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PARISH PROFILE – 2022

“Everybody’s Welcome”

“Inspired by God and the example of Jesus to serve our community by offering love and acceptance to everyone¹”

St. Peter is a vibrant, self-supporting parish located in a community renowned for its natural beauty and its recreational opportunities. We are blessed with a loving congregation and modern buildings that are accessible to everyone. We, as part of the diocesan vision, are on a Sacred Journey towards being a Renewed People with Renewed Hearts and Spirits.



Affiliated with St. Peter is St. Saviour by the Sea, a mission church located on Cortes Island. Prior to the pandemic, St. Peter provided an officiant at the monthly service at St. Saviour.

1. vision statement from at our 2017 visioning day



OUR COMMUNITY

The City of Campbell River is a beautiful coastal community located midway up the east coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Campbell River has a population of 36,000 and is the regional center for approximately 60,000 people, including four adjacent First Nations communities. We are served by a modern 95 bed hospital completed in 2017.

For more information, please visit the following:

<http://www.campbellriver.ca/discover-campbell-river/visitor-info>

www.campbellriverchamber.ca

www.campbellriver.travel

www.hellobc.com/vancouver-island/popular-areas/north-central.aspx

OUR JOURNEY

In early 2020 our rector was elected Bishop and almost simultaneously COVID 19 struck and we were required to suspend in-person operations. Beginning at that moment all our parish programs were suspended. We recognize that we have changed as well. Some of these programs will be revived, others will not, and we can't say which is which at this time. What we are doing, or aspire to do, is listed on our website.

We have been served in the interim by a priest-in-charge who has challenged us to learn to use the technology and take our services and meetings on to zoom. She has also invited us to consider what needed to be done in the interim and led us in that reflection. She has also invited a growth in lay leadership.

As we contemplated updating our profile in late 2021 our bishop asked us to consider three questions: What is at our heart? What are our assets? What are our needs? Parish Council considered these questions in November. We think these responses are an accurate and heartfelt description of where we are – as a rapidly changing community.

What is at the Heart of this community of St. Peter's?

Covid has been helpful in knowing one another, caring for one another, we know each other better, we have learned that we can continue to thrive, we are stronger than we knew.

Worship – being together in one place – in person and online – has a new and deeper value for us.

We can adapt – learning technology, new patterns of communication. We are even doing coffee hour via Zoom.

During the pandemic the parish has reinstated a phone buddy system and have 20 people buddied up with others, many of whom are shut in or living alone.

Prayer – we are a praying community in many ways. There are formal groups such as the Prayer Chain and informal prayer partners with dedicated purpose. Lay Assistants compose and lead the prayers in the liturgy. There are individuals with disciplined practice and spiritual direction. We have a new labyrinth to add to all of that.

Our mindfulness meditation group meetings, outside when weather permits or via Zoom, are well attended.



Heart for others: the ACW has decades of experience providing money and in-kind support for a wide variety of community needs. Others in the parish also work to serve in the wider community in a variety of ways. Our buildings and grounds serve 8 12-step groups, and most recently, an emergency cold-weather shelter. As a parish we support the Campbell River Food Bank on a regular basis through financial donations and food drives. We support a local group (Grass Roots Kind Hearts) that works with the homeless by providing and serving the evening meal once a month.

What are the Assets of the community of St. Peter?

Our Church plant, consisting of a church, a hall, four classrooms, two offices and a library, was built in 1987 and has had extensive renewal in recent years including new heating system, new hot water heater, exterior repairs and paint, landscape renewal, and a large, well-maintained parking lot.

Our hall is approximately 1,800 sq. ft. with raised ceilings and is adjoined by a well-equipped kitchen of 400 sq. ft. The nave and the hall are connected by the Narthex. Between the narthex and the hall is the library, which serves also as a large meeting room.



We are “in the black” as a parish; we have no debt and we have some financial reserves as well. We are aware that COVID has taken a toll on us and that we will need to work on both stewardship and community building in the post COVID world.

We have an extensive and beautiful property. We host a community garden on part of the grounds, allow space for outdoor education for the private school next door and have a

recently built labyrinth. The area around the church is attractively landscaped. There is a Memorial Garden transferred from the old 1930 building, and a Celebration Garden in contemporary use for cremated remains.

The Congregation has many willing workers able to do what needs to be done.

The elected and appointed leaders of the parish are able and wise, and willing to tackle difficult issues with courage.

The parishioners have discovered their own adaptability, especially liturgically. There is a willingness to do new things, to try things, to be flexible. We have a great commitment to inclusion of our members who can't attend in person and are present through zoom in a hybrid worship program. We are grateful for a slightly briefer liturgy and concise sermons.

Even though we can't sing as a congregation we have talented and generous musicians who sing and play for us.

We value the witness and leadership of a deacon who serves the congregation and the Community of Campbell River in a variety of ways. He and our interim priest work collegially and amiably on matters of education, liturgy, pastoral care (when needed), and outreach.

We have many able people, among them is our Communications Coordinator who has built and maintains our website.

Visit our website at www.stpeterscampbellriver.com

Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StPetersCRiver/>

We also have a closed Facebook page.

We have a very fine parish magazine called "The Spirit" and all past issues are preserved on the website.

What are the needs of the community of St. Peter?

Overall, the parish is 'tech challenged', with limited experience and limited access to devices. To some extent this is due to age (although there is more than one 90+ year old on zoom these days). Many people are willing to learn, some are not.

Campbell River has several First Nation's Communities within it and around it. We do a careful land acknowledgement, publish and discuss the Calls to Action, recognize and participate in "Every Child Matters" (Orange Shirt Day), but we decided to wait for a new rector before working on building relationships with these communities. This is important to us.

There is a parish on Cortez Island that is traditionally served monthly by St. Peter's. There has been no visit made since the start of COVID, though we have taken steps to communicate and update the parish list.

We find ourselves longing for stable clergy leadership. Four of the last ten years have been transitional years and we would like that to end. We have been well-served by interim clergy but there are things waiting to be done and we want to do them.

We have few families with children. We understand that this may continue to be the case, but we do find reaching out to new people more challenging with the restrictions of COVID. We need encouragement and support to do this.

We respect and love our deacon and we want to be sure that his ministry is respected in the transition.

As good as our communications are we know there is room for improvement.

We have a growing sensitivity to the climate crisis and we would be grateful for more leadership to enable us to respond well in our parish community.

We recognize that there are some failures of inclusion. We have an inclusive marriage policy, but audible grumbles have offended. We are becoming aware and growing more sensitive to racism within us and around us, but we know we have far to go. We even need to find ways to address agism. We have not yet begun to look for resources, but we know we need to work in this area.

OUR FINANCES

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Revenue	220,144	222,247	215,167	166,468	172,471
Expenditures	206,334	237,351	197,402	153,890	144,834
Surplus/deficit	13,810	-15,124	17,765	12,578	27,637

OUR HISTORY

Our present church was built in 1987 and replaced the original St. Peter, which dates back to 1931. The original St. Peter began as a mission of St. John, Quathiaski Cove, on Quadra Island, across Discovery Passage from Campbell River. The church had been established on the island by the Columbia Coast Mission, which built churches and missions in coastal communities up

and down the BC coast, accessing rural communities by mission boats. Originally shared with the United and Lutheran Churches, St. Peter was served initially by the Columbia Coast Mission and was not consecrated until June 1941.

Following the construction of the new church, St. Peter went through another period of growth and regeneration, with a revitalized and very active congregation. Pews were purchased and installed (1997), the hall which had been built as a shell was finished in 1999 followed by completion of the kitchen in 2001. More recently, the roof over the sanctuary has been replaced and all lighting has been changed over to LED. COVID -19 has not stopped the improvements to the church. In 2020 the exterior of the church was repainted, the furnaces for the sanctuary, narthex and offices were replaced, some exterior siding was replaced and the gardens surrounding the church were revitalized. Approximately 1,000 volunteer hours went into these projects. In 2021 the hall heating and air conditioning unit was replaced.

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