

Notices for Sunday, September 20, 2020

Dear lovely people of St Philip's!

The Church Centre entered into a new phase of re-opening this week as we welcomed some of our regular community groups back into the building after many months in lockdown. It has been a great joy to hear local children once again playing and learning at Tom Thumb and Crown pre-schools and wonderful seeing Master Dave teaching the spiritual practice of Taekwondo to children of all ages, Matilda included!

This week, the Parish Council met and decided not to move to Phase III of in-person worship at this time. Phase III allows for the limited provision of in-person Holy Eucharist. The Parish Council felt that with COVID-19 numbers alarmingly on the rise, now was not the time to move to the next stage, with the implied added extra risks associated with taking Communion. I thank them for their wisdom and leadership at this time. The Parish Council also heard of the financial challenges faced by the Parish due to the pandemic. I commend to you the report our Treasurer has written in this bulletin. Despite the challenges, we are certainly keeping our heads above water and I am thankful that we are being wonderfully led by our Treasurer, Don Thomson, during this time. Thank you, Don for all your hard work!

In church, there is much now going on. Our new in-person services continue to settle in as we all get used to the new normal of physical distancing, wearing masks and not singing! This coming Sunday marks another new normal, or should I say a new 'old normal', as we introduce the beloved service of Choral Evensong back to St Philip's after a long absence.

Evensong, taken from the Book of Common Prayer, is one of my very favourite Anglican services. The language, poetry and music of the service are simply divine, and despite the restrictions of COVID-19, we will be able to enjoy listening to parts of the service chanted by a Cantor from our choir. Michael will be in attendance ready to play the organ and I, of course, have been practicing the Versicles and Responses! I hope as many of you as feel able will come, and do tell your friends about it. Don't forget to register for a free ticket beforehand: see details below!

This Sunday is extra special as Archbishop Melissa will be preaching at our 10 am online Holy Eucharist. This was due to be her final visit to St Philip's before her upcoming retirement. Sadly, due to COVID-19, it will only be a virtual visit, but we look forward to hearing what she has to say to us on Sunday. As ever, the service will be available via our website and Facebook page: again, see details below.

Please pray for our Synod members, Trina Wilson, Janice Hope, Claire Munn and Graeme Mix as they deliberate Bishop Melissa's successor. Details of all the candidate can be found on the Diocesan website (www.vancouver.anglican.ca). Incidentally, there will be an Electoral Town Hall tonight, which will be recorded and published on the Diocesan website this coming Saturday Sept 19th, so be sure to take a look at all the candidates in action as they share their vision for the Diocese in these uncertain times.

Despite the uncertainty, as we can see, God is at work in bringing people together in new ways. We are already beginning to see how the flexibility of our new pews allows us to offer a wealth of different types of services to meet the needs of many more within our community, despite the restrictions of COVID-19. Just think what can be achieved when the pandemic is over!!

Keep well and stay safe!

Stay safe and peace be with you.

Stuart

DATES TO NOTE

Today **Archbishop Melissa Skelton** will be preaching at our 10am Website
Today Traditional Evensong at 4:30 pm in the church
Wed. Oct. 7 Property Committee Meeting, 6 pm
Wed. Oct. 14 Trustees Meeting
Tues. Oct. 20 Parish Council 7:30 pm on Zoom

NEW PATTERN FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES DURING PHASE II

Traditional Service of Evensong: 1st & 3rd Sundays, 4:30 PM

Parishioners have asked for a traditional service to resume, the pews will face the altar, and music will be provided by Michael with a cantor singing parts of the service. After Sept. 20th, traditional Evensong repeats on Oct. 4th & 18th, and so on.



Celtic Evening Prayers: 2nd & 4th Sundays, 4:30 PM

This is a quiet, contemplative spoken service of Evening Prayer from the Iona tradition lasting approximately 45 minutes, with readings and music, to be held next on Sept. 27th

Health Precautions for Gatherings Under Reopening Phase Two

There is no shared eucharist or shared singing for now, but we can still enjoy instrumental music, a cantor and recordings. In-person services are limited to 50 people and all attendees must wear a mask while in the building. If you forget yours, we will give you one. Please be ready to come in when doors open at 4:20 pm. Greeters will meet you, sign you in, offer hand sanitizer, and guide you to your seat. Please follow their directions. Alert the greeter if you need to enter via the ramp or need help. One washroom is available. After the service, feel free to gather outside at a distance and chat. It has been wonderful to see people again and catch up.



To allow for contact tracing, you are required to register in advance to attend this service with free ticketing through Eventbrite. This allows us to keep track of the numbers, know who will be attending, and contact you if needed. To arrange a ticket for each person in your group, follow

the link below and **select the dates you wish to attend:** <https://www.eventbrite.ca/o/st-philips-anglican-church-30814447722>. If you are unable to access Eventbrite, register with Beth (604-224-3238) before Friday noon.



WEBSITE WORSHIP Sundays at 10:00

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 engaging services have been very well received.

Visit our website: <https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/blog>

PRAYER, CARE AND SHARE

Wednesdays via Zoom at 10:00 AM

To join the gathering by phone, dial 778-907-2071.

The meeting ID is 2939572088.

On your computer, click the link at 10:00 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/2939572088>



COFFEE HOUR Sundays at 11:00 AM on Zoom

We look forward to seeing **you**. Click the blue link at 11:00 am, using your computer for best results, or join by phone:

<https://zoom.us/j/454815164>

To join any Zoom meeting by phone, dial 778-907-2071.

Coffee Hour ID is 454815164.

PARISH FINANCES: an update from Don Thomson, Treasurer

At the end of August, two-thirds of the way through the year, our year-to-date operating loss was \$41 thousand, under (better than) budget and last year. Without Diocesan assistance and the federal government's wage subsidy, the Parish would have suffered a \$96 thousand operating loss. Going forward, no such assistance is available, but the financial challenges remain; so your continuing support is extremely important and much appreciated. The Trustees are working hard to mitigate losses, and the Parish facilities have now reopened, but rental and especially fundraising income will be impacted through the end of 2020 and beyond.

Year-to-date General Fund giving, at \$170 thousand, was approximately \$20 thousand less than budget and last year. One-off donations to the General Fund received last summer have not been repeated, but identified giving was more than budgeted. Thank you for your continuing support, and for taking advantage of the PAD and online donation facilities.

With facilities closures and physical distancing in place through the end of August, rental income was \$19 thousand less than budgeted and the Spring Rummage Sale's budgeted \$5.5 thousand could not be raised. However, the Diocese waived its assessment for April to August, reducing expenses by \$37 thousand; and the Diocese allocated \$18 thousand to the Parish as its

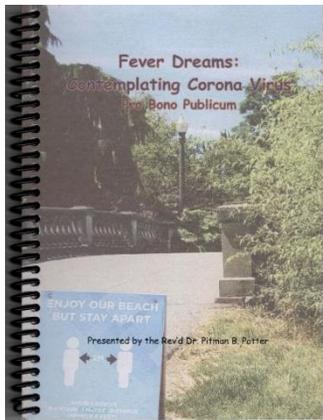


share of the federal government wage subsidy claimed by the Diocese for March and April. Despite the waiver of the Diocesan assessment, the year-to-date operating loss increased \$15 thousand over the two summer months.

Capital Campaign giving from the start of the campaign to the end of August was \$701 thousand. The Fund balance after roofing, gutters, stucco, painting, loop (hearing) system, pews and other expenditures is \$257 thousand. Your donation in year two of the three-year campaign makes a difference.

As you know, the financial challenges are accompanied by opportunities as we find new ways to carry out our ministry and programs with access to more parishioners and others beyond our walls. Our online worship services are well-attended, well-received and vital to those in isolation; and, with more flexible pews facilitating physical distancing, in-person services have resumed Sundays at 4:30pm. ZOOM is facilitating gatherings; the Neighborhood Ministry has resumed; the refugee family is doing much better; and “St Philip’s Ringers” plan to contact all parishioners.

While managing our costs, we are focussing on our ongoing needs and planning for future growth. Planning normally ramps up in the fourth quarter, and is particularly important this year – the budgeted shortfall for 2020, even before the impact of COVID-19, was unsustainable; and COVID-19 has created additional financial challenges. My objective is to be ready by next February’s annual vestry meeting to discuss a plan and annual operating budget for 2021 that, with our current circumstances, challenges and opportunities in mind, reflects the Parish vision and addresses renewal and financial sustainability. In the meantime, any suggestions you may have are welcome.



COVID CONTEMPLATIONS THAT PROVIDE A BALM FOR THE SPIRIT ***Fever Dreams: Contemplating Corona Virus***

The Reverend Dr. Pitman Potter, the Westside Anglicans Neighbourhood Ministry’s retired deacon and clergy leader has prepared a timely new book of contemplation and reflection, which he has offered as a fundraiser for the WANM.

Fever Dreams: Contemplating Corona Virus presents 52 spiritual texts selected from Judeo-Christian, Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, and Taoist traditions, as well as poetic and lyrical voices.

Fever Dreams: Contemplating Corona Virus

Presented by
the Rev’d Dr. Pitman B. Potter
Published by Pro Bono Publicum
Softcover, spiral bound, 123 pages
with colour photographs

Each selected text is accompanied by suggestions for quiet contemplation, through which readers are invited to engage in *Lectio Divina* (a traditional monastic practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with, and increased knowledge of, God’s word), and to consider the meaning and application of the texts in their lives.

Each contemplative text is supported by an accompanying photograph selected from Pitman’s personal archive and published for the first time.

Readers are invited to engage with one selection each week, beginning on the week of the season when they first encounter this book, or on the first week of the ensuing season. A handy “Notes” section also allows readers to record their contemplations.

To obtain your own copy for a suggested donation of \$20—the entirety of which will go to the Neighbourhood Ministry, as Pitman has provided the publication *pro bono*—please contact our WANM parish liaison Rhona Thornton at rhonat@telus.net

Some Reviews:

“Thank you, Pitman, for this beautiful book of wisdom and faith. You have interwoven the sayings and poems from so many world religious sources to bring into focus the pandemic situation that we all are living in at this moment. It also allows one to go deeper and ponder on our own faith journeys in the light of another religious tradition and to realize that the source of all is ‘I AM’.”—ST

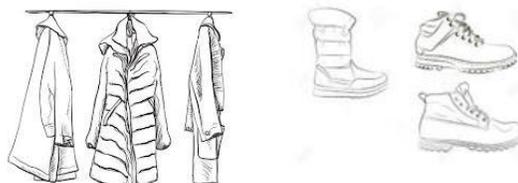
“I have read the entire publication and feel blessed to have done so. This is a wonderful resource for everyone's life journey, and I would be more than pleased to promote and distribute it to others. Thank you for always having the Neighbourhood Ministry in mind and using your incredible gifts to support those we serve in this ministry.”—JS

“Thanks so much, Pitman. This is a beautiful book.”—RT

CLOTHING REQUEST

The Street Outreach is requesting a size large winter coat and size 10 boots for a female UBC student in need. Either of these items would be gratefully received.

Please email ministrymcu@gmail.com for pickup.



NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

We are pleased to announce that the Neighbourhood Ministry has resumed! On August 29, we sent out our first team since Covid closures. What we are able to give and how we are able to deliver it has changed a bit, but it's good to be up and running again. When we shut down operations in March, we donated all the food and most of the clothing items we had to various shelters. We are now restocking! **We currently in urgent need of canned meat or fish; soft cereal bars (think Nutrigrain: avoid nuts & seeds); protein bars; nutrition drinks (Ensure, Boost) and clean men's socks and new men's underwear.**

We are donating clothing items to one of the shelters on Hornby Street so we are also collecting basic clothing, mostly for men - shirts, pants, sweatshirts, rain jackets & pants, boots,

and runners. Things like suit coats, skirts, dresses, & heels are nice, but not practical for those living on the street.

There are drop off bins on St. Philip's porch where you can leave your donations. If you would like to contribute but aren't able to make it to St. Philip's, we have volunteers who can stop by to pick up. Contact Rhona Thornton at rhonat@telus.net or leave a message in box 304 at St. Philip's. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important work!

ST. PHILIP'S RINGERS

The St Philip's Ringers will call every parishioner over the next while to chat, ask if your needs have changed and if you now need a hand, and let you know that we are thinking about you all.

We need more volunteer Ringers! If you can help us call parishioners, please volunteer with Suzi Noetzel: spnoetzel@me.com



Months of isolation, separation from loved ones, loneliness, uncertainty, and stresses at home can be heavy to bear when our usual joys and activities have been curtailed. **Stuart asks you to call him at mobile 604-338-5636 if you or anyone you know needs a chat and support.**



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, Douglas Bruce, Larry Hoad, Mike Lane, Brenda Harrison, Sarah Burns, Cynthia Howard and Richard Fenner. Let us pray for those who have died 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.

GRATITUDE CONFETTI

Let's toss gratitude confetti on all school teachers, staff and students.



Staying Close While We're Apart,

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



The Diocese of New Westminster Reopening Phases

The Anglican Church of Canada www.vancouver.anglican.ca



Phase 1



Phase 2



Phase 3



Phase 4

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Eucharist	Online only	Online only	In-person with restrictions	In-person, no intinction
Service of the Word	Online Only	In-person with restrictions	In-person with restrictions	In-person with no restrictions
Filming and Live Streaming Worship	YES, with restrictions	YES, with restrictions	Continue for those that cannot physically attend	Continue for those that cannot physically attend
Other Services	Permissible with tight restrictions	Permissible with tight restrictions	YES, allowing for physical distancing under 50 people	Unrestricted
Formation Fellowship, Fundraising And Pastoral Care	Online or telephone only	Online or telephone only	YES, allowing for physical distancing under 50 people	Unrestricted and some online recommended
Office building use	Limited Access	Limited Access	YES, allowing for physical distancing under 50 people	Unrestricted
Service and Outreach Initiatives	With permission from the Archbishop's Office	With permission from the Archbishop's Office	YES, allowing for physical distancing under 50 people	Unrestricted
User Groups and Rentals	Suspended or invited to suspend	Suspended or invited to suspend	YES, allowing for physical distancing under 50 people	Unrestricted