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Notices for Sunday, July 12, 2020

Dear lovely people of St Philip's!

With the summer well and truly upon us (he says as the rain is teeming down outside) it was wonderful to see so many of our number at the inaugural St Philip's 'Church in the Park' last Sunday afternoon. Thankfully, the weather was set fair as about 30 of our community, young and not so young, came together to worship and socialise in the beautiful surroundings of Chaldecott Park - all socially distanced of course!

The event had to begin with introductions as people came together from each of our 'normal' services and some people had never met before! We then shared a short service taken from the Iona Community, which focussed our thoughts appropriately on finding God in creation. Afterwards, over drinks and snacks, people spent time catching up. Love and laughter were the order of the day. It was palpable how much people had missed being with one another.

It was also lovely to experience worshipping in the midst of our wider Dunbar community who were also in the park being with their loved ones. It all felt very wonderful and natural, to be honest. Perhaps, on reflection, the COVID19 virus has taught us in this simple act of solidarity and witness to be a church that goes 'beyond our walls'? Let's hope so. If you would like to join us this coming Sunday please feel free, 4.30 pm in Chaldecott Park; bring a chair and the refreshment of your choice! No obligation. Keep safe and make the right decision for you.

The Sunday 'Church in the Park' is a precursor to what we will be doing when we open for Phase Two towards the end of August (pending Diocesan approval). As a reminder, during Phase Two we will continue to offer our 'regular' online Holy Eucharist, but we will also bring the service that we are now doing in the park on Sundays back into church at the same time. This will enable us to slowly re-inhabit the building in a safe, socially distanced way before we move into Phase Three, which will allow us to do eucharistic services again, albeit, in a very different way. One step at a time. Just for now, being out with the people feels fantastic. We are witnessing to God's love and showing it by being together in the midst of our community...

The Gospel this Sunday certainly encourages us to get out and sow God's seeds of loving potential. Indeed, in the parable, the sower is so enthusiastic about their task that they throw seeds everywhere, even in places that the seed does not have a 'cat in hell's' chance of even germinating, let alone taking root and having a chance to grow and bear fruit! Some have argued that this parable proves that few people are destined to come to faith - after all only one in four of the seeds ends up bearing fruit. But I don't believe that the parable is about results, I think it is more about God's abundance and our perseverance. God never stops

sowing the seeds of love. Indeed, it is in the most difficult environments that God throws the majority of the seeds!

God's kingdom of love, justice and inclusivity will not come easily, but we are called to continually sow the seeds of its potential abundantly, yes on the good soil, but perhaps more importantly on the more difficult rocky and hostile ground. After all, it is in the places where a lack of love, exclusivity and injustice abound in this world where God's love is so desperately needed...

Love and Prayers, Stuart



CHURCH IN THE PARK

About 30 parishioners of all ages gathered (real, live people!) at Chaldecott Park on Sunday July 5 at 4:30 pm. It was great to see so many of us there! Church in the Park offers, weather permitting, a socially distanced short service followed by a chance to enjoy each other's company. The play area and water park are open which the kids really enjoyed together. Bring seating, and refreshments of your choice for after the service. Come as you are. Bring a friend. No registration needed.

Cancellation in case of wet weather will be posted on the website by 3:00 PM. This is a great opportunity to reconnect, and a wonderful witness to our community that St Philip's is truly alive and kicking! <https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/events/church-in-the-park>

PRAYER, CARE AND SHARE: Wednesdays on Zoom at 10:00 AM

Join Stuart for midweek prayer and fellowship in a pastoral gathering on Zoom. Meet, greet, pray. Share life's concerns and joys in a small supportive gathering. You may join by telephone, or on a smart phone, computer or tablet. Stuart hopes to hear your voice.

To join the gathering by phone, simply dial 778-907-2071. Listen to prompts. You will be asked for the meeting ID which is 2939572088. **To join by Computer:** Click the blue link at 10:00, using your computer for best results. <https://zoom.us/j/2939572088>

TRANSFORMING QUESTIONS: an online course for Christian Formation

This pandemic has stirred up basic questions about life, faith, purpose, and God. In 11 sessions, we will seek to move deeper by engaging in some of faith's most basic questions. Let's gather for prayer, hear a presentation, and then join in small-group discussion. Through listening and sharing, we will wrestle with these foundational questions in each other's company. As we do so, we will learn more about ourselves, one another, and the Jesus we are seeking.



Dates: Thursdays, 7pm: July 16 - Sept 24. **Session length:** 60-75 minutes. **Place:** Zoom
Who is it for: adults (16+) preparing for baptism, confirmation, reception into the Anglican Church, or reaffirmation of baptismal vows; those exploring faith for the 1st or the 50th time.
Attendance: Sessions are related to and build upon one another, so this is not a drop-in course. Please register TODAY. You can request to be in a small group with someone you know.
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/transformingquestions> **Deadline to Register:** July 9, 2020!



WEBSITE WORSHIP

Join Stuart Hallam and others in Sunday morning website worship and follow along with the order of service delivered to you on Friday. The services are recorded and posted by Saturday evening, so you can watch and revisit them at your convenience. These services have been viewed by households 777 times in the past month: mid-May to mid-June.

Visit our website where there is much to find in worship and news.

<https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/blog>

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers at this time: Ken and Greg, Maura and Brian, Nancy, Tracy and family, Larry Hoad, Mike Lane, Brenda Harrison, Sarah Burns, Richard Fenner, and Peter Harrison. Let us pray for those who have died: Joan Hume and Jenny Sheldon, and for their friends and family bereaved by their loss.

MILESTONES

Let's share life's blessings with our parishioners as we recite the final prayer together.

LAWN SIGNS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

In response to recent events in Canada and the United States, and a history of such tragedies, El & Sophia Noetzel, Duncan & Euan Wilson, and Graeme & Norah Mix created a lawn sign campaign to stand up as a church community against racial injustice. The signs are available on the porch by Saturday, July 11. Come to choose one for your lawn or a friend's. The images on the first lawn signs can be found on St Philip's website under news.

<https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/news/against-racial-injustice>

COFFEE HOUR on Zoom: Sunday July 12th, 11:00 AM

We look forward to seeing **you**. Click the blue link at 11:00 am, using your computer for best results, or join by phone: Coffee Hour ID is 454815164. <https://zoom.us/j/454815164>

To join any Zoom meeting by phone, dial this number to connect: 778-907-2071



MUSIC

Michael Murray has asked for favourite hymns. Inundate him: michaelmurrayorgan@gmail.com



NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY FOOD & CLOTHING DRIVE

<https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/news/neighbourhood-ministry-food-and-clothing-drive-update>

Please donate at St Philip's: Monday – Friday from 9:00 – 4:00
Donations are down; however, in recent months the number of people accessing various food programmes has increased. Please give generously to this ongoing need as we support busy shelters. Drop off your donations of food, hygiene sundries and clothing to the donation bins on the porch, **while accepting responsibility for your**

own safety if exterior work is ongoing.

Clothing for men: rain jackets and pants, t-shirts, sweatshirts, lightweight long-sleeved shirts, jeans, underwear and socks. **Food:** easy-open cans of meat or fish, soft cereal bars (no granola), protein bars, meal replacement drinks like Ensure or Boost, fruit cups, juice boxes and bottled water. **Hygiene sundries:** unopened toothpaste, brushes, shampoo, hygiene products, etc.

Volunteers needed: Can you help with delivering food for about 2 hours every 2-4 weeks? email ministrymcu@gmail.com.

REOPENING ST PHILIP'S

Stuart Hallam will apply to the Diocese for permission to reopen the church to in-person worship in Phase II with all health precautions, masks and social distancing in place. Even after we reopen for Phase II, Sunday's 10:00 AM online Website Worship will continue.



GODLY PLAY

Families will be happy to hear of a Godly Play session recorded and available on our website, with a possibility of more to come to bring a reconnection to Sunday School for our children.



GARDENERS

Volunteer gardeners may return! Connect with Pat Brandon:

caretaker@stpdunbar.com

Avoid building work areas in case of repairs or painting work: the major roofing work is done.

SHARE THE PEACE

Stuart wants to share with the world the faces of St Philip's. Young or old, record a short video (5 seconds or so) of you sharing the peace: "Peace be with you". Express your personality to share the peace with us and with the world! Send your short clip to: Revhallam@hotmail.co.uk
Watch Sunday's Worship to see the peace shared by parishioners (even a baby on June 28...)

OUR REFUGEE FAMILY

Catch up with the latest news and photos. Onward!

<https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/news/the-al-koud-chebli-family-moves-forward-again>

PRAYER LIST AND LIFE'S MILESTONES

Please send your prayer requests and milestones to Beth so we can celebrate with you in spirit, in prayer or with a phone call. manager@stpdunbar.com or 604-224-3238 ext 301

RECYCLE, AND SUPPORT ST PHILIP'S

From juice boxes to gin bottles, **Return-It** will take all your recycling. You can credit St Philip's Church for your donation of recycling to our Express recycling account number 604-224-3238. Label your bags with our number. Go to <https://www.return-it.ca> for the information you need.



GLOBAL SCHOOL OF HUMAN RIGHTS DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

Join Cristosal, a charity working to advance human rights in Central America, in three Tuesday evening online sessions beginning Tuesday, July 14. These are free sessions offered by their Global School of Human Rights. Register by Monday, July 13, 2020 to: globalschool@cristosal.org

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

Enjoy a take-out meal, a haircut, or visit a local shop. Livelihoods depend on our patronage.

GRATITUDE CONFETTI

Let's throw gratitude confetti on people who give of themselves to support and protect us.

Staying Close While We're Apart,

Stuart Hallam (Rector), Debbie Matheson, Brian Mix, Diana Bragg, and Suzi Noetzel (Wardens)

3737 West 27th Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6S 1R2.

St Philip's Website: stphilipsdunbar.com