

# Spirit

IN THE TIME OF COVID

Spring 2022 - Issue 1

Draw the Circle Wide



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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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Maga

Hymn 418, "Draw the Circle Wide" by Gordon Light in the Book of Common Praise, came to mind as articles for this issue of Spirit arrived in my inbox.

*Draw the circle wide, Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone, standing side by side.  
Draw the circle wide.*

*God the still point of the circle, 'round who all creation turns;  
nothing lost, but held forever, in God's gracious arms.*

*Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders, faithful to all God's call.*

*Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before:  
let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door.*

This hymn embraces what we are about; it encourages us to reach beyond ourselves. With God at our center, we don't "stand alone", but "side by side" and in doing so, "our hearts touch far horizons" and "our love knows no borders" allowing us to "dream big."

So yes, with safety and levels of comfort in mind, we can "draw the circle wide" and: worship in-person at church, gather for coffee, pray together, have a plant sale, attend mindfulness, sew quilts for the men's shelter, pick a project from George's building maintenance list, attend a Bible study, take the Zoom tutorial, spend a prayerful time walking the labyrinth, to suggest a few ways.

Many thanks to all who contributed to this issue of Spirit. Without your words there wouldn't be a Spirit! Enjoy the read, and prepare to be welcomed back, encouraged and motivated to join in the fun of what makes us a church family. *Jane*



Anne Renouf - Art and the Creative Spirit





## ▼ During the Interim

In a recent Bible Study meeting someone asked the question, “what is blasphemy?”. I thought of a letter in the newspaper, some years ago, written by Archbishop Douglas Hambidge, former Metropolitan of this Ecclesiastical Province. The letter was written in response to those folks in some churches who were claiming that AIDS was God’s punishment on those who were gay and lesbian.

The archbishop said that to claim that God was the author of a plague that killed people of all walks of life was to attribute evil actions to God, and that was blasphemy.

There are many bad things happening in our world now. We have coped with and are still dealing with COVID; we have had fires and floods here and in many places in the world as we face into the climate crisis; we are watching with sorrow as the attack on Ukraine continues; we are facing financial consequences with inflation affecting us at home. Did God cause any of this?

My answer would be a resounding NO! God gave us the right to make choices; we can choose to do good or to do evil. The things we are living with now are the consequences of human choices, some of them made far in the past and some of them made more recently.



*Snowdrop - a symbol of  
new beginnings and hope*

As I write this we are living in Lent; this season calls us to deep reflection, to recognize the reality of human evil, even the evil for which we are personally responsible, and to make a choice.

The choice God calls us to make is to lean into life, to trust that God is working for good, and to participate in that work with God.

This is the truest meaning of Easter.

Jesus came to bring hope to the world, the truth that he spoke, the good that he did, was threatening to those in power, so they killed Jesus. Not, I believe, because God wanted or needed Jesus to die, but because death was the consequence of his actions when the authorities were afraid of losing their power.

There is always hope. God is always active bringing life out of death, joy out of sorrow, wholeness out of brokenness. I have invited you, in several sermons, to look around and see signs of God at work. We can always see it in retrospect, but we need to work hard to see it in the here and now.

Our annual Easter celebration is our constant reminder that the end of the story is life, hope, wholeness, and goodness. May God grant us eyes to see what we are offered.

*Cathie Hall, Interim Priest-in-charge*

The Rev. Dr. Catherine Dafoe Hall, she/her 250-668-3701  
Director, EfM Canada  
Interim Priest, St. Peter Anglican Church, Campbell River BC  
[www.efmcanada.ca](http://www.efmcanada.ca)  
<https://www.facebook.com/EfMCanada/>

EfM Canada office is located on the traditional territories of the Syilx, Westbank First Nation; and EfM groups meet across Canada on the ancestral lands of many Indigenous, Metis and Inuit Peoples. We are grateful for their witness to us. As an organization devoted to adult Christian Education, EfM Canada is committed to offering opportunities for learning and engagement in truth-telling and reconciliation in Canada.



## ▼ Bishop's Warden's Report

Lois Tirebuck

As we move into this spring, I invite you to reflect on where we have come from and where we are heading following the previous two years of COVID.

I am happy to see we are meeting in-person in many of our church activities such as Coffee Hour, ACW, Mindfulness, church services and the resumption of coffee time following the Sunday church service. It cannot be underestimated the importance to resume physical presence with one another. Zoom has provided us with connections but I hazard to say sometimes just doesn't "cut it". The Liturgy Committee, with about 20 parishioners present, identified what we have done well, as well as the opportunities which have given us challenges which we continue to work on.

The Parish Day of Planning and Reflection has identified directions to focus on and our hopes for the future. This is also a time to lament on our individual and communal losses. I encourage you to think about attending the service at the end of the month, so we can acknowledge our grief and look forward to what is in store for us in the future. Our new council will continue to work together in anticipation of our new incumbent; the ad has already had some inquires. Please pray for the guidance that our Selection Committee will need in the upcoming months.

As the COVID restrictions are removed, please be aware we are all travelling this road at different speeds of comfort so, please be respectful and sensitive to the needs of others around us.

## ▼ Spirit of Finance

Holly Finn



Happy New Year to St. Peter's Spirit Magazine! It is always a treat to see what everyone has been up to since our last publication.

Since we have just entered a new year, my report will be short and sweet. We ended 2021 on a positive note and are maintaining a good, healthy bank balance. As usual, January was quiet, but the bills got paid, the labyrinth got constructed, plans were made for the church's progress in 2022 and, praise God, we returned to the church for our services!

I thank you for your faithful and steadfast maintenance of your offerings, because, in spite of COVID, we still have to keep the building warm, the lights on and our wonderful Cathie Hall coming back to guide us.

I look forward to seeing you "behind the mask" and pray that we will be able to stay healthy and stay open for many seasons ahead.

“*Thank you for your faithful & steadfast maintenance of your offerings...*”



## ▼ Selection Committee Update

Rick Monchak, Chair

The Diocese has commenced the search for a new Rector for St. Peter. The advertising will run until April 4th. All applications will be received directly by the Diocese.

If you are interested in reading the St. Peter Parish Profile, go to 'Parish Profile' on our website at [stpeterscampbellriver.com/about](http://stpeterscampbellriver.com/about)

We invite the thoughts and prayers of all parishioners as we move forward with our search. Your committee members are Greg Goldstone, Diana Hicks, Jane Jennings, Dave Storrie, Lois Tirebuck and Pauline Woods. As we continue to live with the ups and downs of the pandemic, we also continue to delay the commencement of our search for a new incumbent.

As agreed with the Diocese before the summer, we will reconnect with the Diocese in September and determine the best timeline to initiate our search. Our intention is to commence this process as soon as the Diocese feels the time is right. As always, I welcome any questions or thoughts you may have on the search for a new incumbent. (Rick Monchak - monchak@shaw.ca - 250-923-8588)



**Click on the yellow info button on the photo of the church to read the complete profile.**

Excerpt from the Parish Profile:

*'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.'*

## ▼ St. Peter Building Maintenance Report

George Wagner



1. Eliminated the gap between the main breaker panel and the ceiling in the Electrical Room by installing drywall strips and sealing with a fire rated caulking. This was a requirement by the Campbell River Fire Department and was highlighted on our 2021 Fire Inspection Report.
2. As we planned the return to in-person services and increased use of the St Peter's Church and Hall, the two gas furnaces in the basement were serviced and new filters installed.
3. To accommodate the installation of new AV display equipment in the Sanctuary, a 110v receptacle was installed in the Sacristy. Tony Smith is leading the project to improve our AV capabilities as we continue with the combination of in-person and Zoom worship.





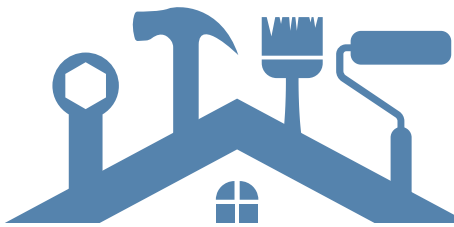
## ▼ Building Maintenance Report, continued

(Maintenance 1st Quarter 2022, continued from Page 5)

4. With the return of warmer spring weather, the garden fairies have also returned. They have accomplished the first weeding of the gardens at the front and back of the Church and the gardens are looking good.

5. The ACW ladies have cleaned up and consolidated the materials that were stored on the shelves at the north end of the basement. This area is much improved with safer access to the shelving units. If you or a group that you belong to at St Peter's can do some spring cleaning with particular emphasis on culling obsolete or unused materials this would help greatly in making St Peter's a safe and inviting place.

## Upcoming Building Maintenance Activities



1. A volunteer project is planned beginning in April to paint the interior of the Hall. As with all painting projects the success of it is based on the preparation that is done. The hall walls need to have nail and other holes filled and then lightly sanded and washed. The trim needs to be sanded and prepared for paint. We will be looking for volunteers to help with this project so stay tuned to the bulletin announcements for further info and sign up to assist with this parish project.

2. We have a bench on order to be installed in the Labyrinth area and we will be making a concrete pad to accommodate the bench. This pad installation will be scheduled once we have a delivery date for the bench.

3. To address a concern of falling off the high sides of the concrete exit ways from the front north and south sanctuary emergency exit doors we have acquired some railings (at a very good price) which will be assembled and installed soon.

4. We have a number of unused toner cartridges that fit a Ricoh C3000 photocopier that we would like to find a new home for. If you are aware of a local church or non-profit that has a Ricoh C3000 copier please let George Wagner know so we can find a new home for these toner cartridges.



“  
*Thank you, George, for your knowledge, leadership and dedication to maintaining our parish home.*





## ▼ From the Prayer Chain

Kathy Fitzsimmons, Prayer Chain Coordinator

If words fail you at times as they do me when I pray for Ukraine, I offer this prayer which I came across recently:

Love who unites us, we pray for and with the people of Ukraine and Russia that those in positions of power put an end to violence. Guide all who serve in working towards a peaceful, negotiated solution. Reveal yourself through your Spirit to those who fear for the days to come. We give thanks for the many who are sheltering those displaced by this war. We pray for the millions around the world who are on the move. Keep refugees in your safe embrace. Merciful Love, we lift these prayers to you and all that we lay before you until that time when your Love will reign.

*from prayers prepared for worship on March 16th, 2022 by Victoria Featherston,  
MDiv Candidate at Martin Luther University College*

### *Blessing the Body*

*Because of the way most Christians have understood the doctrine of original sin, the physical body has borne the brunt of our guilt and shame. Its needs, desires, and frailties were often labeled "sinful," and therefore were repressed instead of affirmed and channeled in healthy and life-giving ways. In honor of the Original Goodness of our bodies, we invite you to spend time with this blessing by Jan Richardson, a writer, poet, artist, and ordained minister in the United Methodist Church.*



# Blessing the Body

This blessing takes  
one look at you  
and all it can say is  
*holy*.

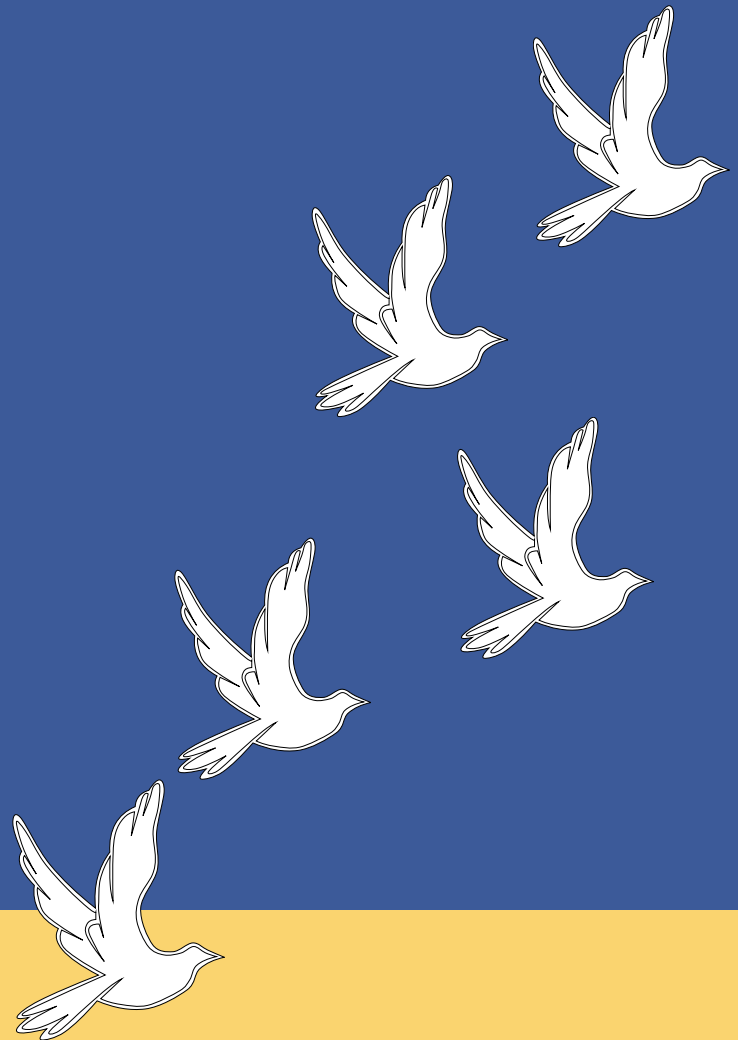
Holy hands.  
Holy face.  
Holy feet.  
Holy everything  
in between.

Holy even in pain.  
Holy even when weary.  
In brokenness, holy.  
In shame, holy still.

Holy in delight.  
Holy in distress.  
Holy when being born.  
Holy when we lay it down  
at the hour of our death.

So, friend,  
open your eyes  
(*holy eyes*).  
For one moment  
see what this blessing sees,  
this blessing that knows  
how you have been formed  
and knit together  
in wonder and  
in love.

Welcome this blessing  
that folds its hands  
in prayer  
when it meets you;  
receive this blessing  
that wants to kneel  
in reverence  
before you—  
you who are  
temple,  
sanctuary,  
home for God  
in this world.



## Prayers for Ukraine

## ▼ Saint Peter & Zoom

Tony Smith

Just over two years ago COVID emerged and in-person worship at Saint Peter's ceased. To fill the gap several parishes, including our own, tried recording the rector and posting it on something like YouTube so that parishioners could then watch it. It was better than nothing, but it lacked the personal touch of interaction. In our case, our incumbent had left so we were left with the recordings of other parishes in the diocese. As Anglicans we were all new to this.

As luck would have it (though I prefer to think God had a hand in this), the diocese appointed an interim rector, Cathie Hall, who was familiar with something called Zoom. Zoom was a technology that allowed two-way, real-time interaction between people over the internet. I confess that I was aware of this thing called Zoom as my daughter, in her work as a project team leader at her company, was using Zoom from the beginning of COVID as she worked from home. In any case, Cathie persuaded church council to purchase a license for Zoom and as the old saying goes; the rest is history.

Two years later, Zoom is an integral part of the worship at Saint Peter's. On most Sunday worship services, there are at least a dozen people participating via Zoom. Much of the business of the church has been conducted by Zoom meetings. Even now with in-person worship allowed, our congregation is blessed with the presence of our Zoomers.

People choose to participate in the life of the parish by Zoom for a variety of reasons. Many people who are seniors, because of the risk level, are uncomfortable meeting in person; others are ill and do not want to risk spreading any malady to others while other parishioners are traveling for pleasure or business and want the opportunity to maintain a connection with the parish family. We are also seeing people who are new to our church participating as Zoom allows for a less stressful first contact.

Parish council is calling our service a hybrid as it is now a combination of in-person and virtual. Our experience as a parish over the past two years is that this is the way we need to go as we move forward into a very different world. So next time you are away and can do so, please join us in worship via Zoom. If you are attending in-person worship, please take a moment when passing the Peace to come up to the front and acknowledge those participating via Zoom. If you know someone who is interested in attending St. Peter's, please feel free to share the Zoom link.

As we go forward, the parish will be upgrading the technical equipment so that the interaction between the Zoomers and the in-person worshipers can be enhanced. With God's blessing we can continue to enrich our life in this parish.



## ▼ Zoom Tutorial

If there are any parishioners who wish assistance in using Zoom, please contact the church office and we can make arrangements to get you started. Most people are surprised at how well it works once the initial setup is done. You can use a computer, tablet or cell phone to connect. The link to Sunday Services is sent out to all of those worshipers who are on our secure email list. If you would like to be on this list, please contact the church at 250-286-1613.

PS: tip from Trina - the service meeting link is the same every week. So don't panic about losing it. Just take note of the 11 digit meeting number. Download the Zoom app and all you will need to do is type in this meeting number.



## ▼ Zoom Assistants Needed

Each worship service needs someone to administer the Zoom session. If you have an interest in this, please let me know. All the training needed will be provided and rest assured, it is not onerous. Ideally, four people on a roster means that a person would have only one Sunday a month to do the job of overseeing the Zoom portion of the worship.

## ▼ What's Been Happening... Our New Parish Council

Elections were held Sunday, February 28, at the Annual Meeting. The new Council was installed on Sunday, March 6.

- Bishop's Warden: Lois Tirebuck
- People's Warden: Pauline Woods
- Deputy Warden: Tony Smith
- Deputy Warden: Frank Maga
- Synod Delegate: Pauline Woods
- Synod Delegate: Tony Smith
- Alternate Synod Delegate: Barb Henshall
- Members-at-large:
  - George Wagner
  - Connie Burns
  - Greg Goldstone
  - Sue Vickery
  - Quentin Dodd
- Treasurer: Holly Finn
- Communications: Trina Soltys

Please remember them in your prayers as they work for the good of this parish and to honour God. We give thanks for the years of faithful ministry of Dave Storrie and Bill Ritchie who are not returning to council this year.



More than 20 people gathered in person and others on Zoom as we considered our last two years and looked ahead to what we want to complete by the time she or he arrives. We asked ourselves a number of questions: What have we learned? How have we grown? What have we lost?

We responded that we learned to communicate differently, that learning is costly, we have no control, respect (awareness that we ourselves might bring danger), we can adapt, new understanding of “bad” and this congregation cares deeply.

We have grown in that we changed our priorities to draw closer to family and friends, and how differently people respond, we adapted worship, we know previously unknown talents in others.

We felt we had lost opportunities to be and share together, the rhythm of the church services and season, we lost people who are more vulnerable and unable to connect, we have been grieving alone, options and spontaneity, the hand-shake, the Common Cup, Long Term Care services, Cortez, meetings, 2 years of time.

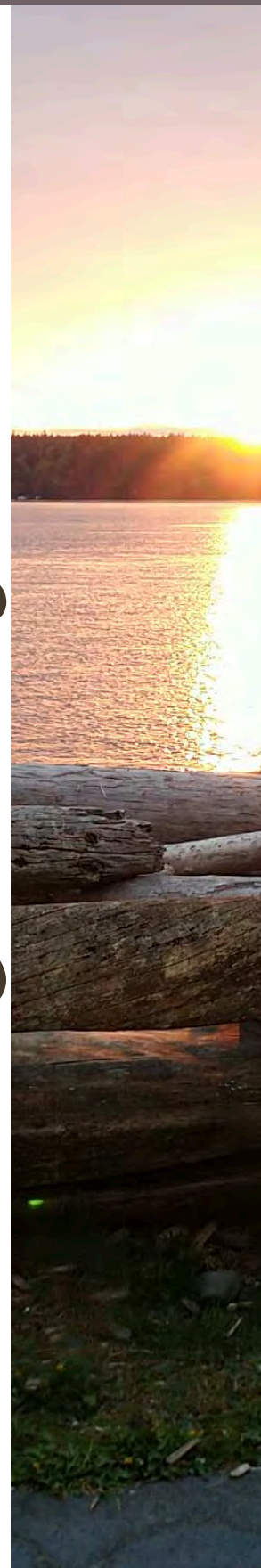
We reminded ourselves of the extent and quality of our pastoral care ministries and our outreach ministries.

We discussed what hopes we have for the future; one item we highlighted was that we need time to lament our individual and communal losses.

We discussed what we wanted to accomplish before the new rector arrives. There are a number of building maintenance issues including painting the hall interior. We also decided that we needed to clean some of our storage spaces and classroom spaces—and some people did some of those things this week. Arlene Smith took on the space near the entrance of the hall. Lois Tirebuck, Frances Payne, and Bev Lawrence all worked on stored items in the basement and cleared out a great deal.

We also want to have the rosters in order, hire a new secretary, and work to get in touch with those we haven't seen or heard from in a while. Sue Vickery, Desiree Chan, Pam Hedderson, and Lois Tirebuck reviewed the parish list and found 19 households they want to be in touch with. Volunteer to a Warden or Cathie if you want to participate in any of this work.

# Planning & Reflection



# WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW...

## *Lenten Learning*

Who are the people in the stories we hear in Lent? What is a Pharisee? Who was Herod? The women at the Cross? Who are you curious about? The Lenten Learning series will take place by zoom on Wednesdays at 7:00. Your invitation will arrive by email. We began on March 9.

## *Living a Holy Lent*

Lent has begun. This is a time when we can renew and deepen our spiritual life. In the coming weeks there will be some opportunities to learn about and try out some spiritual practices. Some may be more helpful than others but surprise yourself and try them all.

## *Lent Prayer Request During Lent*

There will be an opportunity to have your prayer requests placed on the Altar. The paper for your request and the plate to put the request in are on the table at the entrance to the church. These requests will be passed to our Prayer Chain who will pray for you and your need for the next week. All requests are confidential.

## *PWRDF Lenten Learning*

Nurturing Creation: A Lenten Resource. Each day our writers invite you to read scripture, reflect and pray with them. Subscribe on their website to receive the daily reflections in your inbox and deepen your connection with PWRDF. You can also view or download the resource in its entirety. <https://pwrdf.org/Lent2022/>



LIVE

## BREAKING NEWS



Today, March 26 the bottle drive to raise funds for Aid to Ukraine was a huge success! With the help of many, many Campbell River citizens who showed up with bottles and cans, over \$5000 was raised. All funds from the bottle returns will be donated to the Canadian Red Cross Relief Funds for aid in Ukraine. Thank you to Campbell River, the hard workers at Island Return It and to our hard working volunteers who sorted, bagged and delivered truck loads of bottles and cans to the recycling centre!



## Guidelines for Walking a labyrinth

The labyrinth is not a maze. There are no tricks to it and no dead ends. It has a single circuitous path that winds its way into the centre. A person walking it uses the same path to return from the centre and the entrance then becomes the exit. The path is in full view, which allows a person to be quiet and focus internally.

Generally, there are three stages to the walk: releasing on the way in, receiving in the centre and returning when you follow the return path back out of the labyrinth. Symbolically, and sometimes actually, you are taking back out into the world that which you have received.

There is no right way or wrong way to walk a labyrinth. Use the labyrinth in any way that meets your needs while being respectful of others walking. You may go directly to the centre to sit quietly -- whatever meets your needs.

To prepare, you may want to quietly reflect before walking the labyrinth. Some people come with questions, others just to slow down and take time out from a busy life. Some come to find strength to take the next step. Many come during times of grief and loss.

**"THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO DESCRIBE A LABYRINTH. IT IS A PATH OF PRAYER, A WALKING MEDITATION, A CRUCIBLE OF CHANGE, A WATERING HOLE FOR THE SPIRIT AND A MIRROR OF THE SOUL."**



# ONGOING...

## Monday Morning Coffee Hour

Jen Coolen

I have been asked if we will be enjoying our Coffee Hour outdoors when the weather improves. Yes, indeed we will. I have been admiring the gardening and yard cleanup that has been happening around the Church and look forward to being surrounded by the beauty of the garden in bloom while sipping my coffee. Until then, I invite you to bring your coffee and join us in-person in the Church Library or on Zoom at 10:00 a.m. each Monday Morning. If you are not already on our Zoom mail out list, please contact the Church at 250-286-1613



## Mindfulness - Mind Full, Mind Empty

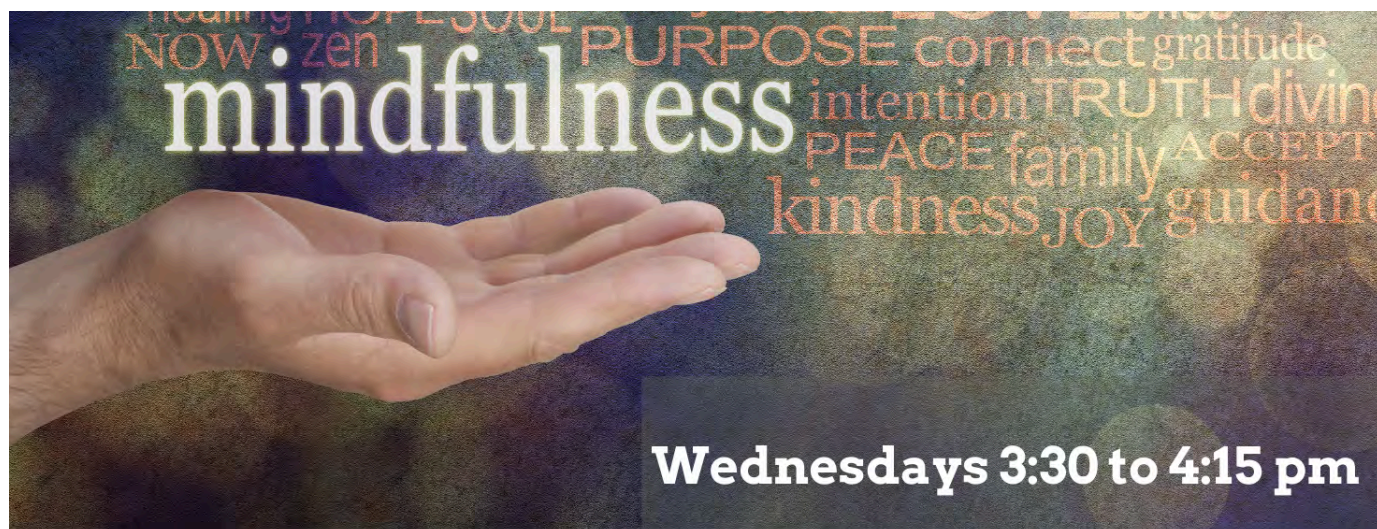
Jane Jennings

All of the world's great religions address the idea of contemplative living or mindfulness. Simply put, mindfulness is the state of being fully engaged in the present moment. It is the art of paying attention to all that we experience.

At first glance, the term mindfulness seems to be a study in contradictions. In any mindfulness practice the first lesson is to empty your mind. So why don't we call it mind emptiness instead? For one thing, we need to empty our minds in order to refill it consciously. We meditate to empty our minds. Then we develop the skill of intention to direct our minds.

There is a Zen saying "A cup is useful in its emptiness". In other words, before we can fill a cup with the liquid of our choice, it must be empty. A cup, of course, is also useful in its fullness - but only if it is filled with what we need and want. In this respect, our minds are no different. Is your mind filled with thoughts and feelings of your own choosing? Or is it cluttered with unexamined responses to past events? Chances are we don't know half of what is stored in there. Yet, the thoughts of our minds rule how we act, how we feel, and how we see the world.

To live mindfully is to be conscious of our thoughts and feelings. It is to live in harmony with our deep inner wisdom and our compassion. To be mindful means to be thoughtful in the truest sense of the word and to pay attention to all that we experience.



# WHAT'S COMING UP...

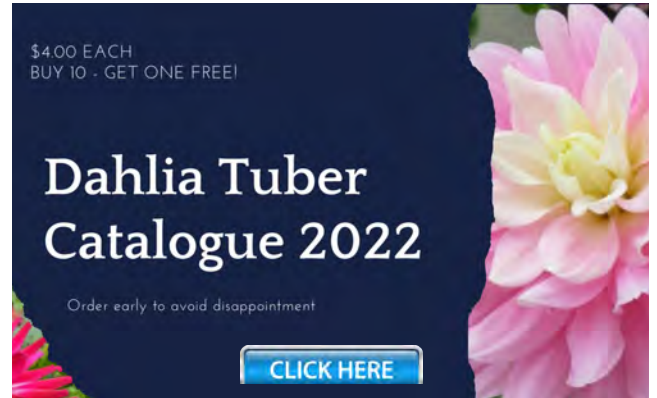
## Old-fashioned Sewing Bee - April 23

We will be hosting an old-fashioned Sewing Bee on Saturday, April 23 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Our ACW currently make a quilt for each man going through Men's Second Chance. We hope even if you do not quilt, we can use your help with cutting, pinning and pressing as well sewing a straight line. For more information contact the church office.



## Online Dahlia Catalogue 2022

Rick and Jane have an email-out list with all our previous customers on file. This way they can send out our catalogue and tempt people to buy more of those tubers. I am anxious to get out in the yard and start separating my plants so I have lots of plants for the plant sale. Too cold. Too early. I wish it wasn't so. Give me a day with sunshine and I'm out there anyways. People are asking about the plant sale. It will be outdoors at the church this year. COVID restrictions seem to be lifting and cases seem to be diminishing. I've already got my gloves and boots on in the garden, just like Rick and Jane. (link at "Click Here" in photo). *Glenna Armitage*



## Plant & Dahlia Sale Update

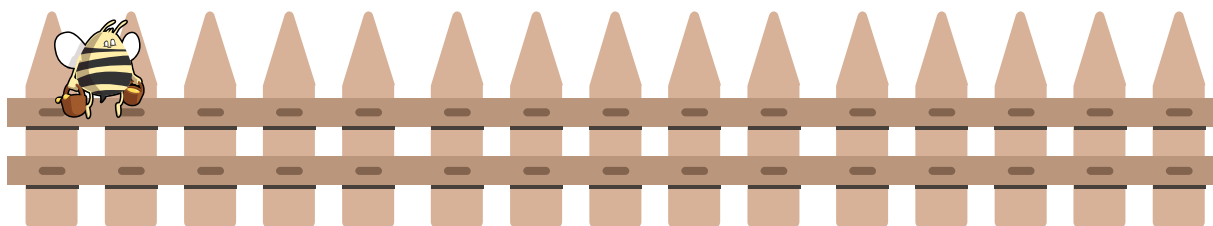
We will have an in-person plant sale in 2022! It's on Saturday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. If you or anyone you know have any plants to donate to the plant sale, please let me know.

If you have plants to divide and need help and/or empty pots, please let me know. We are also looking for suitable pots. If you have any pots to donate, please drop them off beside the garden sheds behind the church.

On-line dahlia tuber sales are progressing well. Many thanks to Glenna Armitage, Joe Bayda and Elaine Thompson for contributing tubers for the sale. If you are interested in ordering tubers, please take a look at the dahlia catalogue on the church website.

Thanks for everyone who is working to make this plant sale a success!

*Rick Monchak*



# ST. PETER ANGLICAN CHURCH - IN THE COMMUNITY...



## *Grass Roots/Kind Hearts - Third Tuesday of the Month: April 19, May 17, June 21*

Diana puts a dinner together once a month for approximately 50 to 60 people. The dinner includes meatballs, rice, vegetables with an oatmeal chocolate chip brownie for dessert. Donations to support this outreach program can be dropped off at the church on Wednesdays. You can use your envelope or Noisy Offering to help with the purchasing of the groceries. If you would like to help with food preparation, please call the church and leave a message for Diana.



## *Community Garden Report*

The Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) is in the process of closing their Education Centre. With the commencing of curbside collection of compost in Campbell River, the CVRD will be moving to a model of offering gardening and compost education on an as needed and where needed basis rather than at a permanent site. Many of the existing assets of the Education Center will be donated by the CVRD to the Community Garden and the church. Over time, the Community Garden will likely expand into some of the vacated space.

Rick Monchak, Community Garden Liaison

## *Family Caregivers Support Group*

Pam Hedderson co-facilitates the Family Caregivers Support Group. For further information you can call her at 778-420-4343. Meetings are on the second Friday of the month (April 8, May 13, June 10 and July 8). The group meets during the summer to continually support caregivers.

## *Devolli and Radoniqi Family Update*

Over 22 years ago, St. Peter's sponsored and welcomed two Kosovo families under the Family Unification Government Program. Their Campbell River family connection, Agzim and Besa Muja, are currently retired, living in Victoria. Pre-COVID they travelled home to Kosovo regularly to visit family there.

Orhan and Elmaze Radoniqi arrived with their children Linda (11) and Shpend (9) but repatriated back to Kosovo when our government deemed it safe, and facilitated their return home. Linda is now a dentist working in the capital city, Prishtina. Sadly, Shpend passed away quite a few years after returning. Elmaze has recently been diagnosed with palliative pancreatic Cancer and Linda has returned home to Peja to help out.

Xhevat and Arjeta Devolli arrived with their children Dea (5) and Fisnick (2). They are still residing in Calgary after a travelling tourist read an article on them in the local newspaper and offered Xhevat good paying, full time employment. Xhevat works in the oil industry while Arjeta works as a teacher's aide in the school system. Dea is working fulltime and writing her CPA (Certified Public Accountant).

Fisnick works as a Red Seal Automotive diagnostic Technician and has settled into his own home. Though they don't reside in Campbell River, they always share that they have not forgotten their start here or the love shown to them.

# Draw the Circle Wide





### Spring Renewal

Looking forward to spring, a time of renewal. My garden always gives me joy. It reminds me to take time to listen. To the experienced advice of those around me. I am expanding my vegetable garden. Hopefully this will help me with groceries. I respect the advice of local gardeners. Each "local" has its own garden issues. My good friend, Bob, told me his raised beds produce much better root vegetables. Before he changed his garden to raised beds, he'd had a real problem with bugs eating the roots, which I have. My son also tried raised bed gardens last year and had great success. I might try some as well.

I will also do some plant companion planting to attract insects in my garden to plants other than my produce. It's one more way to protect against insect infestation. It worked last year for me.

Gardening promotes mental health and well-being. The exercise takes your mind to another place; the joy of creating a new space.

Glenna Armitage



### Pandemic Thoughts

There should be charity for everyone. Malice for no one. This pandemic seems to have changed life in some way for all. Faith is a source of hope. Respect is an important thing. Respect for the things we believe in brings hope for coping with COVID and World events.

*"There is a corner somewhere that I alone can fill  
If I should fail to take my place, no other ever will.  
It's all part of his great plan that each a worker be  
And somewhere in his vineyard wide my Lord needs me."*

I went to my Bible searching for a verse or story that would pertain to the challenges we are meeting today. I found this little quote tucked inside. I don't know who wrote it so it's in quotation marks. It seemed to say everything I was feeling today. God Bless, Glenna Armitage

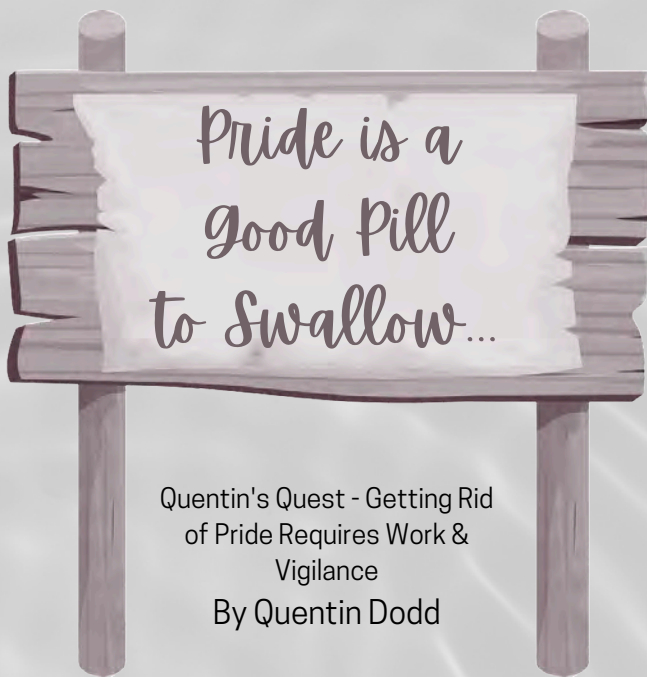
### On the Corner

In my backyard, the honeysuckle is sprouting new leaves and the hellebores are in full bloom. Meanwhile, on the berm at the corner of Dogwood and Pinecrest, the weeds are creating a lovely green carpet beneath the rhododendrons. Those same rhododendrons look like they are twitching. It is as if they can't wait to burst forth with their colourful blooms.

Mother Nature is truly amazing. The rhododendron leaves burned by the heat dome last summer, have fallen and need to be raked. One bush has only eight green leaves on the whole plant. Even so, IT IS STILL ALIVE, sprouting fresh green leaves from the roots. I am confident, given time to recover, it will be beautiful again.

Once again, I am reminded that Spring is truly an exciting time of hope and renewal. Jen Coolen





I was driving along one of our local streets here in Campbell River the other day and I came across a truly inspirational sign outside one of the community's churches, that said, "Pride is a good pill to swallow!"

That really set me to thinking because it quickly occurred to me that recently we've all been rather encouraged to take pride in ourselves, our lives, our families and surroundings, no matter how much or how little we've contributed. And I was also taught years ago that pride can be a very bitter pill to swallow. But that's all part of modern life and allows us to conveniently forget just how much of the credit really should be going to God for all we've been given, or think we've managed to achieve in this life here on Earth. I can't say I really blame people for that, since I do recognize that living in Campbell River has been such an enormous gift and blessing, and one that continues to last so well over the decades of life. So, it's just way too easy to "take my eye off the ball" so to speak, when I open my eyes to another almost unreal day in my home in this marvelous metropolis.

Truth of the matter is, it really is too easy to take pride in all the beauty and wonderful people who surround me and feel a kind of slanted pride in just how very fortunate so many of us are here, especially when we compare ourselves to others in much less fortunate circumstances; precisely what the Bible tell us NOT to do!

That can require some mental effort, as the sign so aptly reminded me, not least when we look at the modern tendency by so many to inflate their ego and hype themselves beyond any kind of reason, just to make themselves look even more important, intelligent and knowledgeable than they really are.

For example, I recently came across an ad on a website that tried to sell me a video of an interview with a man who was claiming to have discovered the central secret or "solution" to what he called "the human condition."

I was encouraged to watch the interview that "Solves the Human Condition and Saves the World!" The pitch even went on to quote a former president of the Canadian Psychiatric Association who called it "the most important interview of all time" and cited him as saying that the accompanying book by the author "provides the holy grail of insight we have sought (for so long) for the psychological rehabilitation of the human race." It is, he said with a notable absence of modesty, "the book that saves the world."

So how is it, you're probably starting to ask yourself by now that I haven't provided the name of the book or its author? The fact is, I didn't believe the argument, the rhetoric or the book, or any of the other publications they were suggested in the advertisement. I just don't seem to be able to find anything that's better for me, or the human race for that matter, than the Bible and its essential central character in the form of our Creator, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who died to earn our salvation and forgiveness, no matter how much we foul up and how much we develop our ride here on Earth.

One brief final thought came to me via the Internet the other day (so no, I am not claiming to have originated this!). To go along with the thoughts about pride; the opposite of envy is celebration! What a great idea, that instead of being envious of other people's gifts and possessions, we celebrate them instead!

*Draw the Circle Wide*





# RAINBOWS

Jane Jennings

I once saw a double rainbow, one on top of the other, over a tropical rainforest in the Caribbean. It was a glorious sight, for just a few short minutes. Then, at home, I was washing glasses in the sink and the light refracted from the glass formed a rainbow also. I thought about how God creates rainbows, and how grateful I am when, by surprise, I encounter one. Rainbows mean different things today, they are a sign of the LGBTQ+ community, as well as God's promises to us as Christians. Do you ever wonder where to find God? I am finding God in the prism as the following poem says. Rainbows remind me to celebrate God, and to celebrate all people as the brothers and sisters we live with on this fragile earth.

I wrote this poem after seeing the rainbow prism my clean glass had produced.

## **God in the Prism**

When a prism of light comes into view,  
An oblique rainbow, it's God's milieu.  
This heavenly, swirling organic mass  
An arc of colour, refracted from glass.  
Colours of red, orange, yellow and green  
Violet and indigo pleasingly seen,  
The prism reminds me of God long ago  
When He formed dry land from the floodwater flow.  
A rainbow appeared, part of His plan  
He promised union together with man.  
As the rainbow shines through the prism  
I'm grateful God redeemed our schism.



## Thank You

From Holly Finn

Taku is in Canada! Holly's daughter, Melissa, is looking for a place for him to stay in Guelph where he has been accepted into the University of Guelph. Answered prayers! Thank you to all that gave their support, especially the ACW!



Celebrating a very special birthday with Phyllis Hicks are daughter Diana and granddaughter Paige. Congratulations Phyllis, and Happy 90th Birthday!



Floral photos - Barb Henshall



## Deaths



Ronald Earnest Ashcroft - August 14, 1930 - October 16, 2021  
Alistair "Hugh" Hugh Guilment Smith - May 28, 1948 - December 14, 2021  
Cathy Beise - June 27, 1956 - March 4, 2022  
Michael Victor Gooldrup - May 19, 1957 - March 17, 2022

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## Are you Fully Vaccinated? Did you get your Booster?

Vaccinate, vaccinate, vaccinate, - for the sake of the world! If you have not received your vaccination, please make an appointment immediately. If you need a ride or a companion, please call our priest, Cathie Hall, at 250-668-3701. Every vaccinated person brings us closer to safety, and to the safety of our unvaccinated children and grandchildren.



## Pastoral Care at St. Peter During the Interim - the Reverend Dr. Cathie Hall

My phone number is 250-668-3701 and email is [incumbent@stpeterscampbellriver.com](mailto:incumbent@stpeterscampbellriver.com). If it is urgent call any time. Non-urgent calls can be made on Wednesdays and Sunday afternoon.

## Staying Connected

Some parish members can't be present and don't have computers and email addresses. We would still like to let them know the news of the parish and make sure they know that they are cared for. You can do your part by phoning someone you know and checking in with them. You can also let the office know their name and Cathie will send them a bulletin and some encouraging words. The church office phone number is 250-286-1613.

## Need the Leaflet Mailed to You?

If you want to receive a bulletin, or if you know someone in the parish who does, please call or email the parish office and let us know. We will mail or deliver it.

## On-going at St. Peter...

### Church Office Hours

Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. – Noon

### 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 in the library or on Zoom

Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. ACW in the Library

Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. Mindfulness on Zoom

### Serving the Community at St. Peter

Sunday to Friday evenings Eight 12-Step groups meet in the building



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## *Important Date to Add to Your Calendar*

- Lenten Learning Series – Wednesdays during Lent, 7:00 p.m. March 9 – April 13
- Holy Week – Sunday April 10 – Saturday, April 16
- Palm Sunday – Sunday, April 10, 10:00 a.m. Hybrid Service – in-person/Zoom
- Thursday, April 14 – Maundy Thursday Eucharist, 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday for Ecumenical Community – Friday, April 15, 10:00 a.m. Zoom only
- Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 17, 10:00 a.m. Hybrid Service – in-person/Zoom
- Sewing Bee – Saturday, April 23, 9:00 a.m. – Noon
- Plant Sale – Saturday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Visit of Bishop Anna to St. Peter’s – Sunday, May 8, 10:00 a.m. service
- Book Sale – Saturday, June 25, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



## *Parish Staff and 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 President: Frances Hudock  
Librarian: Jane Jennings  
Community Garden Liaison: Rick Monchak  
Safe Church: Judy Antonelli  
PWRDF Rep: Barb Henshall  
Building: George Wagner  
Selection Committee Chair: Rick Monchak



Lois & Holly presenting bottle drive cheque to Red Cross Representative

# Draw the Circle Wide



