

Easter Edition

Volume 7 issue 1

Services for Easter 2018

The Sunday of the Passion with the liturgy of the Palms

March 25th

8 am Book of Common Prayer. 10 am – Contemporary Service - Palm Procession beginning outside

Maundy Thursday

March 29th

7 pm Meditation, Foot Washing and Communion

Good Friday

March 30th

10:00 am Way of the Cross

Holy Saturday

March 31st

8 pm The Great Vigil held at St. Paul's, Nanaimo

Easter Sunday

April 1st

*8:00 am Sunrise Service at the beach (at Oar Road)
10:00 am Easter Service with the Flower Cross*



Easter

*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

It is one of the nice things about Easter that it always happens in Spring and so it naturally allows us to use nature metaphors about the resurrection, like the hymn above. After all, in many ways it wasn't essential that Easter be a Spring event. Had the resurrection happened in Fall or the middle of Winter, I am sure that we would have had a whole different lot of images and metaphors. As it is, however, Easter is tied to the Jewish festival of the Passover and so it is – and always has been – tied to Spring. In Spring, we see the seemingly dead trees begin to come back to life, as buds emerge, and blossoms suddenly appear. The earth that had seemed so empty also starts to come to life, as shoots pop up out of the ground. The birds also take on a new lease of life, as there is a feverish building of nests and sometimes a ferocious establishing and defending of territory. In so many ways, Spring is the time when we feel that life is beginning again. No wonder it is often a time of hopefulness for people.

At Easter, the theme of hope overcoming despair is never far away. Through Holy Week, we enter into the journey of Jesus to the very depths of darkness: betrayal by a close friend; mistreatment by brutal armed forces; a sham trial that was more like a kangaroo court than anything else and finally, a long, painful and shameful execution. In that journey we accompany the disciples and friends of Jesus in their confusion and despair as all their hopes and dreams were seemingly dashed to pieces in one dark day. It is there, right in the heart of despair, that hope springs up again as Mary Magdalene and the others discover an empty tomb and find that what they thought was an ending has simply become a new beginning.

There are many reasons in our modern lives to fall into despair – the seemingly never-ending tragedies of mass shootings in schools; the ongoing chaos in places like Syria and Afghanistan; the growing signs of environmental change that will throw millions of people into hunger and homelessness – but Easter is a time for challenging the despair. Easter is the time for reigniting hope. Easter is the time for affirming afresh that, with God, all things are possible.

At Easter we affirm with confidence, “Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!” When we proclaim this, we are saying to all the forces of evil and pain, “No matter how hard you try, you cannot win, for with God, life will always defeat death, love will always defeat hatred and hope will always defeat despair.”

*Up He sprang at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain;
Up from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

(In passing, it was only as I wrote this piece that I found out that the author of the hymn “Now the green blade rises”, John Crum, was Rector of Farnham, in Surrey UK, which is where I was born. In fact, he died in Farnham just three months before I was born there. Although I can’t be sure, it also looks as if the hymn itself was written whilst Crum was living in Farnham.)

David



The Mid Island Rose Society is having its annual sale of perennials, shrubs and annuals on Saturday, April 28th at the home of Jamie Jackson, 1502 Lantzville Rd, from 9 to 2.

Most of the proceeds are for charities. Last year, Nanaimo Regional Hospital, Hospice, The Orange Door Program, The SPCA, Georgia Ave School Breakfast and Summer School Programs and The Salvation Army Christmas Cheer were all recipients for a total of \$2,000.

The Rose Society meets on the third Monday of most months in the North Nanaimo Library meeting room and has a membership of 35.

New members are always welcome.

For more info phone Barbara Samarin 250-390-2805



BAPTISM OF TY BROWNING

There are times when I am tempted to think that I have seen and/or experienced just about everything as a priest and then comes along something to prove me completely wrong! Baptizing an infant in a care home was definitely a first for me.

It all started when I was put in contact with Margaret Wanless, who had recently moved to Kiwanis Lodge. She had moved from North Vancouver to Nanaimo, so that she could be nearer to her daughter, Julia. Margaret is mostly confined to her bed, although she can sometimes get in to a wheelchair. Although we have a monthly communion service for residents at Kiwanis Lodge, Margaret was not well enough to attend these services and so I started to take communion to her after the services. In addition, Maureen Lawrence started to visit Margaret on a regular basis. Until she left North Vancouver, Margaret had been an active church member.



A couple of months after I got to know Margaret, she told me that her daughter, Julia, was about have a baby, which would be Margaret's first (and possibly only) grandchild. She asked me if I thought it was possible to have a baptism service for the baby at Kiwanis Lodge, as there was no way that she would be able to get to the church. I said that I thought this was possible and that I would check with Bishop Logan.

Once the bishop had indicated that he was OK with this, I got in contact with Julia and we began to make plans. Her baby, Ty, was born in July 2017. Because the two friends who were to be godparents were in New York, it was decided to delay the baptism until they could travel out to Nanaimo.

On Thursday January 4, Ty Liam Greyson Browning was baptized at Kiwanis Lodge. There were about 30 people present, comprised of the friends of Julia, residents at Kiwanis Lodge and some members of St Philip's. The service went wonderfully, and everyone had a great time. It was a real pleasure to be able to do this for Julia and Margaret and I know how much they appreciated it.

Ty Liam Greyson Browning

Date of birth: July 21 2017

Date of Baptism: January 04 2018

Mother: Julia Browning

Godparents: Margaret Wanless, Dewy Moss,
Todd Adams



OUR BEAUTIFUL GRANDCHILDREN

Christmas 2017 with all the Grandchildren

Aidan Christopher - love at first sight!



James is on Grandpa-Alex's lap, baby Aidan, Isabelle on the other side of Alex, Emily, Grammie, Audrey, Anna

Jim and Julie Duddridge would like to announce the arrival of our grand-daughter, Melanie Grace, born January 18.



Her parents, Geoffrey and Jaimie, and big brother, Calvin are thrilled and so are we!!!

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thankyou to folks who have been kind enough to send messages of comfort and hope and keep us in their prayers since Julie's cancer diagnosis in September 2016. It has been a difficult journey at times for both of us and our family and friends but the way has been made easier by so

many caring people. Julie's treatment is going well and we are forever grateful to the doctors and scientists who do such good work. We feel very blessed to live in a country where treatment is available and affordable. Grateful and heartfelt thanks from both of us.



This is Charlotte, our second Great Grandchild, born to our Grandson Greg and his wife Jamie

This is Elyse Our first GREAT granddaughter growing up fast, Daughter to our Grandson Dustin and his girlfriend Taneeya



Ron & Yvonne

PWRDF

Thank you to all who used the PWRDF World of Gifts to buy gifts for family and friends. We purchased chickens, ducks, inoculations food and goats, all of which will be a very positive help in the lives of families in our partner programs in Burundi, Tanzania, Rwanda and Mozambique. So many people supported PWRDF in this way that we ran out of the cardstock ornaments and had to reprint twice! Now the organization is evaluating the campaign.

Did you know that as a parish St. Phillip's by the Sea paid for a well? There was more than \$2000 in the PWRDF account in the parish, so the decision was made to send that to PWRDF designated for a well. PWRDF receives six dollars from Global Affairs Canada for every one dollar received for such gifts as the estimated cost of the well is \$14,000.

Last May 17th, I, as part of a PWRDF delegation to the Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania, visited the village of Ndomoni where we saw a deep well that had been installed with PWRDF support. The well provides water to all the villagers who formerly had to have to walk 8 kms to fetch 5 gallons of water which they carried on their heads water! Having water available locally allows villagers much more time for more productive activities such as farming, making crafts for sale and for the girls, going to school. To us the water tasted bitter, but it is clean, safe for consumption and close by so all of that is of most importance to the villagers who despite the heat were still walking to the well for water when we visited.

Setting up a borehole well can take up to a year. First, hydrologists have to identify a site where they expect to find water, then an environmental assessment is carried out and sent to PWRDF, Global Affairs Canada and the Tanzanian government. Once the Canadian and Tanzanian governments sign off, the drilling can begin. The depth of the borehole depends on the location but in Ndomoni it took the drilling machines, rented from Mtwara over 200 kms away, five days to penetrate 120 metres through bedrock to find water at a cost of nearly \$80 per metre.

When the borehole has been drilled, water samples are sent to a laboratory for testing and if the water is deemed safe the pump can be installed. If the tests find the water unsafe, however, the borehole will be shut down and the whole process will have to start all over again.

In the Diocese of Masasi all 30 of the boreholes drilled with PWRDF partnership hit safe drinking water at the first attempt and a further 20 are planned.

Thank you to St. Phillip's for their contribution. This is hugely positive for the people of rural Tanzania in improving the quality of life

Maureen Lawrence

GARDENING SEASON.



The flower beds around the church are maintained by a small group of volunteers

The ladies of the group do the weeding, shrub pruning and planting and if you would like to join us please talk to any of the people named below, we would love to have you, there are too few of us. The plant sale is on Saturday May 5th so now is the time to set aside plants when you split your perennials, herbs, rhubarb and berries. Shrubs and small trees are very welcome, also annuals and

edibles. Alex is the Dahlia enthusiast who makes sure we have colour in late summer, and he would welcome some men to join us for some of the heavier jobs around the grounds. Tell your neighbours we would like donations of plants and pots for transplants. If you have a plant which you would like planted in the church beds, please talk to Anne Tennant or Jude Chillman so that we can decide the best spot. Don't discard your pots if you purchase plants from the nurseries, leave them neatly stacked by the shed to be used by anyone who has plants to donate. The church gardens are a peaceful spot in which to get some fresh air or a little exercise and a chance to add beauty to our environment.

Our group consists of Anne Tennant, Ellen Davies, Mary and Nicole McDaid, Anne Henderson and Wendy Elliott.



Garage Sale St. Philip by the Sea

GARAGE SALE - FRI. APRIL 20 - 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

- SAT. APRIL 21 - 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

Your church needs you.

Garage Sale setup - Weds. April 18 - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Thurs. April 19 - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

We are very sorry, but we are unable to accept:

Mattresses, Bed Pillows, TVs, Suitcases or Computers.

We do accept gently used clothing and bedding, kitchen items, toys, baby items

All help is greatly appreciated even if you come for just an hour or two. We also need a couple of strong people, men or women, to help price tools and electrical items.

On Wed. April 18 at 9:00, we will need as many people as possible to remove chairs to the storage room and to setup tables in the body of the church.

On Wed. and Thurs. we will need help to sort and price items for sale. If you can stay for a while, bring a can of soup for the pot to share at lunch time. This is a time for the people of the parish to get together and have fun and fellowship that comes from doing something together.

We will accept items for sale from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and 5:00pm to 7:00 pm on Wed. April 18 and 9:00 am to 3:00pm on Thurs. April 19.

We will need extra help on Sat. April 21 at 2:00 pm to pack up leftover items and set up the church for Sunday services.

As you can see, we will have a very busy four days. This is a very big fundraiser for our church. The Church Ladies Group are organizing this project but without all our parishioners we will not be able to make this happen. Any help on any of these four days is appreciated.

If you need items picked up, please contact Catherine Cembella - ph. 250 - 585 - 8309 or e-mail - donaldcembella@yahoo.ca

PASTOR: "Praise the Lord!"

CONGREGATION: "Hallelujah!"

PASTOR: "Will everyone please turn on their tablet, PC, iPad, smart phone, and Kindle bibles to 1 Cor. 13:13. Please switch on your Bluetooth to download the sermon."

PAUSE

PASTOR: "Now, let us pray committing this week into God's hands. Open your Apps, BBM, Twitter and Facebook, and chat with God"

SILENCE

PASTOR: "As we take our Sunday tithes and offerings, please have your credit and debit cards ready. You can log on to the church Wi-Fi using the password 'Lord909887'. The ushers will circulate mobile card swipe machines among the worshipers:

- a. Those who prefer to make electronic fund transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church.
- b. Those who prefer to use iPads can open them.
- c. Those who prefer telephone banking, take out your cell phones to transfer your contributions to the church account."

The holy atmosphere of the Church becomes truly electrified as all the smart phones, iPads, PCs and laptops beep and flicker!

"Final Blessing and Closing Announcements.

- a. This week's ministry cell meetings will be held on the various Facebook group pages where the usual group chatting takes place. Please log in and don't miss out.
- b. Thursday's Bible study will be held live on Skype at 1900hrs GMT. Please don't miss out.
- c. You can follow your Pastor on Twitter this weekend for counselling and prayers.

God bless you – and have a nice day."



THE HISTORY OF ST. PHILIP'S BY THE SEA

St Philip's church began in the waterfront home of Bessie Whitehouse. A handful of faithful attendees met and had been shepherded by Martin Dohm-Smit for some time before the now Heritage church on Lantzville Road, came up for sale. The United church and Catholic church in Lantzville decided to join forces and build Trinity Church on Metral drive. The old catholic church was also sold and was removed to Jingle Pot Road.

The news of the purchase and new beginnings of St. Philip's Church caused such jubilation that it was rumoured that Bessie fainted. Work crews of parishioners began refurbishing the building, reroofing, cleaning and making it their own. St Philip's was then designated part of a two-point parish with St. James in Nanaimo. In a relatively short time, a rectory was purchased on Lynn drive and the parish stood on its own. An active and focused ladies' group soon paid off both the church building and the rectory. Father Martin stayed on as the minister and the congregation grew until the walls of the small building started bulging and people were often seen sitting on the stairs during the summer services. The question arose whether to either expand the building or find a bigger piece of property on which to build a new church. It was important to the congregation to remain in Lantzville but there were few places that would support the space necessary for such a building.

Tim Taylor had a wildlife refuge that was home to injured and abandoned creatures and was a popular place for families with small children to visit. Three ponds, one that still remains, enclosures and out buildings housed the animals and these were all under the supervision of Tim and a golden pheasant named Goldie. Sadly, Tim died and the thought of buying his place for the church was conceived.

The property came up for sale and in a matter of days, it was to be the new home of St. Philip's church. The heritage church was sold to the OAP and plans were drawn up for the new one. Then it rained. Flooding was experienced by several homes in the village and new regulations were put in place to avoid further such occurrences. Building the church was put on hold as the property did not meet the new regulations.

When Father Martin left John MacKay and his wife Trish began a new era for St Phillip's that saw a Sunday School that was to become the biggest in numbers in our diocese. Crammed into the small basement were classes from very young children to teens. People spilled out into the garden as there was standing room only and the level of conversation became so loud as to not be able to hear. Rummage sales, a Bargain Boutique, bake sales, to name a few fundraisers, all happened in the small basement and the building fund grew.

Despite the long wait, there were times of fun and fellowship that knitted our church community together.

For several years we rented the facilities of Camp Columbia for the weekend. It was a time of fellowship and community in which we got to connect with people who perhaps were seen only on Sundays but by the end of the weekend were now friends.

The Bargain Boutique, organized by the younger women in order to take some of the pressure off the ladies' group, preceded rummage sales. Better clothes were sorted from the rummage donations. This became a popular event and due to the crowded space at the church it was soon necessary to rent Costin Hall. Models were coerced from the congregation and a fashion show opened the sale.

Another fun event was a talent night: Who knew that there was so much talent in our parish? We watched singers, actors, a demonstration of the Over 50's exercise class. It was during this demonstration that Trish McKay, who was one of our regular exercisers, pulled out a thermos of tea and her knitting and took a break. The younger children who braved being in front of an audience with song were all heartily applauded.

There are particular incidents which stand out in memory. One Thanksgiving Sunday, one elderly gentleman in our congregation got to the front door and as he looked at the decorated church inside remarked "How beautiful" and fell where he stood. Despite the sadness of his passing ... there was also comfort in the thought that his last vision brought him joy.

There was a terrible accident in which one of the young boys in the village was killed in a cave-in at the bottom of one of the beach access roads. Two other boys from our congregation narrowly escaped. It was a popular place where kids played and this came as a shock to us all. As our church was the only one in Lantzville at that time, a service was arranged for anyone who needed to come and find some peace. The church was full, not of our regulars, but of people in the village who, perhaps, had not come to church for a long time. After the service people stood outside, not going but staying to draw comfort from each other. St Philip's was the village church

An expectant parishioner sat at the back of the church at the early service hoping to take communion before leaving for the hospital. Father Martin became aware of her timing contractions from his vantage point at the front and the liturgy was followed at a much faster rate than usual. Unaware of what was happening, the rest of the gathering were, at first, wondering at the fast pace of the service but when the reason for this was explained we were relieved that the baby was not born in the back pew and that communion was received.

As our congregation grew, the space in the small church diminished. The walls appeared elastic as more and more people were squished into pews, chairs narrowed the aisle and the narthex became impassable. One Christmas, silent prayers were given that the fire marshal was not in attendance as we seriously exceeded our limit. The need for a bigger facility became more urgent.

After approximately 14 years of waiting and several outdoor services held on the church property, which were thought by some to be the only services they would ever attend there, we were given the green light to build. Ian Niamith was chosen as architect and a general contractor was hired to oversee the construction; the physical work of the church building began. The stained-glass windows, designed and crafted by local artist Chris Smith of the Glaskrafter in Lantzville, were removed and crated for installation in the new building. The pictures replicate the view from Bessie Whitehouse's property, our first Anglican Church in Lantzville.

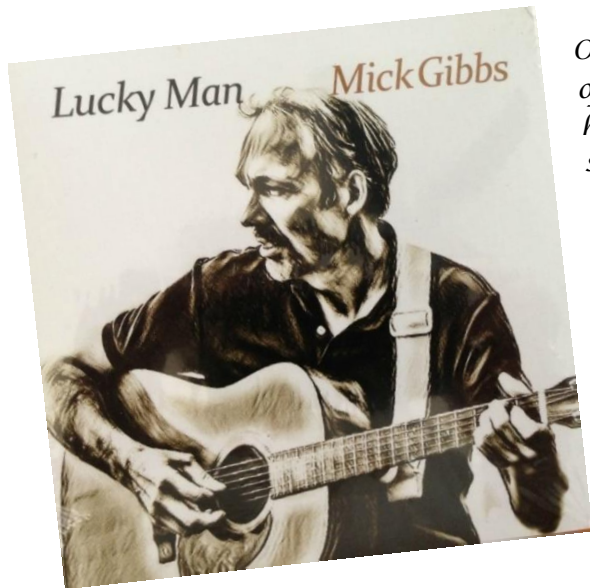
The ladies' group designed and paid for the fully equipped kitchen. The landscaping was done by individual donations, most in memory of loved ones, and a work party planted, raked, seeded and tamed the grounds around the building itself. Discussions, both heated and non-heated, debated the use of pews versus chairs. Originally designed for extension through the sanctuary should that be required at a later date, it seemed wiser to have chairs, which were easier to move, when using the main part of the church for a hall. Colours were chosen, the big dividing doors were installed, the wood floor was laid, the sound system was set to carry voice and music and the grand piano sat waiting. It was time to move in.

The first service in the new church began in the old church. At the time we had 3 organists; Graham Gates, Richard Saxty and Kim Godfreyson. Richard played at the 'old' church and the congregation filed out of the building and walked behind Graham, who picked up the hymn as he played an organ in the back of a pickup truck. Kim was playing as everyone filed into the new church. It was a very moving (no pun intended) experience and there were a few of us who had difficulty singing by the time we arrived.

The design of the new facility gave more room for the Sunday School, and meeting rooms provided an opportunity to rent to other community groups in Lantzville and north Nanaimo during the week. Sunday concerts, fashion shows, dinner fund-raisers, and teas joined our twice-a-year rummage sales which brought in more people and our congregation grew.

George Shaw, who was supervisor in charge of the work gangs, was a great supporter and there were many occasions to work beside the inmates sharing stories and laughter during lunch, coffee and doughnut breaks. Several of the men returned after their release to join us on a Sunday.

When Alex retired the process of finding a new priest began and once again Trefor Williams was called to act as our interim. Kevin Arndt was asked to come to St Philips and a new generation began. This was Kevin's first parish and he walked with us through the change of St Philip's as a small family church into the larger wider reaching church that St Philip's is today.



Our own [Mick Gibbs](#) has recorded a wonderful CD of songs that he has written, some you will have heard in Church, some maybe not. These are for sale at the very reasonable price of \$10, get yours today. Contact Mick or Yvonne



The Kingdom of Heaven is within.

The Kingdom of Heaven is within us all and God resides in Heaven, thus God is within us all.

Finding the Divinity within is accomplished through prayer and meditation: Contemplation - Be Still and know that I am God.

It is more difficult for rich people to enter the kingdom of Heaven because due to being rich in earthly terms, they can afford all manner of luxuries and wonderful things. These wonderful things are all outward distractions. The more you own, the more attached to those things you become. The harder it is to let those things go to be able to be still and go within.

Not impossible, just harder.

Steven C. Downey



Job Descriptions for Church Staff

Senior Pastor (Rector)

- * Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound
- * More powerful than a locomotive
- * Faster than a speeding bullet
- * Walks on water
- * Makes policy with God

Associate Pastor (Curate)

- * Able to leap short buildings in a single bound
- * As powerful as a locomotive
- * Just as fast as a speeding bullet
- * Walks on the water (if the sea is calm)
- * Talks with God

Director of Music

- * Can climb over a small building
- * Falls off of locomotives
- * Can fire a speeding bullet
- * Walks on water (if she knows where the rocks are)
- * Is occasionally addressed by God

Youth Minister/Sunday School teacher

- * Runs into small buildings
- * Recognizes a locomotive two out of three times
- * Owns a squirt gun
- * Knows how to use the water fountain
- * Mumbles to herself

Church Administrator

- * Picks up buildings and walks under them
- * Knocks locomotives off of the tracks
- * Catches speeding bullets in her teeth
- * Freezes water with a single glance
- * When God speaks, says, "May I ask who's calling?"

PRAYERS



The Prayer Team consists of 21 people who respond with prayers to any request. People ask for prayers for themselves or others (not restricted to parishioners) most often for support and healing but also in any time of stress

Requests come by phone, email or in person and are held in confidence. Team members do not know who else is on the team as requests are sent Bcc.

Also, team members come from all over the island, not just Nanaimo. Those who make a prayer request take comfort in knowing that there is a strong body of prayers supporting them.

To add to this: a prayer request may come from someone reeling under the weight of a new diagnosis, from someone involved in an accident, or a person who is finding life hard to cope with for any number of reasons. Sometimes the call comes from the person themselves, or a family member, or a friend, or a neighbour . . .

Sometimes we hear nothing more and are left to say to ourselves, 'well, hopefully no news is good news'.

Sometimes there are repeated updates as the requests come in for further prayer support, ending with the sad announcement of a death.

And sometimes we get the 'all clear' along with heartfelt expressions of joy and appreciation.

Just recently a friend (not of this parish) confided to me that she hadn't really expected much from prayers by strangers but that she really could feel the blanket of support surrounding her and was incredibly grateful.

Please contact Jane at janegribling@shaw.ca or leave your request in the box in the Narthex.

St Philip's Plant Sale

It's that time of year when gardeners' dreams about what they will be sowing, dividing, moving and taking cuttings from begin to take shape. We spend the dark Winter months gazing at seed catalogues and wishing we had bigger green houses, more time and more money to do all the amazing things we read about. We long for sunshine and that first hint of warmth in the air.

We start sowing seeds as soon as we think we can get away with it, often too early although I have been getting reminders of what to sow, when to sow since early January. We potter about on clear days, pruning here and there, spraying against harmful insect attack, or just making plans and wondering why we thought a certain plant 'just there' was a good idea. We start planning which plant sales we will attend in the hopes of that extra special bargain.

Which brings us to this year's plant sale ...

Anything, absolutely anything, garden-related that you do not want will be happily taken off your hands and put in the **Great Annual St Philip's Plant Sale** which is on **Saturday 5 May** from **9.00am–2.00pm**.

If you can donate any garden tools, decorations, plants etc. please bring them along to the church on Friday 4 May between 2.00pm and 5.00pm when we will be setting up for the sale. If you are unable to deliver please contact **Jude Chillman** (jude.chillman@shaw.ca or 250 585 1345) or **Yvonne Downey** (yvonedowney@shaw.ca or 250 751 7897) and they will arrange to collect. Donations of a non-organic variety can also be dropped off at the church when convenient but please put them tidily beside the shed.

If you are planting seeds, dividing perennials or taking cuttings please consider doing a few extra and donating them for the sale. It's a great fund-raiser for the church and helps keep local bio-diversity strong by helping growers avoid the big commercial sellers whose plants are often bad for the pollinators on which we all depend.

*The kiss of the sun for pardon, The song of the birds for mirth,
One is nearer God's heart in a garden, Than anywhere else on earth.*

STRESS COMES FROM
TRYING TO DO IT ALL ON
YOUR OWN,

peace

COMES FROM
PUTTING IT ALL
IN GOD'S HANDS

