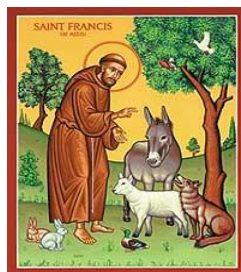


News & Views
of the people of
St. Philip by the Sea

Thanksgiving 2019

Volume 8 issue 3

October 6th 4.30 pm



Blessing of the Animals

October 13th 8am, & 10 am

Thanksgiving



History of Christianity

Ever since university, I have loved to find out more about the history of the Christian Church. The past 2000 years have seen a lot of things happen; some good and some very bad. I believe that the more we know about the history of the Church, the better able we are to understand how we have come to be how we are today. Decisions and actions taken hundreds of years ago still have an impact on how we worship and practice our faith today.

Over the past few weeks, a small group of people (mostly from St Philip's but not all) have been watching the TV series "The History of Christianity", narrated by Diarmaid MacCulloch. It has been a fascinating, if slightly demanding, account of the key events that have shaped the Christian Church in many places across our world. So far we have learned a little about how the Christian faith spread as far as China in the first few centuries after Christ; how the Roman Catholic Church emerged from decades of persecution in the Roman Empire to become the religion of the state; and how the Orthodox Church grew from its centre in Constantinople to become a driving force in Russia.

It may be easy to think that this is all rather academic; that it is "only" history – the account of things that have happened in the distant past without any significance for us today. However, the more we watch and understand, the more I have appreciated that our history has shaped us and continues to shape us. To take just one example, in one episode we heard how St Augustine of Hippo was powerfully influential in the Western Church, especially through his teachings about Original Sin and the total depravity of human nature. Such teachings continue to affect us today, not just in the church but also in society at large. By contrast, the Orthodox Church was never influenced by St Augustine and so has developed a very different way of looking at human nature and sin.

Here on Vancouver Island, we are increasingly aware of the ways in which our history as settlers continues to influence our relationship with the First Nations whose lands we inhabited and who suffered greatly as a result of the actions of white settlers. We know that history is not just "something that happened long ago" but is a force that continues to exert influence today.

History matters. It may be the history of the Church or the history of the island. It is only through understanding our history that we can understand the mistakes that were made in the past and which need to be rectified in the present if we are to move forward to a healthy future. Too often we ignore history and end up making the same mistakes over and over again. May God lead us to a deeper understand of our past, so that we may have a brighter vision of our future.

David

Good News!

*We are now proud great
grandparents of a baby boy!*

*Weston Gregory Robinson Born
August 5th 2019.*

*To Jordan and Jenna
Robinson.....Stephanie's son.*

--Barbara and Joe Samarin



Book Sale - Fundraiser

Do you have some books that you would like to put to a good cause? If so, please bring them to the church at any time and leave them in the library. We will incorporate them into the already set up shelves and they will go on sale!

We have priced the books very reasonably, small paperbacks \$1; large paperbacks \$2 or \$3; hardcover books from \$3 - \$5. There is a money box situated on the shelf and you can put the money in as you buy your books – on trust!

Once you have read the books, please bring them back so that we can recycle them into the shelves and give someone else a chance to buy a very reasonably priced book.

This project is one of the new initiatives that the parish is undertaking to try and help with the ongoing financial difficulties.

Thank you.
Parish Council



Garage Sale

Friday, October 25, 2019 & Saturday October 26th

9:00AM - 2:00PM



Spare an hour or two! Help unpack and sort the donations, no experience necessary.

Just show up anytime between 10 am to 2 pm on Wed or Thurs and give whatever time you can spare.

Your church needs you.

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.

Open for Donations Wed 9:30 am - 7:00 pm

Thurs 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Wed morning 9:00 am various tasks, as in removing chairs, setting up table etc.

Wed & Thurs...9:30 help to sort sale items. We can use any help you are able to give. Bring a can of soup and stay a little longer!!

We will accept items for sale from 9:00 am Wed to 7:00 pm. and Thurs 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Garage Sale starts Fri 25th 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and Sat 26th 9:00 am to 2pm

We will need extra help around 1.45pm to pack up left over items and set up the church.

As you can see, we will have a very busy 4 days. This is a very big fundraiser for our church with money going to help our Outreach program.



The adventures/travels of Don & Roberta Peterson

Funny...I am at a loss for words, our three trips were amazing.



February saw us cruising the Caribbean visiting many islands and locations that dazzled us with colour, smells, sounds and textures.

One of the highlights was cruising through the Gatun Locks in the Panama Canal. Such an amazing man-made accomplishment.



March gave us love and laughter while visiting family in New Zealand. This trip we ventured to the South Island and cruised Milford Sound.



Waterfalls, wind and waves created memories that will last a lifetime.

April, we stayed home!!

May was the "I" trip...Ireland and Iceland. Green and black were the colours of this trip.

Blarney Castle in the mist was outstanding, a lovely lass playing an accordion and singing while I dangled off the tower to kiss the stone.

Iceland created visual stimulation with volcanoes, geysers, waterfalls and green turf houses.

Godafoss, Waterfall of the Gods, and Laufaus turf houses.



Stay tuned for our next adventure!!



The saga of Jane and Gary

This year we moved – not so remarkable, you think – so I'll start again:

This year we moved, after 46 years under one roof.

We are no longer Lantzvillagers (never Lantzvillians, Lantzvillains nor Lantzvilleins); we are now Nanaimoites.



Aside from names, the move was an interesting experience, but I will be happy to stay here for another 46 years.

Our family threw out our old furniture with gusto, so we had to go shopping. Prices are out of all recognition now: if I like it I can't afford it, & if it's reasonably priced I wouldn't waste my hard earned dollars on it. What a conundrum.

Our new home is not really

smaller, but it is much more convenient both inside and out – and exactly what we were looking for. It's on one level, with a room over the garage for Gary and all his stuff: his man cave has become a kingdom. You can see him peering down at the camera.



The garden is small, and very private, with lots of well grown shrubs.

Ron & Yvonne helped to remove a dozen so far to open it up.



Georgina - The Travelling Veteran



After doing the Liberation Battlefield Tour of the Normandy coast, including Belgium and the Netherlands in late April and early May of this year, Georgina was honoured with an invitation together with her youngest daughter Anita, to take part in the Market Garden Veterans Tour and Remembrance Services in Holland in September from the 13th to 23rd. This year is the 75th anniversary of WWII and of this particular battle, so it was especially poignant.

They were based in a wonderful hotel in Uden, Netherlands, and from there day and evening functions were orchestrated. There was a packed itinerary. There was a Hell's Highway Market Garden Tour, with grand parade, historic WWII vehicles.

There was a wreath laying at the Airborne Monument, with a cocktail reception for the WWII veterans, an airshow with flyby including 2 Spitfires, a Dakota and three B25 Bombers.

Later in the evening they attended the Victory Dinner with Master of Ceremonies Lieutenant-General Hoitnik and Dr. van de Donk, Commissioner of the King in North Brabant. Georgina was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by Lieutenant-General van Griensven, Inspector-General of the Royal Netherlands Army.

Over the next couple of days, there were visits to the National Maritime Museum and the WWII veterans met with high school students in an educational program. There was an exhibition of parachute dropping at Eerde, then on to a commemoration ceremony and wreath laying at the observation post of the 101st Airborne Division.

Georgina and the veterans also went sailing on the Biesbosch waters and attended the Torch Parade and cocktail reception with Mayor of Eindhoven.

There was an extremely emotional day on September 29th, when the veterans attended a ceremony at the Concentration Camp at Vught. The evening lightened the mood with a dinner and dance on a lovely yacht sailing through the Rotterdam Harbour. Entertainment was provided by Netherlands national treasure, Lee Towers.

The Veterans were invited to attend the Airborne soccer match in Arnhem and had front row seats to watch the action. They were gifted with team scarves in appreciation. After commemorations at Oosterbeek Cemetery, Georgina and the veterans attended a fabulous Liberation concert in Veghel.

At every stop and every function, the Veterans were welcomed, thanked, and treated with warmth and respect. One special highlight was lunch at the Royal Military Academy with cadets. Each Veteran and companion were able to eat with a small group of Army, Airforce, and Military Police cadets to share stories, answer questions, and build understanding of past and present. As Georgina was the only female Veteran, she was very much in demand.

Financial Update

Hi everyone:

As summer draws to a close, and we prepare to embrace another Christmas season, I wanted to take this opportunity to bring everyone up to date on the financial situation at St Philip's.

You will recall that we ended 2018 with another deficit (third year in a row), and that I advised everyone at the Annual Vestry Meeting at the end of February that if the finances did not improve, and we continued to experience deficits, then the parish was heading for bankruptcy; at that time I estimated that our savings in the form of GICs would keep us going for about 4-5 years, but after that we would be broke.

Well so far in 2019, the situation is not much better than 2018, in fact in order to meet our expenses we have had to cash in one of those GICs (we had an overdraft of more than \$10,000 at the end of August). So now I would have to revise that estimate of 4-5 years down to less than 4 years

If you look at the figures in the table below, you will see that the only month in 2019 that we have had a surplus is May, and that to meet our average monthly expenses we need to generate approximately \$15,575 in revenues from all sources, and we are only averaging \$14,125.

Month	Givings	Other Inc.	Total	Expenses	YTD
Jan	\$12,096	\$1,458	\$13,554	\$14,245	(\$ 690)
Feb	\$14,124	\$2,700	\$16,824	\$17,479	(\$1,596)
Mar	\$11,056	\$5,344	\$16,400	\$16,909	(\$1,969)
Apr	\$10,752	\$2,483	\$13,235	\$15,500	(\$4,649)
May	\$10,221	\$7,425	\$17,646	\$13,200	(\$ 204)
Jun	\$10,096	\$4,950	\$15,046	\$17,260	(\$2,417)
Jul	\$ 8,430	\$ 955	\$ 9,385	\$14,067	(\$7,581)
Aug	\$10,063	\$ 443	\$10,506	\$14,519	(\$11,594)
TOTALS	\$87,130	\$25,869	\$112,999	\$124,593	

At this point I want to recognize the stalwart efforts of the Ladies Group to help keep our heads above water; they have generated \$5,430 from their various activities, and they anticipate further contributions from the events this fall. We should also recognize the great work being done by Lori with all the facilities bookings which have generated over \$8,900 so far this year.

The bottom line, however, is that our financial future is gloomy with maybe 3-4 years remaining before the parish is bankrupt. Let us pray that that does not happen, but it is a strong possibility unless we see a huge turn around in our finances.

Respectfully:

Tony Davis, Treasurer

A CIRCLE OF PRAYER

By Caleb Lawrence



Like many people, my prayer life has always been a struggle for me. I first learned to pray as a child, as my mother taught us to pray each night before bed. I still remember the words of that first prayer, "Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep ..." Later, when I learned to read, I was encouraged to respond at the proper places in the Prayer Book at Church services, although the language of the Prayer Book was often difficult to understand. In Confirmation classes I learned more about prayer, and "how" to pray and use different forms of prayer. Later, in university we had daily prayers in the chapel and as we studied for ordained ministry were taught to say the Prayer Book prayer services daily. This was a pattern I followed for many years.

At this point in my life, my prayers revolve around a different pattern. While daily prayer is very much part of my routine, the pattern is more open, and not tied to the use of a prayer book or the regular prayer patterns of worship.

Much of my time of prayer is in the early morning, when my mind is clear as I contemplate and plan for the coming day. I pray silently, with my mind, and often pray in this way through the course of the day as well.

Basically, there are three areas of my daily routine of prayer.

The first is a broad one, prefaced by the words, I "pray to the source of all love and all life, saying ...". I start with my family, those both near and far. It extends to my godchildren and my namesakes, and then to a much wider circle – those among whom I was privileged to live, in communities in the arctic and other parts of the north, and then in places of interim ministries here on Vancouver Island, including members of this parish. I have held many of these people in my prayers for decades, while others I have added more recently. Some I have lost contact with, and do not even know if they are still alive. Most, I suspect, have no knowledge that I pray for them, day in and day out. I usually close this area with the words, "that we may become a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to the praise of Christ Jesus our Saviour."

The second area of my prayers is to include those in ordained ministry. I pray for all the active bishops in the Anglican Church of Canada, and many in their retirement years as well. To date, over half have been ordained since I retired. While many were people I already knew, others I have never met, so I have had to learn many new names – not an easy task! After the bishops, I also pray for all the clergy in the Diocese of Moosonee, which is still my "home" diocese, and here again, many have been ordained as deacons and priests since we last lived there. This long list has been extended again, with the names of many clergy in this Diocese, including those in leadership positions. This long list of names is held up in prayer, closing with the words, "that we may remain faithful to our calling, and rightly proclaim the word of truth".

The third area of my prayers is for those in authority. I begin by praying for our Queen Elizabeth and her Canadian representative, our governor general. I pray for five heads of state, including our own prime minister, the heads of the other political parties in Canada, four provincial premiers, and three grand chiefs at different levels. I pray for each by name (which means keeping up with the news), but this does not mean that I necessarily ascribe

to their policies or actions – often quite the contrary! I pray that through their leadership, words and actions, that we and all people “may lead quiet and peaceable lives”.

This daily routine of prayer concludes with the Lord’s Prayer. Over the years I have learned this prayer in four languages, and I use one each day. Today it was in Cree, tomorrow it will be English, then French and then Inuktitut.

That is the pattern which I have developed over many years. It grows out of much of what we call “common” prayer, printed in books and practiced as we pray together with others. It works for me, and what I have found is that it seems to fill my waking hours with a sense of continuing prayer. When I hear the sound of an ambulance, I instinctively think of someone in distress and of caregivers rushing to help. I am moved to pray silently as I listen to the news, read the paper or share deep conversations and concerns with others. It shapes me, and as I continue to struggle with prayer, it helps me to grow and act beyond what I was and into a new becoming.

I share these words with you in the hope that what I have experienced may be some help to you, as part of a community of prayer in the life of this parish, in the wider Church and in a world, God loves so much.



My Daisy Flower

So here we stand
With our hearts muddled
Making a knot
On the last petal
Of my daisy flower
Will you love me then?
Is the score settled
Are we more than friends?
Do you dream about me
When I dream of you
Could we wish together
Make our dreams come true
Could we take our brushes?
And paint over lies
Can we forget to question?
If our knot is tied
And I know our ropes
Are of different size
But if you could trust me
It could be alright
So, let's get hearts muddled
Forget the flower stem
Until our last petal
Then we'll start again



Zane Downey

Summer Vacation



In August, Jude and I spent a couple of weeks staying in a wonderful cabin on Quadra Island. We had never visited Quadra before but really loved it. From our cabin, we could see across the water to Campbell River and could watch the cruise ships that had just come through Dodd's Narrows, along with a huge number of tugs pulling barges loaded with all kinds of containers and stuff.

One of the highlights of the vacation was the evening we did a kayaking tour from Heriot Bay, around some of the smaller islands. We saw plenty of seals and sea birds and drank in the spectacular views of the islands around us and the mountains in the distance. We also spent a number of afternoons just sitting on the beach, watching the whales swimming in the waters



between Quadra and Cortez islands.

If you haven't spent some time on Quadra, I really recommend that you go and stay there for a few days. We certainly look forward to returning sometime in the not

too distant future.



David & Jude

A Golden Evening

By Caleb Lawrence

Photos by Iris Kramer-Clarke

Ron and Dorothy Cumming are a familiar couple at the Sunday morning Services at St. Philip-by-the-Sea Church since their move to Nanaimo 10 years ago. Here, in this part of Vancouver Island they have made many friends – at church, through a Newcomers Club, and in volunteering.

2019 is a very special year for these two lovers, for it marks their Golden Wedding anniversary. Fifty years – half a century since their wedding in St. Ninian's Anglican Church on September 6th, 1969, they wanted to mark the occasion in style. Their wish was gladly taken up by their two adult children Stephanie and Laird, whose love of a fun time matched that of their parents. While Ron and Dorothy decided on a celebration date and booked the venue, the next generation hatched a secret plan – much of which was carefully hidden until the day of the event.



One matter was very important to Ron and Dorothy: they wanted to renew their marriage vows in the company of family and friends. The words were from the same Prayer Book used in their original marriage service, updated only to emphasize the continuity of love promised and shared in the wedding service in 1969.

So it was that the Golden Wedding Anniversary was held at the Nanaimo Golf Clubhouse on Friday evening, September 20th. The rain and cloud of the previous few days gave way to a bright and sunny afternoon. Many family friends from the Cummings earlier life in Ontario were there, including their daughter Stephanie with her husband Craig, nieces Barbara, Elizabeth and Dorothy (their flower girl!) and their spouses, and Ron's stepmother Sophie, and friends who had travelled from Toronto, California and Portugal for the occasion.





The evening began with the renewal of marriage vows, with Stephanie and Laird proudly supporting their parents, and guests gathered around. The solemn and holy moment was followed by a delicious dinner as family and guests wined and dined amidst the chatter and laughter of the occasion. The meal over – the fun began, with costumed portraits of the guests, a surprise visit from “Elton John” and music from the sixties and onwards. The happy couple were toasted, roasted and applauded, and in return Ron expressed thanks and appreciation to all in attendance, with special mention of those who had been part of the plans and preparations for the evening.

Finally, after much dancing, laughter and good wishes, the evening wound down as guests slipped away into the night, and Ron and Dorothy headed home, surrounded with love as they continue their journey together.

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**Call for volunteers to help on Sundays:** At the moment we have an adequate number of names on the list, but only if we are at full strength: (these numbers are for the 10 am service)

- 8 sides persons (2 per service = once a month)
- 17 readers (3 per service = every 5-6 weeks)
- 9 prayers of the people (once every 2 months)
- 4 servers (once a month)
- 7 chalice assistants (nearly once in 2 months)
- 8 collection counters (2 per service = once a month)

However people travel, have visitors, have other commitments (both in and outside church), get sick . . . so we really would appreciate more volunteers.

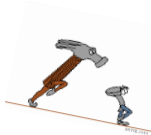
The more people on the list, the less frequently you are needed.

None of the roles are difficult, so if you think you might be willing to step up, we'd love to have you.

Please talk to David, Yvonne Downey or Jane Gribling

\*\*\*\*\*

**Need a handy man? Call Ron!**



Skilled woodworker, painter, and yard work  
Call 250-619-2259 Or email at  
[rsdowney51@gmail.com](mailto:rsdowney51@gmail.com)





Christmas is coming! This is already obvious by the number of stores which already have Christmas merchandise for sale but **also** PWRDF has just released the new Gift Guide. This is a really worthwhile way to give a gift on behalf of someone who has everything, someone to whom you would like to give a gift but who really does not want or need one! We use the Gift Guide throughout the year recently giving friends 2 goats and 40 chickens to celebrate a special occasion in their lives. Caleb gave me bricks to build a health centre in Africa for my birthday! As usual we will ask our grandchildren what they would like donated in their names, chickens, goats, seeds, or perhaps something medical especially for Pierre who in the past years has asked for inoculations and birthing kits!!

The Gift Guide will be in the October, November and December issues of The Journal if you want a hard copy but below is information which you can use to go on the PWRDF website and find out for yourself what gifts you might like to give. Don't forget that the items marked with a maple leaf are matched 6:1 by the Canadian Government making them super worthwhile gifts for the recipients.

I have been fortunate to see first-hand the huge benefit a gift of a goat, a cow or chickens can make in the life of a family in Africa, or the benefit of a well or a dispensary to a whole community.

All the information may be found on [pwrdf.org](http://pwrdf.org). and then click on World of Gifts.

Thank you

Maureen

## *Christmas Brunch, Bake Sale & Bazaar*

*Saturday December 7th. 10 am*

