



ST. PETER, QUAMICHAN ANGLICAN CHURCH

St. Peter's Beacon Newsletter

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Our Service for the Week

Here is our recorded service for this week! Thank you to all who assist and participate in the creation of the service! We couldn't do it without you. Please share this link widely and enjoy!

<https://youtu.be/iwaVG30-ljc>

A Note from Our Incumbent

Greetings my friends in Christ,
Well, next Sunday, September 6, is the day when we begin to come together as a community to worship and pray. Wardens Chris, Trish, and Paulette along with the Parish Council continue to work diligently to make our worship time safe for all of us.

I'd like to take this time, to once again tell you why we haven't opened our doors earlier. I have not made this decision unilaterally. It has been made in consultation with the wardens and Parish Council. Many of you may know that I began my working life in health care. I worked in ICU (infant NICU and Adult) I spent many years working with folks who had cardiovascular and pulmonary impairment for a variety of reasons. COVID-19 affects these two bodily systems and it has been my prayer that absolutely none of you would be affected by this virus. Churches across the Anglican Communion have delayed opening for the safety of their parishioners. Some churches that have opened have not been successful, parishioners have become ill with COVID-19 and have had to close. Now seems the appropriate time to open as long as we are all safe. I believe we have instituted policies and procedures that will protect you during our time together. I am aware and support those who will not be returning to services until a vaccine is available. Our Sunday Services will be sent to you, just as the Wednesday services have been.

A rumour has been floating about that I will be leaving in the new year. I assure you THAT IS NOT MY PLAN! Yes, we are building a retirement home in southern Alberta, on our daughter's property. It will not be completed for a couple of years as we are building it as time and finances allow. As many of you can imagine, due to COVID, we have decided to have more "staycations" so this will be our "Carriage house resort". So, I'm here for the long haul. If you have ANY questions or concerns or "I was wondering" or "I've heard that was happening" PLEASE ADDRESS THEM TO ME.

Peace MJ+
The Rev. MJ D. Leewis-Kirk, Incumbent



In Our Community

The flowers on the Altar this week are given by Keith Leewis to the Glory of God in celebration of their 49th Wedding Anniversary!



We are looking for a few dedicated people to take on the ministry of Recycling! This "behind the scenes" ministry brings in approximately \$500 each year which is a huge help to our budget – especially during a time when rentals are low because of Covid-19. If this is something you feel called to do – please let us know!

Fantastic "Relaxing" "meditative" "Soulful"

"Contemplative" Upcoming dates for Marilyn's Friday Harp days include August 28th and Sept 4th at 1pm! Mark your calendars. Remember to bring a chair and then all you need to do is pick a place in the shade, close your eyes and relax!

Birthdays Blessings this week:

August 29 – Elissa Erickson
August 30 – Elizabeth Williams
Sept 1 – Anita Hunt

Looking Towards Reopening

Your Parish Council and Wardens have been working with MJ to ensure all is in place and ready to welcome you back to worship services on **September 6th**. All is coming together nicely but with new protocols to ensure health and safety of all involved comes **opportunities for volunteers to step into new positions!** The following is a brief outline of the positions we need filled for BOTH services on Sunday mornings and ask that you prayerfully consider if God is calling you to fill one of these roles and ask you to contact the Wardens or MJ if you can take on one of these positions.

Greeters (3 per service)

- **1 Outside Greeter** – to encourage appropriately spaced parking and direct folks to the line-up procedure outside
- **2 Inside Greeters** – These two will both assist and orient parishioners to the new ways of worship through the following steps:
 - Welcome one at a time, singles or family units of 2 or more
 - Check off name of attendee on registration sheet and ask participant to pick up a mask if required
 - Point out donation basket
 - Direct attendee(s) to sanitizing station
 - Direct attendee(s) to bulletin for pick up
 - Escort/direct attendee(s) to appropriate seating area
 - At the end of the service guide attendees to the Exit doors which will be opened by the Greeters. Once all have exited check to make sure north exit door is locked.

Restroom Monitors (2 per service)

- If a restroom is used the monitor will wipe down with disinfectant all surfaces potentially touched. Supplies will be kept on a shelf in the coat closet
- Make sure **orange cone** (to identify if restroom is occupied) is in correct position

Sanitizing After Services (5 per service)

- Chairs – to be wiped down with disinfectant provided
Surfaces such as handrails on stairs, door handles and other high touch surfaces must be wiped down with disinfectant.
- With 5 people working together – this task should not take more than 5 to 10 minutes.

Wardens:

- There will be a warden present at each service. Prior to the service the warden will quickly review pertinent protocols
 - Ensure restrooms are cleaned, tidy and ready if needed
 - Make sure the exit procedure is understood and well marked
 - Give reminders and housekeeping expectations at the beginning of worship

**** Please note the following reminders put in place by the diocese as part of the Covid-19 Safety Protocols****

We request that you use your own restroom facilities prior to leaving home.

Masks are required – and will be available if needed.

Any socializing after the service is to be done outside away from the parking lot and main entrance and physical distancing protocols must be practiced.

THANK YOU! We look forward to seeing you soon!

A Prayer for Synod – written by Herbert O’Driscoll

Lord Jesus,
May Your Wisdom be our wisdom;
Your Vision our vision; Your Will our will;
That we may seek, find and call one
Who will Shepherd your people,
Nurture reconciliation, Love your creation,
and speak Hope to the Church and the World,
In Your Name,
Amen



What's Happening in the Diocese

An Election like no other!

Within the diocese, preparations are underway for a Synod to elect our next Bishop. This synod will be held on September 26th and be done virtually to ensure health and safety of all involved. At this point in time nominations have closed and Diocesan Council will sit on August 27th as Nominating Committee to prepare documents for circulation around the diocese. The goal is to have all the information about nominees available to our delegates no later than September 16th. This will be a busy time for our delegates, clergy and all those who are involved in making this Synod a success. Please keep all in your prayers: delegates, Synod staff, clergy and those letting their names stand for nomination. May God guide our hearts and minds during this time as we prepare for this next stage of life within our diocese.

Season of Creation

Christians around the world are invited to give attention to praying and caring for God’s creation as part of the global Season of Creation, observed beginning September 1st every year. We at St. Peter’s are looking at ways we too can engage in God’s world in this meaningful way. As we walk together during this ongoing season of discipleship, we are encouraged to ask ourselves; how does our call to discipleship inform our relationship to the land, earth and sky of God’s creation? Keep an eye open for how our services are going to be embracing the Season of Creation in our liturgy and prayers in the coming weeks!



A Note from our Student

What a whirlwind this summer has been! I have now been with you almost 3 months and feel like I am just beginning to find my footing. I’m sure by now most of you have “met” me via our recorded services these last few months. On weeks when you didn’t “see” me, I was completing a summer intensive semester (3 full courses over 6 weeks) via distance education through my seminary, Atlantic School of Theology. During this time, I have also had opportunities to attend parish council meetings, work on the Beacon, attend Pastoral Care meetings and to meet some of you in person. As the coming weeks and months unfold, I look forward to meeting more of you and am excited to see where God is leading this community as we look to reopening for in-person worship and explore ways that we can stay connected while at a social distance.

Prayers for health and well being to each of you,
Kirsten Evenden

Find us on Facebook as: The Anglican Parish of St. Peter, Quamichan
Or online at <https://www.stpeterduncan.ca/>

Remember! Be kind, Be calm and Be safe ~ Dr. Bonnie Henry

