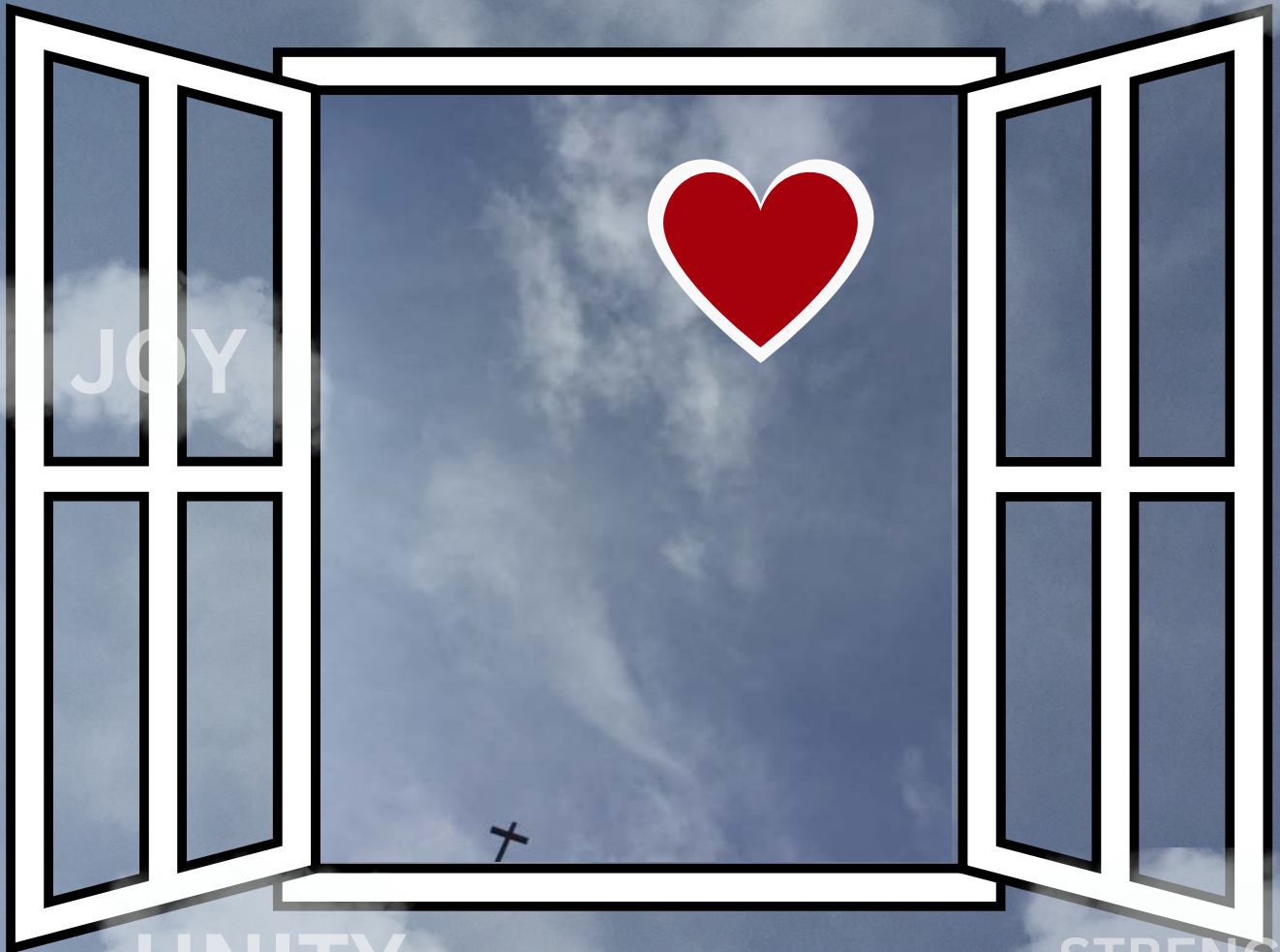


Spirit

From the Heart

LOVE



JOY

UNITY

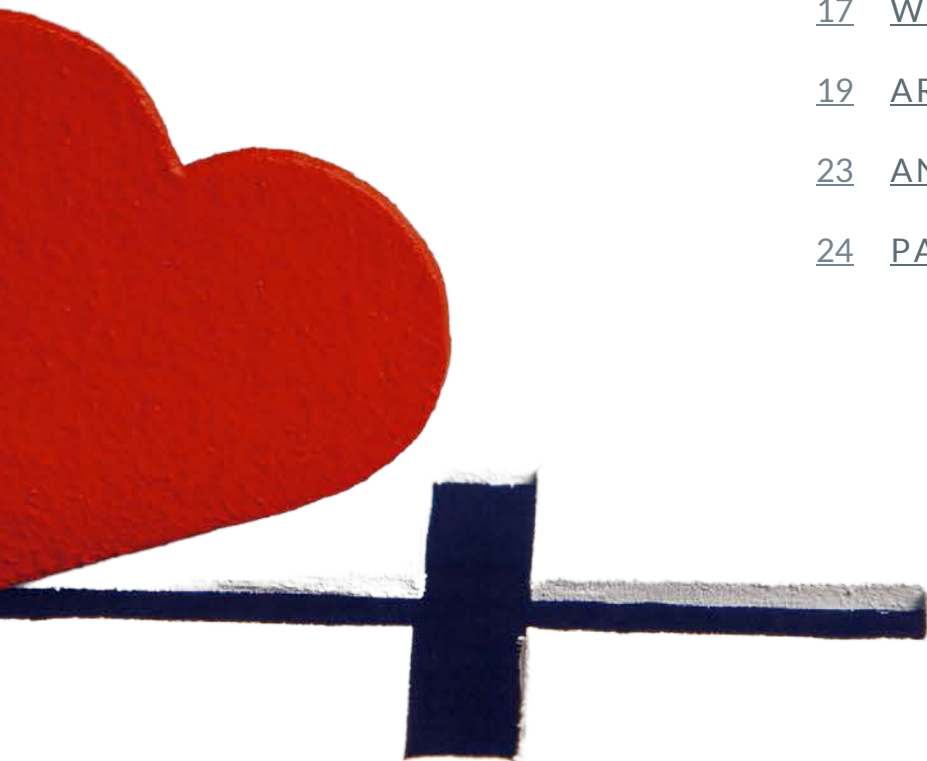
STRENGTH

COMPASSION

Spring 2023 - Issue 1

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

From the Editor

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Deputy Wardens: Tony Smith, Frank Maga

I have always been a little hesitant to set a theme for Spirit because I am amazed at what emerges from the submissions without one being set. But when Trina suggested "From the Heart" I thought it seemed like a good idea. And, February is "Heart Month". So, what does "from the heart" mean? It is an idiom. If something is said from the heart, it is said with sincerity. All contributors to this Spirit rose to the challenge and submitted a variety of articles; reports, articles, stories and poems. All are definitely "From the Heart."

On a sad note, my heart is heavy with the loss of our friend and minister, Cathie; and, our friends and parishioners, Pat, Sandi, Joan and Hilda. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all their families and all who knew them.

Thank you to all who submitted articles for this issue of Spirit. We wouldn't have a Spirit without your words! Sincerely!

Jane





Remembering Cathie



We would be reading an article, entitled "In the Interim", by our interim minister, Cathie Hall, but sadly, this is not to be. Cathie became ill this past fall and died on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) or Lou Gehrig's disease.

The Rev. Dr. Catherine Dafoe Hall was called Cathie by her friends and parishioners. Cathie was ordained a priest in 1987 and served parishes in three dioceses. She described her special interest as congregational vitality, which looked at ministries and activities that support the life of the parish and the community around it.

Cathie was also the part-time Director of EfM Canada. Education for Ministry (EfM), is a program of theological education for lay people which takes place in small groups or in small groups online.

Cathie was a widow with adult children and lived and worked in Nanaimo before coming to St. Peter Church. Leo was her frequent companion, a retired 'hearing ear' dog almost 11 years old, but energetic and active.

Cathie was appointed interim priest-in-charge to St Peter, Campbell River, effective July 28, 2020. She worked one day a week through August; and increased her time to two days a week, (Wednesdays and Sundays) until October 2022.



Carnival



Christening Kellan



Covid Palm Sunday

The following biography of Cathie was forwarded to one of our parishioners from her friend in the Diocese of Kootenay where Cathie served.





Diocese of Kootenay

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Dear People of the Diocese of Kootenay,

It is with sadness we announce the death of The Rev. Catherine June Hall (née Dafoe) on Wednesday, February 8, 2023. A brief biography has been included below, a full obituary and funeral arrangements will follow when available.

- 1947 Born in Prince Rupert
- 1984 BA University of Alberta, Edmonton
- 1987 MDiv VST
- 1987 Ordained in Diocese of Cariboo (Bishop John Snowden)
- 1987-90 Two-point parish Anglican-United Shared Ministry Robson Valley, Cariboo
- 1990-93 Diocesan Program Officer, Cariboo and Associate Priest, St. Michael & All Angels, Prince George
- 1993-2000 Incumbent, St. Hilda's, Sechelt (Diocese of New Westminster)
- 2000-2007 Incumbent, St. John the Apostle, Port Moody (Diocese of New Westminster)
- 2004 DMin, VST
- 2011 Dean of Central Okanagan Region
- 2007-14 Incumbent, St. Andrew's, Okanagan Mission (Diocese of Kootenay)
- 2009- 23 Director of Education for Ministry (EfM) Canada
- 2020- 23 Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Peter, Campbell River (Diocese of British Columbia)

Please hold in your prayers Catherine's family, the congregations she has served and EfM Canada.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Yours in Christ,
+Lynne





Warden's Words



For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven, for peace and war, for embracing and holding back, for love and hate and planting and reaping, for birthing and dying, for mourning and dancing. For everything! And we at St. Peter are every activity under heaven!

We are a bustling church throughout every season. Since the last update in the Fall Spirit we continue with Grass Roots, Kind Hearts, Monday coffee hour, Mindfulness, the ACW meetings and the Prayer Chain. The Christmas Market was a great success which included dozens of gift baskets for sale and all the delicious baking! December 25th saw 18 people enjoy a delicious Christmas dinner in the hall! The food and clothing drive was held for the food bank during December and into January and we were so pleased to have had so much generosity of giving to those in need in our community.

Bishop Anna visited us in November and reminded us of what a strong congregation we are. She spoke to us during coffee and answered our questions of concern regarding a new minister to lead us.

Our priest in charge Cathie Hall passed away in February and we continue to pray for her family.

Much gratitude to Susan and David for leading services.

Many of you give of your talents and time which makes our church run as smoothly as it does. We work together for the good of St. Peter.

We have a new office administrator and our hall is rented out almost every day of the week! There is a lovely new wall hanging in the narthex showcasing mementos from Buckingham Palace on the passing of Queen Elizabeth.

Heartfelt thanks to Jane and Trina for their enthusiasm and joy they put into creating this amazing Spirit magazine for all to enjoy and to all who contribute to help make it possible. I've heard it's one of the best in the diocese! Something to be extremely proud of!

Thank you can sometimes get overlooked and never intentionally. So please know how truly grateful we are to each and every one of you!

Blessings: Lois Tirebuck, Frank Maga, Tony Smith & Pauline Woods



Bishop Anna





Spirit of Finance

Holly Finn, Treasurer



I will take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy and Healthy 2023! We had a quiet Christmas but did have a "Signal" video with each of our daughters on Christmas morning. What a treat to see our grandchildren's faces, filled with delight – especially the 2 1/2-year-old – she is just getting the hang of it all! The baby was content to tear and play with the wrapping paper.

2022 was a good year for St. Peter. We got a lot done with improvements and mechanical "fixes" to the building. Thank you to George and all of his team for your faithful service.

We do have a lot of money in the bank. \$117,000 (at December 31) is such a large number and I am sure you are wondering why it is so high and why are we not giving most of it away. Well, you know, as I know, that once we get an incumbent, those funds could disappear very quickly. We will have to pay moving expenses and perhaps cover other expenses for that person and we have to be prepared for that eventuality.

We received an email from the Diocese stating that our insurance premium is going up approximately

30% this year. That will take our premium to around \$8,900. That was a surprise email that I was not prepared to receive. The new number is in the Budget.

We had snow – the month of December cost us \$2,500 in snow removal and salt application. It is just something that we have to do if we are to continue to have clubs and groups use our facility – and it's a busy building!

Another surprise that I received was the Diocese's decision to change our Electronic Collection Plate Program. The administrative costs for overseeing the program were becoming prohibitive for them and so they found a program which is run by the United Church. I got us signed up as a parish and, as I write this, am still waiting for some previous ECP participants to sign up. The administrative costs will now fall on our shoulders and we are looking at about 5% of the whole monthly deposit. It is a good way to support the church and it certainly does help us to keep our cash flow in order. If you want to know more, or want to sign up, please feel free to give me a call at 250-895-1911 or email me at hollymfinn@gmail.com.

As I sit in the pews on Sunday, I find myself thanking God for the parish of St. Peter – the people within and the energy and spirit that flow from them. Even as I mourn Cathie's passing, I thank her sincerely for her love and commitment to us all. Blessings.

Pre-authorized payment systems can help church finances significantly, say giving experts.



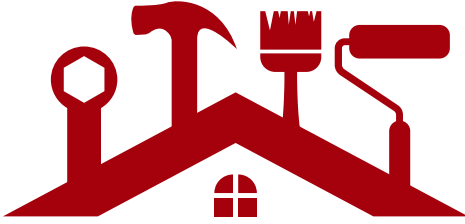
Image: Destiary/Shutterstock and Jane Thornton





BUILDING MAINTENANCE

George Wagner



“Our building is the physical Heart and Soul of St. Peter as it offers a space for our parish activities as well as community outreach activities.”

Since the Fall Spirit the following has been done to maintain and enhance the Church and hall:

- 1.The metal light pole in the parking lot was repainted.
- 2.The lines for the parking lot stalls and the handicapped parking stall signs were repainted which has greatly improved the delineation and the designation of the parking spaces.
- 3.Weather stripping was added to the front door to eliminate the draft from the gap between the two doors.
- 4.Documented inspections of our fire safety equipment and the building have occurred most months this year which is a City Fire Department requirement. The annual detailed check of our fire extinguishers, emergency lighting and our fire alarm system was completed by a licensed fire equipment inspection company in September. As a result of this inspection, it was determined that our 8 heat detectors in the Hall and Basement areas were subject to a recall and they were replaced in early January 2023.



Did you know?

Portable fire extinguishers should be inspected by a professional every year, and should receive a visual inspection on a monthly basis. Visual inspections are quick checks to ensure the extinguisher is fully charged and ready for use, and anyone can perform them.

- 5.The Hall floor was stripped and waxed. This vastly improved the serviceability of the floor for all users.
- 6.Outriggers were added to the tippy kneeler stand in the chancel. This repair made the kneeler slightly less prone to falling over. However, it is apparent that a more substantial base is required on the kneeler. This will be tried soon.
- 7.The blue window behind the altar was inspected and found to be in good condition. The piece that was noticed to be hanging down at the lower window seam was a double sided foam strip from the blue plexiglass which had become detached. It was repositioned and clear flex tape was added to the two horizontal seams.
- 8.Kate Fitzsimmons is leading the project to repaint the ladies' washroom. This will certainly freshen up the space.

TECHNOLOGY - ZOOM ETIQUETTE

Tony Smith



At St. Peter we have now been holding Zoom worship services for over two years and the congregation is to be congratulated on how they have adopted and embraced the technology. However, there have been a few minor speed bumps along the way so now is a good time to remind people who are using Zoom to be aware of them.

1

The first is sound and the need for people on Zoom to remain on mute unless actively involved in participating in the service such as being a reader or making an announcement. If a person unmutes then all sounds from that person’s computer go into the sanctuary’s speaker system for all the congregation to hear. This includes side conversations, background radio and television and the like. For Sunday services, the Zoom administrator will mute all just prior to the service beginning. At home, the Zoom participants can check their audio status by looking at the audio control button on the screen. It should have a red line through it. That line indicates that their microphone is off and muted.

mute button

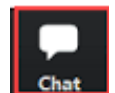
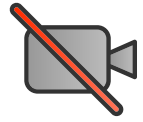


TECHNOLOGY - ZOOM ETIQUETTE

Continued...

2 The second is video. One of the joys of Zoom is that the members of the congregation can see on the big screen TV all the Zoom participants who are an integral part of the corporate worship service. It is with great joy we see the Zoom participants singing the hymns at home alongside the congregation in the sanctuary. The downside is that if your camera at home is on then it will pick up the image it is aimed at. Hopefully, it is aimed at the Zoom participant and not at the ceiling or floor. Also, it will pick up whatever the Zoom participant is doing at the time. We have all seen the jokes early in the COVID pandemic of Zoom participants working from home and the camera picking up the person's pajama bottoms or worse. Zoom participants always have the option of turning off their camera temporarily by clicking on the Video control button on their screen. This should stop the video immediately but will not disconnect them from the Zoom session. The Zoom participant can reengage the camera again by clicking the Video control button again and camera function should resume.

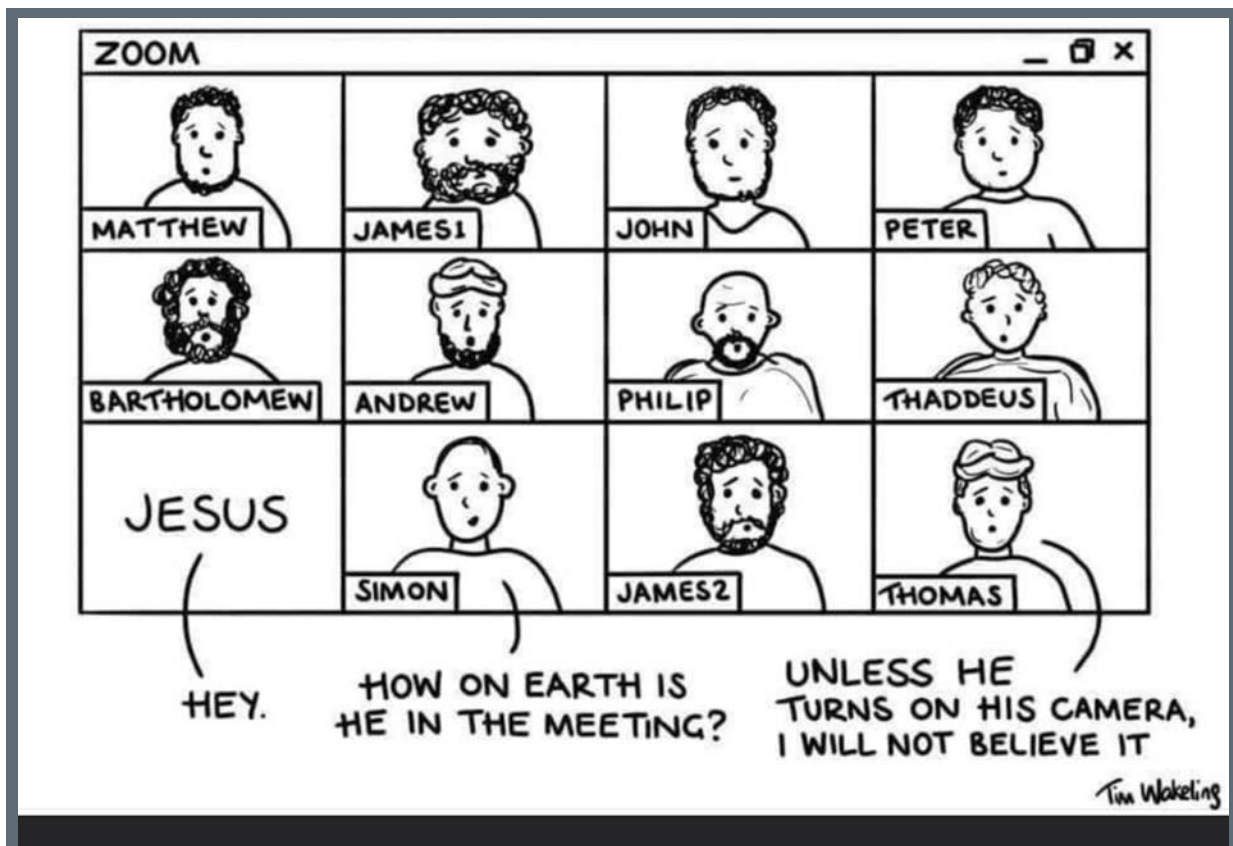
Video off



3 Lastly is communicating with the Zoom operator. This can be done at any time by using the Chat function built into Zoom. The chat function allows anyone on the Zoom session to communicate with any or all of the Zoom participants and it does this without creating any sound going out over the sanctuary speakers.

Many Zoom participants are heeding these warnings but if anyone needs help, please contact me. As different devices have their control buttons in different places on the screen I could not in the information above give more specific details, but I can help often through a simple phone call.

In conclusion, I want to say again how wonderful it is that our congregation has embraced this technology. If anyone reading this wants to get more involved in using Zoom at the church, please do not hesitate to let me know. More help is always welcome. Respectfully submitted, Tony Smith





ACW History - Mary Fitzgerald Branch

In 1952 a group of 12 women met for Christian Fellowship with a strong desire to see St. Peter Church grow and prosper. The twelve were wives with small children.

Many fundraisers such as teas, harvest dinners, bazaars, etc. were held during the first several decades, and the group grew and became a strong presence in the church.

The first small hall used for ACW Events stood behind the original church. A larger hall, still standing today, was used later on, beginning sometime in the 1960s. This hall saw much activity in the form of even bigger and better teas and dinners. Much planning and preparation took place here to the benefit of St. Peter's, but something else benefitted too, and that was the strong commitment of the member to work well together, to be useful in their church, and to the community around them, to be proud of their accomplishments, and proud to be members of such a compatible group of women. So from a small beginning, known first as the Women's Auxiliary to St Peter, the name changed in 1966 to Anglican Church Women.

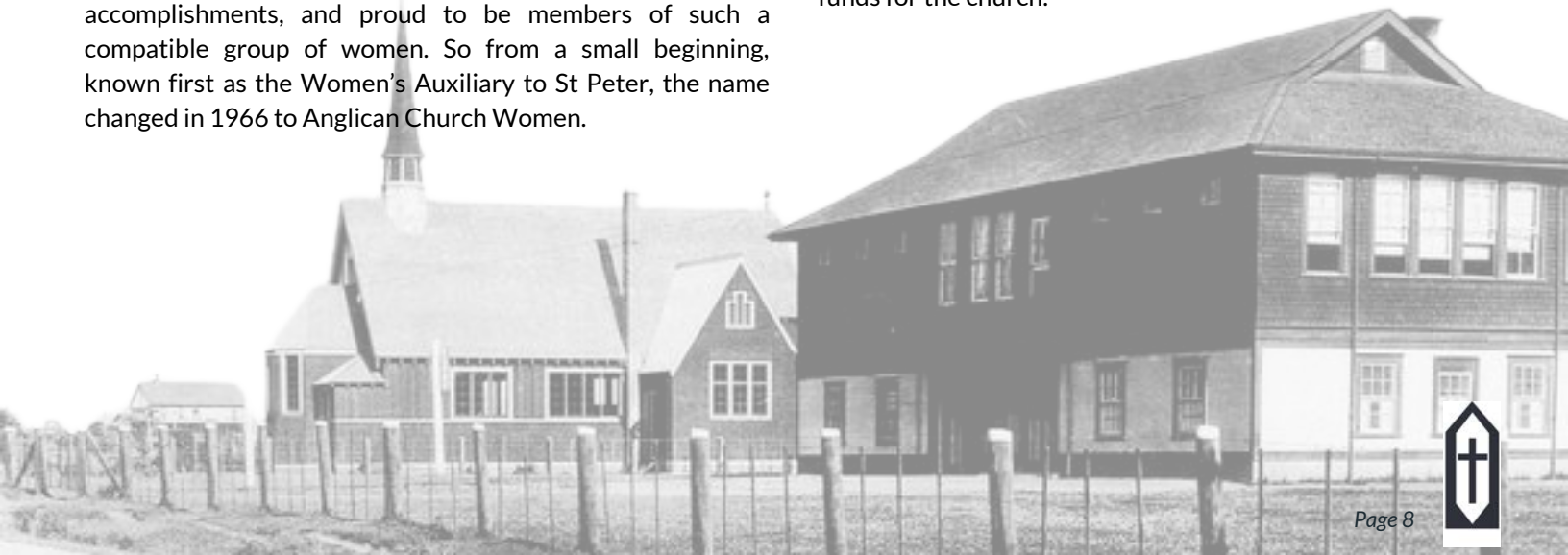
In February 1969, the ACW President of the day asked Canon Green if they could use his wife's name for the branch. He suggested Mary Fitzgerald as she was instrumental in starting a youth group, helped raise funds for a spire on St Peter Church and had been a strong supporter of the church. The Fitzgerald family deemed this to be a great honour and granted permission to use Mary Fitzgerald as the name of the ACW. On June 25, 1969 a dedication service was held to make it official and a tea was held to celebrate the occasion. Before St. Peter Hall was finished, our ACW along with other churches in the Campbell River area joined forces putting on the shared Bazaar at the Thunderbird Hall. And, book sales were held in the Ironwood mall, now, the Campbell River Common.

The ACW Today - Women of St. Peter Anglican Church



We come together for fellowship and to support our church and its needs within our community. We are all inspired by God and the example of Jesus to serve our community by offering love and acceptance to everyone!

The ACW meet every Friday morning at St. Peter at 10:00 a.m. for coffee and a time of fellowship and sharing. Those who wish to work on crafts or projects are encouraged to do so. The June meeting is a yearly wind-up. The December meeting is a Christmas luncheon. In our parish we raise funds for the church.





The ACW Today - Women of St. Peter Anglican Church

We also respond to various community needs. Every year we have a “baby shower” and buy clothing items to supply newborns to 4 years of age with clothing and small toys. Our knitted outfits and lap blankets are included. We knit newborn baby caps which are distributed through the hospital gift shop. We donate lap blankets to senior facilities. This year we had several sewing bees to complete full size quilts for the men’s transition house. These quilts of love are given to each man to take with them along with a bag of personal items and chocolate when they leave the facility. Women also receive grab bags with personal belongings and chocolate.



An Interview with Stella Moore Submitted by Royeen Silver

I chatted with Stella Moore, a long-time member of St. Peter ACW. Stella has an excellent memory of our many activities that she was a part of over the years. She joined the ACW in 1970 - I joined in 1974, about the same time as Valerie Leonard.

The two words “part of” is what she wanted to emphasize. She was part of many, many of our activities, but didn’t want to claim any notoriety for her participation. So many others were involved and as she said, “I was helping out, no more no less, than the others.” Those of us still around, knew her to be a stalwart, especially when we had a large catering job to do.

In 1974 I’d only gone to a couple of meetings, and was not overly keen on getting “too involved.” I ran into Stella and her husband, Ed, at the Safeway store. She beamed her big, lovely Newfoundland smile and said, “Coming to the next meeting?” And I guess I couldn’t resist. So here I am, many years later.

One project Stella fully supported with Bev Devine, was the baking of light and dark Christmas cakes. She reminded me that while the cakes were baking, she and Bev cooked marmalade on top of the stove. She loved working with Bev. This was all done in Bev’s home. From me, this may have been the first Christmas cake baking that was undertaken for the church. Several others have taken this project on and it has become quite famous in Campbell River.

This holds true for the Bazaars of the past and recently the Christmas Market, something to be proud of, as it is a considerable fundraiser for the church. Any of us who’ve been connected to the bazaars have found it a rewarding event and always lots of fun for the workers.





Ministries

“With the theme of 'from the heart', Spirit Magazine recognizes some very special people in the life of St. Peter Anglican Church, Campbell River.

THE ALTAR GUILD - *Kate Fitzsimmons*

From the very beginning of Saint Peter, Campbell River, throughout its time in all its locations, has had a ministry of service often behind the scenes, which was definitely from the heart to God, the quiet but important ministry of the Altar Guild.

In the past, a schedule of pairs of Altar Guild members was created by the Altar Guild president for each quarter, each pair taking a turn every 4 - 6 weeks, depending on the number of members. Each pair would care for cleaning of the dais, the altar and all furniture, flowers and plants, dusting the furniture and the large cross, caring for the hangings and linens, and preparing the elements of the Eucharist for Sunday services, among a myriad of other things. They monitored and maintained a stock of candles, and wafers and wine for the eucharist. Altar Guild also set up the sanctuary for funerals and spent much time beautifully decorating the sanctuary for Christmas, Thanksgiving, and Easter. Their service has always been important, and mostly done out of the sight of the congregation, behind the scenes.

For the past several years, Altar Guild was led by Frances Hudock until her resignation in fall of 2022, due to personal circumstances. Other members were Sandra Ohlinger, a member of Altar Guild for 25 years, who went on leave in the fall, leaving Quentin Dodd, Kate Fitzsimmons, and Lori Gooldrup to serve. Three people is not a sufficient number to continue Altar Guild work as it has traditionally been lovingly done over the years, so adjustments have had to be made. Preparation of the elements of the Eucharist has become part of the work of the lay assistants, who now set up for the next service of Eucharist following a service in which they have assisted the priest. The ongoing weekly and seasonal tasks, and the monitoring of supplies traditionally done by Altar Guild has now become part of the work of the church administrator.

St. Peter needs to acknowledge and to offer deepest thanks to Frances Hudock for her leadership, and to Frances and Sandra Ohlinger for their longstanding and loving work of ministry in Altar Guild for so many years. We all benefited from their steadfast and dedicated service, and from the service of the many who came and went over the years. Such devotion to God and the loving work of service from the heart is to be appreciated by all who worship in this place.





PRAYER MINISTRY

*Day is done, but love unfailing
 Dwells ever here;
 Shadows fall, but hope prevailing,
 Calms ev'ry fear.
 Loving Father, none forsaking,
 Take our hearts, of love's own making,
 Watch our sleeping, guard our waking,
 Be always near.*

*Dark descends, but light unending
 Shines through our night;
 You are with us, ever lending
 New strength to sight:
 One in love, your truth confessing,
 One in hope of heaven's blessing,
 May we see, in love's possessing,
 Love's endless light!*

*Eyes will close, but you, unsleeping,
 Watch by our side;
 Death may come, in love's safekeeping
 Still we abide.
 God of love, all evil quelling,
 Sin forgiving, fear dispelling,
 Stay with us, our hearts indwelling,
 This eventide.*

*"Day is Done" by James Quinn, SJ.
 Copyright © 1969, Oregon Catholic Press. All rights reserved.*



My Prayer Blanket

My 6-year-old granddaughter Roselyn Olivia Ball was playing space with her 3-year-old brother and had all their blankets spread out down the hall. When they messaged me that night, she asked me what the story was to her soft pale yellow prayer blanket. I told her when she was born very sick, the ladies from my church prayed as they knit her blanket for her health and getting well, and gifted her with this blanket. Thank you, ladies, for this Ministry of love from your heart and soul.

Pamela Hedderson



*"May this blanket be a sign of God's
 loving, healing presence
 May it warm you when you are weary.
 May it encourage you when you are
 discouraged.
 May it assure you of God's care and
 comfort.
 May it remind you that you are
 surrounded by the prayers of others.*





Heart & Soul of Our Community

“

As Christians, we are called to support and be compassionate to those who are struggling. The men and women dealing with homelessness, mental health challenges and substance misuse are one such group

HEART & SOUL FOR THE STRUGGLING

Mary Cook

I went on the “[Walk with Me](#)” walk in Campbell River last spring, thinking I knew what it was all about... As a nurse, I have lots of training and I could never understand why they could not set a goal and “just stick with it until it was completed”. How naïve I was...

The walk in Campbell River starts at Spirit Square REGARDLESS of the weather. The irony was not lost on me as I pulled on thick, warm socks, slid my feet into warm, dry winter boots and pulled on vest, coat and gloves with reflective technology to keep me toasty. I thought “they do not have any of this”. It was raining that day and I nearly put on my rain pants. We were fed before and after the walk. I thought there might be cold coffee and stale muffins. Ah, no- incorrect AGAIN.

There were lots of support people for a group of maybe 25 participants from all walks of life: Mums and Dads with strollers, retired people, tourists from Norway who had seen the sign when at the Tourism Centre, concerned citizens, book club members, students in multiple health care disciplines, all of Campbell River represented in the group. There was First Nations drumming before we headed out. We were all provided with high end audio headsets, with self-controlled volume adjustments, to listen to the stories as we walked from Spirit Square to the Fishing Pier.

Normally, the full pier is walked by the group, but our group leaders were worried about some of us floating away with the wind and turbulent seas. I was happy about that as I watched the pier bobbing up and down like a rubber duck in the bathtub.

It took about 1 hour to do the walk and there were stops taken along the way to check how people were feeling and coping. There were elders available to sit with people and they somehow had dry blankets available.

The walk concluded with more food: 2 types of soup, chili, hot chocolate, coffee, water, juice, salads and a fancy cake. We were asked for our reactions and suggestions into making the walks better for future groups.

Please sign up to go on the walk and become educated on the issues and challenges faced by Campbell River citizens. Even if not able to walk this far, the route we took was entirely wheelchair accessible so that would be another option. Go to walkwithme.ca/community-events to sign up. Make sure you are signing up for a walk in Campbell River. I very nearly signed up for the walk in the Comox Valley. Also has a Facebook group titled “walkwithme” for Campbell River.

I think this could be a starting point for St. Peter Church to have more involvement with this group.





A LITTLE THANKS...

Kate Fitzsimmons

“**“I can live for two months on a good compliment.” Mark Twain**



During the time of pandemic, I went to emergency out of worry for wasp stings that were causing alarming swelling by my right eye, and I had a small surgery. In both instances the help that I received was calm, attentive, and skillful. From the clerk who took the information at the admitting desk, to the triage nurses, to the surgical ward nurses, the operating room nurses, the emergency room doctor, the surgeon, and anesthesiologist, everyone was professional and focused on helping me. I was very thankful that they were all there for me to deal with these health issues which had arisen. It is an inexpressible comfort to know that when you need help, it is there.

In the past few months, we have been hearing and reading everywhere about the stresses and strains that people in our healthcare system are under. There are so many people needing care, and the people providing that care are stretched to the limit. There’s not much that we can do to relieve them of those burdens or to actually make things better. All we can do is to stay as healthy as we can so that we are not adding to the load. However, I know for myself when I am carrying a lot on my plate, that when people see that I am doing my best to be of help and express appreciation through a thanks or compliments, it gives a mental lift and an encouragement that lingers, as Mark Twain says in his quote.

During the time of pandemic, I went to emergency out of worry for wasp stings that were causing alarming swelling by my right eye, and I had a small surgery. In both instances the help that I received was calm, attentive, and skillful. From the clerk who took the information at the admitting desk, to the triage nurses, to the surgical ward nurses, the operating room nurses, the emergency room doctor, the surgeon, and anesthesiologist, everyone was professional and focussed on helping me. I was very thankful that they were all there for me to deal with these health issues which had arisen. It is an inexpressible comfort to know that when you need help, it is there.

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I pondered what we could possibly do that would be of any help. I decided that just expressing our thanks to the people who work in our local hospital, either for specific things which they have done, or just in general way, acknowledging and appreciating that they are there, and that they cope with a lot, would probably be the only thing that we could really do. But it would help, so I created an opportunity for people to express appreciation. Some folks who attend by Zoom wrote thank you cards and brought them into church to give me, and others took the time to write notes of thanks and appreciation after the coffee hour on a couple of Sundays. It was a very small investment of time which will have a big benefit. When you receive a compliment, it lives on as it comes back to mind, and each time that it comes back to mind, it gives the same lift to your spirits as when it was first received.

I attached the thank you cards to a large display board, with the heading, “To all who work at Campbell River Hospital: A thousand thanks would not be enough, but here are a few!” and delivered it to the hospital February 9th. It was received with an expression of amazement, and of gratitude that the work that they do is seen and appreciated. The person at the desk who took it from me said, “Wow! This is amazing! We appreciate being appreciated!” and then placed it in the entrance hallway where it could be seen. I imagine it will travel around the hospital and be of encouragement for a while. Thank you to all who participated!





A LETTER OF THANKS, PLUS A BIT MORE

Quentin's Quest - Quentin Dodd



Dear Friends in Christ at St. Peter,
I am writing this as a letter of thanks to God and to you, to try and express a very small bit of thanks for the enormous blessings, kindnesses and help I have received through so many people in recent times, especially since I have undergone such difficulties with my health and ability to look after myself quite as well as I probably should!

All my life God has walked closely by my side as I've gone on my way, sometimes with some pretty fair-sized challenges to me personally. I'm very glad to say that's often been through friends, some of whom have just simply popped up "out of the woodwork" unexpectedly.

I have been truly visited by some wonderful angels in some pretty strong disguises including one who provided a home or feeding places for a horde of feral cats. She did a marvelous job of helping me look after my lawn during more than one summer - until she died suddenly in a tragic accident. God called this angel home.

Of course, none of us ever really knows precisely what God's plan is for us. But given that kind of an incident and my own fortuitous survival through a number of potentially fatal incidents and nearly always with a complete lack of pain, as God knows how bad I am in handling that. I have to say I truly believe the Lord does have some more tasks for me to complete even as I look ahead to scoring my three-quarter century.

So, you can see that I still fully intend to be of good service to Campbell River, St. Peter and even the community at large in today's world. I plan to do that in whatever capacity I can.

So, I was very much impressed and stirred when our stand-in Rector Susan Hermanson gave a sermon some weeks ago about a passage from the Gospel that day, from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians, which talks about how very divisive cliques can be, and was, within the early Christian church. In Corinth, some people were saying, "I follow Apollo," while others named others.

So, in saying that, I'd hope my new reigniting of the lamp will be met with a more open mind. It is my full intent and purpose to be more uniting in the name of Jesus, than dividing! God Bless

WITH THANKS FROM THE HEART...

Sue Vickery



Thank you to the music ministry for their inspired background music. And to Jane Jennings for her wonderful talk on loss and recovery during the Christmas season. We had fourteen people who attended for reflections and private prayers. Many were not regular members of our church.



What a lovely evening December 24, 2022 was at St. Peter. Lights were low; the decorations beautiful. The music was thoughtful and moving. David Fitzsimmon's talk was memorable. Thank you to all who planned and participated. It was a joy to see so many visitors.

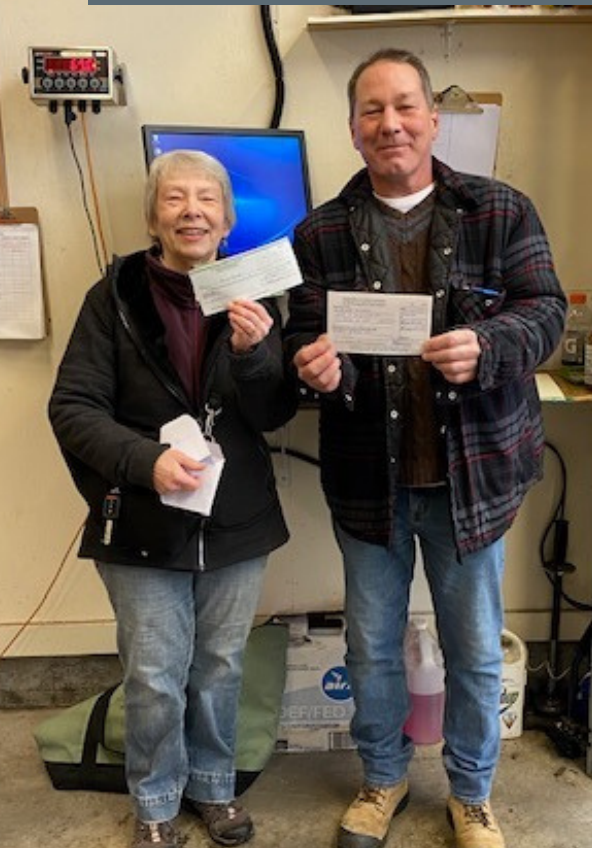


Thank you to Greg Goldstone and his family for the wonderful pot luck meal that they planned and provided for so many people who would have been alone on this special day. Our family invited a widower who was far from his family and he had a great time. The meal was delicious and the company merry.





Outreach



“ —

5 benefits of giving...

- 1) Giving makes you feel happy.
- 2) Giving is good for health.
- 3) Giving helps social connection. .
- 4) Giving evokes gratitude.
- 5) Giving is contagious.

[excerpt from KentTeach.com](http://www.kentteach.com)

ADVENT FOOD BANK DRIVE

January 23 saw the culmination of a project that began with the start of Advent 2022. The food drive was down over Christmas and into the New Year. The thinking was that after Christmas, food bank shelves would be pretty thin in January. Parishioners were generous with food stuffs, warm clothing and other items that filled over two dozen boxes. Noisy Offering netted a total of over \$400.00 to give as a cash donation. Once again, St. Peter's showed generosity to those in need in our community. Many thanks to those who supported this outreach program.



GRASS ROOTS/KIND HEARTS



March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20

Volunteers are always welcome to help us prepare and serve food for the Grassroots/Kind Hearts dinner program for people in need. We participate in this community program every third Tuesday of the month. If you would like to help, contact Diana at 250-286-1613 or email admin@stpeterscampbellriver.com with "GRKH" in the subject line. Diana would be joyful and love to have the roster filled early!





Ongoing...



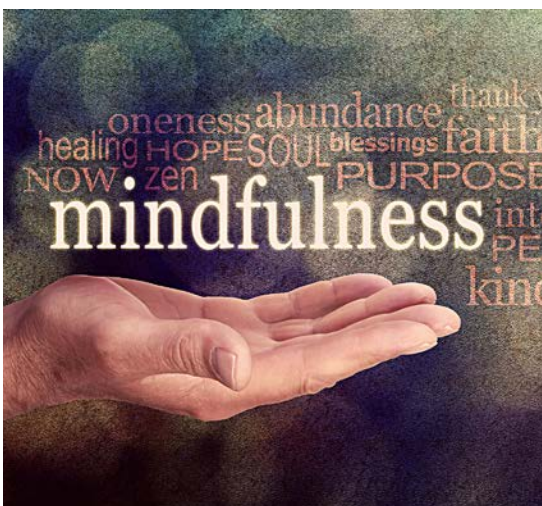
Monday Morning Coffee Hour

How about a Coffee? Yup, the Monday Morning Coffee Hour is still around. As you know, the group can be found in the St. Matthew Room at 10 a.m. But, did you know, that you can join us, not only in person, but via Zoom?

The conversation rarely lags and is very much dependent on the interests of the people who show up: grandchildren, the best jigsaw puzzle completed, and genealogy. One of the best parts is the laughter. You need to come, though, to experience the full essence of the group.

To join by Zoom, phone the Church Office for the Meeting Code or phone me, Jennifer, at 250-286-6669.

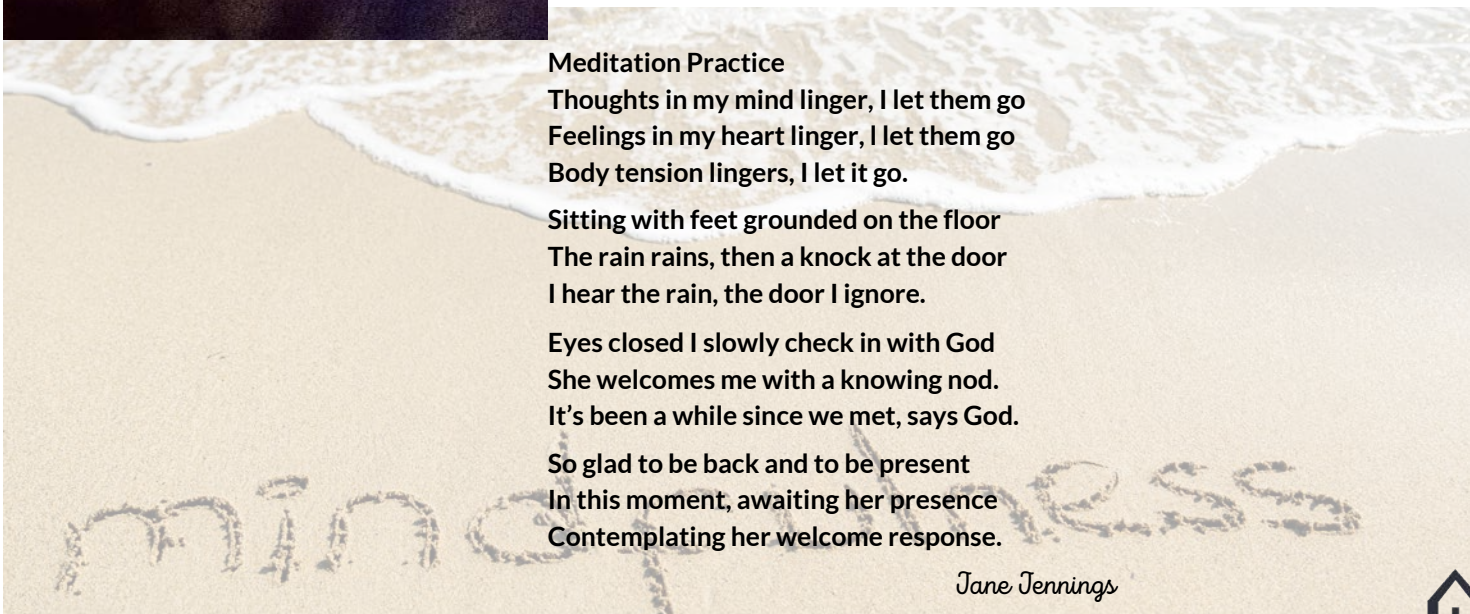
So ... you are invited: Coffee Hour 10 a.m. in St. Matthew Room at St. Peter Anglican Church every Monday morning. Don't forget to bring your own coffee!



Mindfulness - Meditation Practice

In December 2022 I attended a virtual retreat that had much to do with contemplation. We learnt a lot about the mystics and how they connected with God, the aim being to show us how we could connect with God today in our daily lives. There were over 400 participants from the U.S. to Switzerland. It was given by the Centre for Action and Contemplation Centre in Albuquerque New Mexico, started by Father Richard Rohr, a Franciscan monk.

During our time on the retreat, we were encouraged to put down our thoughts on paper. These were my thoughts then and are true today.



Meditation Practice

Thoughts in my mind linger, I let them go
Feelings in my heart linger, I let them go
Body tension lingers, I let it go.

Sitting with feet grounded on the floor
The rain rains, then a knock at the door
I hear the rain, the door I ignore.

Eyes closed I slowly check in with God
She welcomes me with a knowing nod.
It's been a while since we met, says God.

So glad to be back and to be present
In this moment, awaiting her presence
Contemplating her welcome response.

Jane Jennings

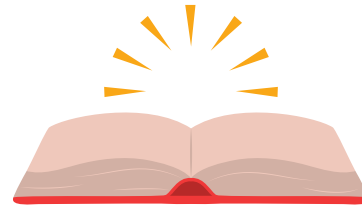




What's Coming Up...

Bible Study Program

We are excited to announce a new bible study program that began on February 11 and continues to March 18th. The course is on Saturday mornings from 10 to 11:30 under the leadership of Murray Ety. Please bring your own bible. Invite a friend! Kindly confirm your attendance by phoning the Church at 250-286-1613



St. Peter Plant Sale - May 6



We at St. Peter have a well-developed sense of community. Our Plant Sale is part of the heart and soul of our parish. Behind the scenes, we are always working together for tomorrow. Planning and checking on ways we can increase our supplies for the next Plant Sale. Going through our sheds and fine tuning our inventory areas. People here at St. Peter volunteer their time from the heart. Giving the Plant Sale is part of our core at St. Peter Anglican Church. Part of the soul of our parish is the consistency in giving our Plant Sale each year to the Campbell River community.

The Heart and Soul gifts of our parish from our Plant Sale are many.

- 1) Taking time to share ideas
- 2) Making a commitment
- 3) Giving time
- 4) Spreading the information
- 5) Sales online
- 6) Planting pots
- 7) Helping in the kitchen for coffee and lunches
- 8) Arranging our sale in the church lot
- 9) Set up for the cash and cashiers
- 10) Spreading our joy of gardening
- 11) Giving helpful advice
- 12) Taking down the plant sale
- 13) Cleaning up the lot
- 14) Taking time to give thanks



This is part of the soul of our parish. The plant sale is part of the identity of St. Peter Anglican Church.

Part of our impact in Campbell River is that we provide consistency by having our Plant Sale every year; 62 years of Plant Sale service. Campbell River waits for our Plant Sale each year to make their gardens a little piece of heaven.

We are like the bird feeder. Everyone wants to come to our clubhouse and check out what is available to nourish their garden and find advice to make their garden a living rainbow.

I have always dreamed of having a garden that I could simply step outside and pick a bouquet. Now I can! Being able to fill my home and our place of worship with flowers is a blessing. One kept alive by the consistency of learning new gardening skills and preparing for our Plant Sale; the heart and soul of our parish.

Saturday, May 6th isn't that far away for our next Plant Sale at St. Peter Anglican Church. Please come and join in helping with this year's Plant Sale. Winter is coming to an end. We are busy starting to prepare for another great Plant Sale. Mark your calendar for May 6th. If you would like to get more hands-on and dig in with us or help. Please sign up on the volunteer sheet, soon to be posted in the Narthex. *Glenna Armitage*





What's Coming Up, Continued...

The Rhodo Garden in the Corner - Jennifer Coolen

I looked out of a window a few days ago. I was surprised to see fresh leaves on the hydrangea bush.

Spring is truly on its way. After the very cold snap in December and so much rain in January, I thought for sure the signs of the coming season would be delayed.

So, I thought I would check out the rhododendrons at the corner of the Church property. There doesn't appear to be much damage from the winter weather. I see that a bit of raking needs to be done, some weeding and new soil spread. Whew, I am tired already.

And then there is this ditty I remember from my youth:

Spring Has Sprung

Spring has sprung, the grass has ris',
I wonder where the birdie is?

There he is up in the sky,
He dropped some whitewash in my eye!

I 'm alright, I won't cry,
I'm just glad that cows can't fly!



We interrupt this newsletter to bring you



LIVE BREAKING NEWS

Rev. Elizabeth Northcott, archdeacon of the Nimpkish region brought terrific news to our Sunday service! Reading a letter from Bishop Anna Greenwood Lee, Elizabeth announced that Stephanie Wood has been appointed as our new minister. She comes to us from St. John the Divine, Victoria and will arrive on April 15. The congregation at St. Peter welcomed the news with loud cheers and applause!

[Stephanie Wood biography](#)



Articles of Interest and Reflection



Everybody Needs Love

Everybody needs love
Not the kind everybody's talkin' of
Everybody needs hope and a dream
Everybody needs to find
The kind of love that can give you peace of mind
I can honestly say
It's in Jesus.

While don't be fooled by worldly lies
It's good from here
But it's just a disguise
Love is patient, love is kind
Love is so much deeper than your mind.

While I'm just talkin'
About the kind of love
That only comes from the Lord above
And if you trust and realize
You'll have the love that satisfies.

Lynn Faber



On Love – Martin Luther King

In Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Beyond Vietnam" speech, he spoke from the "big frame" to call for a revolution of values based on love:

This call for a worldwide fellowship that lifts neighbourly concern beyond one's tribe, race, class, and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all [humankind]. When I speak of love I am not speaking of some sentimental and weak response. I'm not speaking of that force which is just emotional bosh. I am speaking of that force which all of the great religions have seen as the supreme unifying principle of life. Love is somehow the key that unlocks the door which leads to ultimate reality. This Hindu-Muslim-Christian-Jewish-Buddhist belief about ultimate reality is beautifully summed up in the first epistle of Saint John: "Let us love one another, for love is of God. And everyone that loves is born of God and knows God. He that does not love does not know God, for God is love. If we love one another, God dwells in us and [God's] love is perfected in us" [1 John 4:7-8, 12]. Let us hope that this spirit will become the order of the day.

Martin Luther King Jr., "Beyond Vietnam," in *A Call to Conscience: The Landmark Speeches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, ed. Clayborne Carson and Kris Shepard (New York: Warner Books, 2001), 160-161.

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Articles of Interest and Reflection



The Inner Circle

Heather Kellerhals

The labyrinth with its inner heart and outreaching arms, bidding the walker to enter, is symbolic of our church nearby. Listen to the church's beating heart - the songs and prayers rising up, the words of wisdom spoken, the claspings hands and hugs, the not quite silent sounds of sympathy and healing, the poetry of meditation...



But what about those outer circles that ring our church? Birds and even an occasional deer take refuge in the surrounding woods, children laugh and play there or a lonely one may take shelter under a branch. The garden, part of that same circle, beckons to green thumbs and those not so green. Butterflies flit in, a squirrel looks on longingly, a slug traces a laborious path. Eventually tomatoes, kale, carrots ... wave at the sun. People are fed.

The circular path also embraces the wider city, offering shelter, food, a kind heart that knows when and how to listen. So welcoming are those paths that one may even follow them without knowing exactly where they may lead. On a snowy day I strapped on my skis and let them take me through the woods. Was that a light in the church I saw? Circling closer I found shelter by the front door, safe from whatever the elements might choose to offer.



Everyone Loves a Love Story

Barb Henshall

This is the eve of my oldest granddaughter's wedding to Aidan tomorrow February 4th. I'm not attending as it takes place in a remote Hall at Francois Lake near Burns Lake. I can picture the bride arriving in a horse and sleigh, but I don't think that's happening.



It will be unique and beautiful. Her sister, Hannah who married Matthew a couple of years ago came cantering across the field, beautiful white wedding dress flowing behind and when she got to her dad who was to steady the horse while she disembarked Finnegan, looked at him, shied, and did a little dance. I thought, "Oh no, don't buck her off" but Michael quickly grabbed the reins and she slid off beautifully. He escorted her between the bales of hay where we were sitting. They got married in the high summer pastures with Mt. Cheam in the background, saying the vows that they had scripted. Beautiful words!



Articles of Interest and Reflection



Everyone Loves a Love Story (cont'd_

When I recall other weddings, mine included, 57 years ago, a lot has changed in society. Most weddings were in a church and they used the same liturgy that has been used for eons. Something else has also changed in society. There are few and far between weddings in churches. And mostly the vows are scripted by the bride and groom... Older couples often use a more traditional wedding.

Many things have changed in society. When we first came to Campbell River, I noticed that relationships were a priority. Getting together with family and friends was most important. Through aging, moving elsewhere and pandemic those things don't happen as frequently. Our values, interests, and time spent have changed. I recall the many activities at the church that helped in my Christian Formation. I became familiar with the Bible. Alpha was outstanding but the first course I attended was presented by tape recorder, after dinner, and it was difficult to stay awake. Then we graduated to video and never looked back. With Alpha, was growth in Christianity, and people coming to belief and understanding. There was a whole different feel towards Christianity. Our Sunday School thrived. Didn't we have 50 students registered and then none. We had guest speakers and Grace Fox was one with whom I am still in touch. We had conferences, ladies' breakfasts, lunches, and the Christian message was always central. There were Christian book stores where you could touch, feel and scan the book. One could discern whether they wanted the book. Our library consists of books from this era, that were read and kindly donated - such treasures. What we once had focusing on, Christianity, we seem to have lost. Or have we? Maybe it was a time of isolation, reflection, and re-adjusting how things are to proceed.

I am encouraged that Murray Etty is presenting a course ecumenically so that we can hear other's points of view and they may not be all that different from the constant that God is here in this place. Our hearts.



A Royal Connection

Quentin Dodd

I've been asked to please give a bit of explanation of why I feel such a close affinity to the Royal Family and especially to our late Queen and to His Majesty King Charles III, going far back into our very separate childhoods.

In brief I have to say that I've moved forward in lock-step with Charles III and his much adored and admired mother. I too was born into a very "upper crusty", privileged deeply monarchist English family. My father was elected to Parliament in 1936, and had just a very brief engagement to my mother, so that as an MP he could take her to the Coronation of the King in 1937. (Only spouses were allowed to attend.) He was knighted by the King in 1946 for his war work.



Articles of Interest and Reflection



A Royal Connection (cont'd)

Quentin Dodd

I was born just 6 months before Charles III and both of us were sent far away from our darling and adoring mothers to boys' private boarding schools. I got sent to "prep" school at age 8 but Charles III did school away from home until at 13 when he was sent, at Prince Philip's insistence, to the very rugged Gordonstoun school in the Scottish Highlands.

He was totally unprepared for all the bullying he received there and could do nothing at all to stop or alleviate it, just as happened with me at my "prep" school in the south of England. Fortunately, I was not subject to all the media and paparazzi attention he and his family have always received

Charles III did send both of his sons to Eton College, which I went to from 13 to 18 so they could be closer to him and his parents. I am happy to say that by then, it had a much kinder and more compassionate regime than it did in my day. It continues to improve!

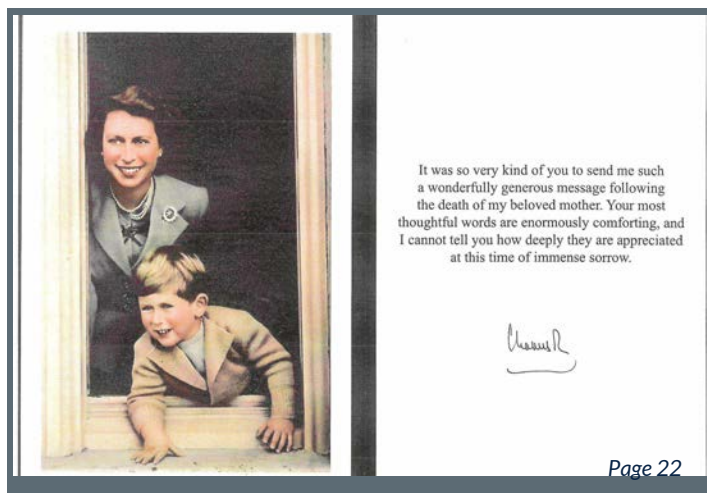
I should also mention my mother took me to Sunday service at Crathie Church in Scotland one time when the Queen and her family were about to attend during their yearly stay from nearby Balmoral.

Finally, I should tell you that as a trainee reporter at the Lynn News and Advertiser in King's Lynn, west Norfolk, I was sometimes assigned to cover the arrival at chosen one of the several CofE churches on the Sandringham House estate, just a 15-minute drive away. Elizabeth II always stayed there with her immediate family for about six weeks a year, arriving before Christmas.



Quentin organized a Book of Condolences after the death of Queen Elizabeth II. The book was sent to Buckingham Palace. The responses from the palace were framed and Quentin donated them to our Church. Many thanks for this wonderful collection, Quentin.

After service, she always made it her practice to give out book prizes etc. to prize winners from King's Lynn schools, in private at Sandringham House. As a reporter I always tried to get a few comments at the back gate from the winners. Nearly always with no luck!



It was so very kind of you to send me such a wonderfully generous message following the death of my beloved mother. Your most thoughtful words are enormously comforting, and I cannot tell you how deeply they are appreciated at this time of immense sorrow.

Charles R.



Announcements



IN LOVING MEMORY

Pat Hartwell February 27, 1947 - November 1, 2022
 Sandi Ivan March 20, 1947 - November 16, 2022
 Joan Taylor May 30, 1940 - November 26, 2022
 Hilda Shilladay December 19, 1929 - January 14, 2023



GARDENING 101 @ ST. PETER ANGLICAN CHURCH

We are looking for garden care recruits to come forward and sign your name and contact information for Season 2023! It has been suggested we divide the gardens up and assign each of us a portion so we would be solely responsible for that area, thus, allowing for us long time gardeners to take a step back and allow you to share your love of gardening

YOU'RE INVITED!

I would like to invite members of the church to visit us on Friday mornings in the library of St. Peter Church at 10:00 a.m. We need to work together to build membership in the church. Since the pandemic our numbers have fallen. We need to encourage families to bring children to Sunday School. It's important to me to be a church member. When we were not able to meet in our church building it was very hard for many of us.

On-going at St. Peter...

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist – Hybrid – Zoom and in-person, in the Sanctuary
 Services are from the Book of Alternative Services.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday, 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour in-person, on the west lawn, library or on Zoom
 Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. Mindfulness on Zoom
 Friday, 10:00 a.m. ACW in the Library

SERVING THE COMMUNITY AT ST. PETER

Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday evenings Six 12-Step groups (in the building)
 Tuesday evening, Wednesday & Thursday mornings Yoga classes - in the hall

IMPORTANT DATES TO ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, April 2 Palm Sunday
 Friday, April 7 Good Friday - stay tuned for more details regarding the service
 Sunday, April 9 Easter Sunday
 Saturday, May 6 St. Peter 62nd annual plant sale



Parish Staff & Leaders



Bishop's Warden: Lois Tirebuck
People's Warden: Pauline Woods
Deputy Wardens: Tony Smith and Frank Maga
Treasurer: Holly Finn
Musicians: Georgia Smith, Kate Fitzsimmons and Lori Gooldrup
Custodian: Gwen Demerse
Prayer Chain: Kate Fitzsimmons
Communications Director: Trina Soltys
Envelope Secretary: Frank Maga
Healing Prayer Ministry: Sue Vickery
Lay Assistants and Readers: Pauline Woods
ACW President: Bev Lawrence, Lois Tirebuck
Mindfulness: Jane Jennings
Coffee Monday: Jennifer Coolen
Sunday School: Jane Monchak, Diana Hicks
Altar Guild: volunteers invited!
Librarian: Jane Jennings
Community Garden Liaison: Rick Monchak
Safe Church: Andrea Charlton
PWRDF Rep: Barb Henshall
Building: George Wagner



Back Row:
Pauline Woods, Quentin
Dodd, Frank Maga
Middle Row:
Trina Soltys, Holly Finn, Sue
Vickery, Greg Goldstone, Barb
Henshall
Front: Connie Burns



Photo taken at AGM 2023

Tech Guru: Tony Smith

