. Each month, people step up to ask to be involved, or help with money to support the cost when needed. There are people who bake, or prepare salads, and leave them to be picked up to be served, if they cannot be there to help serve. Some people prepare a dish and are able to deliver it, but not stay and serve, and some people prepare and serve. It's all good!

Dinner is served at 5 p.m., to about 50 men, women and children.

To participate: Please leave a message for Diana Hicks @ 250-286-1613 or email stpeterscampbellriver@shaw.ca and put "GRKH-Diana" in the subject line.

Announcements...



Weddings

Dan and Danna Depew September 2, 2017

Deaths

Marion Winnifred Nelson October 18, 2017

New Office Administrator - Welcome, Rebecca!



Rebecca Lyons joined St. Peter's Anglican Church in October 2017. She has lived on Vancouver Island for over ten years with her family, owning her own Pet and Home Care business in the Comox Valley.

Originally, from England, her experience comes from living in Canada, U.S.A. and Australia. She has a Bachelor of Education Degree in Early Childhood Education and has taught children for over 20 years in Schools, Childcare Centres and Churches. She was the Youth Director of Children's Ministries, and a Special Needs Support Teacher.

Living with RA, she strongly supports the BC Arthritis Society in addition to running a 'low-impact' outdoors group for up to 50 members.

Rebecca enjoys spending time with her pets, books, friends and family, and in her spare time, she makes jewelry.

Again, welcome to St. Peter's, Rebecca!

Storage Needed Now - for St. Peter's Spring Garage Sale

We are having a garage sale in late May; however, we would like storage now so that we can start collecting after Christmas as gifts replace older things and into Spring Cleaning. If you have covered space such as a garage or a spare corner of the basement that is not in use, please let Greg know. Email: Greg_Goldstone@telus.net

Pots Needed for the Plant Sale - May 2018

The plant sale is in need of pots for the sale in May; although this seems a long way off, May will be here before you know it. In the coming months, gather the pots you do not need and bring them to the shed behind the church. (Your friends and neighbours are a great source for pots, too.)

Food Bank Requests

If you are planning to take part in the Reverse Advent Calendar Project sponsored by the Intermediate Sunday School Class (see page 14), please consider including the following items in your box.

The CRFB is on the lookout for the following high protein, whole grain, lower sodium (salt) and lower sugar items:

Canned fish or meats

100% nut butters

Canned vegetables, pasta sauces

Whole grain breakfast cereals

Canned beans, kidney, black bean, chickpeas

Pasta and rice

Canned fruit, packed in its own juice or water

Hearty soups, stews and chili

There is also a shelf at the Food Bank, which has a number of personal items from which clients may take one item. Shampoo, toothpaste, lotions, etc. are most welcome.

Mystery Parishioner!

Did you guess the Mystery Parishioner in the September issue of Spirit?

It is Reverend Phil Zimmerman.
(See Phil's Story on page 2)



Weekly Schedule at St. Peter's

Monday	10:00 am to 2pm	Library
Wednesday	10 am	ACW Fellowship
	12:10 pm	Noon Eucharist
	3:30 to 4:30 pm	Mindfulness
Friday	3 pm	Choir Practice

Other Monthly & Occasional Activities at St. Peter's

1 st Tuesday of the Month	Eucharist at Yucalta Lodge at 3:00 p.m.
1 st Wednesday of the Month	Eucharist at Berwick at 1:30 p.m.
1 st Thursday of the Month	Hymn Sing, Evergreen Seniors Home at 10:30 p.m.
3 rd Thursday of the Month	Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
2 nd Sunday of the Month	Service at St. Saviour's, Cortes Island 2:30
4 th Sunday of the Month	Service alternating between Yucalta (2:00 p.m.) and New Horizons (2:00 p.m.)

Notable Future Dates (Mark your calendars):

- Lessons and Carols 10:00 a.m. December 3
- Holy Communion at Yucalta Lodge Care Home 3:00 p.m. December 5
- Hymn Sing – Evergreen Seniors Home 10:30 a.m. December 7
- Campbell River Children's Choir December 9
- Blue Christmas 10:00 a.m. December 10
- Church Service at St. Saviour's Cortez Island 2:30 p.m. December 10
- Ladies Christmas Breakfast at St. Peter's Hall 9:00 a.m. December 16
- Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal 1:00 p.m. December 16
- Christmas Pageant 10:00 a.m. December 17
- Christmas Eve Family Service 4:00 p.m. December 24
- Christmas Eve Candle Light Service 11:00 p.m. December 24
- Christmas Day Service 10:00 a.m. December 25
- Christmas Dinner at St. Peter's Parish Hall 5:30 p.m. December 25

