

## Celebrant: The Rev'd. Stuart Hallam Preacher: The Rev'd. Stuart Hallam

### DATES TO NOTE

Today	St. Philip's Youth Group: Cross-Country Skiing at Hollyburn, weather permitting
<b>Mon. Jan. 20</b>	<b>Annual Report deadline</b>
Tues. Jan. 21	Parish Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, Garden Room
Sat. Jan. 25	All Parish Open Gym & Games, 6:00 pm, Fireside Room and Gym
Mon. Feb. 3	Outreach Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, Upstairs Meeting Room
Mon. Feb. 17	Family Day, office closed
Sun. Feb. 23	Annual Vestry Meeting, 11:30 am, Fireside Room

### SWEET TREAT AT COFFEE TIME

The merci chocolates at coffee this Sunday were given from Nightingale Elementary to the Outreach volunteers in thanks for our Christmas hampers.



### CHILDREN'S CHOIR

A message from Michael:

I would like to start rehearsals for the St. Philip's Children's Choir. If most children are available I would like to rehearse twice a month after school from 4 - 5PM. Day of the week will be determined. Please speak with me after church on Sunday if this is something you would like your children to do. Thanks!

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SUBMIT A STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE

First, thank you to those who submitted a 2020 pledge form before the end of 2019. The information is vital if I am to provide the Finance Committee with an estimate of the expected income for operating

costs from our single largest source, you parishioners we call "identified givers". To date, despite some of you submitting increased pledges and a few parishioners pledging for the first time, **the expected income from pledgers is down almost \$20,000 over last year.** Deaths and departures account for only about 35% of that decrease. The main cause is that **2019 pledges for almost \$40,000 have not (yet) been renewed.**



**IF** those who pledged in 2019 but have not done so for 2020 **AND** those who contributed in 2019 without pledging all continue to contribute, **THEN** the total expected donations will exceed those in 2019 by about 3%. That would be good news, but is it a reliable prediction? Given the fact that the pledges submitted include several with significant reductions, I don't think it is.

Now, some regular and long-time contributors never submit a pledge. For you, I rely on your record of giving, but I can be surprised when you change your mind and so it would be more reliable if you did pledge.

**What about the "missing" pledges?** Will you continue to donate at last year's level? Will you respond to the Stewardship Campaign's suggestion of an increased donation? Will your personal circumstances dictate a reduced contribution? If you give through pre-authorized donations from your bank or credit

card account, you may have assumed that no new pledge form is needed. However, it's risky for me to make the same assumption; many parishioners change their contribution from year to year.

At present, I am left to make a prediction with too many unknowns. If you can fill in a gap by submitting a pledge form this week, I will be grateful. Please see the Parish Manager, Beth, in the church office.  
Paul Harrison, Envelope Secretary



### 2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2020 offering envelopes are ready for collection. They are individually labelled for those who have indicated they would like to use offertory envelopes on their 2020 pledge forms. If you would like to use offertory envelopes, please contact Beth in the office.

### ANNUAL REPORTS

The deadline for Annual Reports is noon on **Monday, January 20 (tomorrow)**. Please submit your committee reports to the office no later than noon, so that Beth may begin compiling the report. This deadline is firm. Thank you.



### CHRISTMAS CAROL SUCCESS!

A Christmas Carol - This year's dramatic reading for Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' was a huge success raising \$7400 in total and attracting almost 300 people to St Philip's! \$2000 of the proceeds will go towards supporting the Neighbourhood Ministry and the rest will go towards the running of St Philip's and supporting our music programme.

Huge thanks for all those who helped to make this wonderful event happen, but particularly to Sheryl MacKay for organising and hosting the evening. Thank you to all, from the Rector and Wardens

### LAY ADMINISTRATORS

We are seeking anyone who might be interested in becoming a Lay Administrator to volunteer their names. We could certainly use more Lay Administrators, as we are quite short now because of attrition and requests for leave (sometimes for several months). If interested, please speak with Stuart or John Dolman.



### NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, we had a very successful training session. It was well attended and three new people volunteered to be on one of the street outreach teams. Thanks to all of those who attended.

We are still looking for donations of sleeping bags, sleeping pads and tarps.