

President's Report September 2020

At the beginning of September, it will be 26 weeks since we found ourselves having to stay home due to the pandemic and now that we are allowed some freedoms, it is definitely a different world. The usual spring teas and bake sales have not taken place and it would appear that they will not be around this fall either. Please look further in the newsletter for churches who are handling things differently.

“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God”, Corrie ten Boom

A fairly successful Annual General Meeting was held via Zoom at the end of June and it was wonderful to see the attendance was similar to our in person attendance last year. Many thanks have been given to Rev Christine Wilson, Becki Kozol, Rev. Melanie Calabrigo and Rikki Kooy for helping to make the AGM happen. It also was a blessing that Archbishop Melissa was able to attend for the beginning of the meeting as Saturday is normally her day off and this would be her last time to join us as she retires next spring. We look forward to the future when the wonderful stoles made by Rikki can be shared for all to see up close.

Calendar orders have been arriving and we expect that there will be no delay in receiving them this year from National Office. We thank all the parishes for their orders, the profit of which helps to offset the costs of shipping the bales. We hope to have the calendars all delivered by the end of Sept.

Permission was given by Archbishop Melissa for the warehouse to begin work again in the beginning of July. The bales that had been finished but not sent in March were finally able to be shipped and we have been working on cleaning up the warehouse and starting to make the Christmas bales. We are limited to 6 people working at one time and have taken all the proper protocols that are being asked for and wearing masks while we are working. If you are thinking you might like to give a hand on Monday mornings, please email Beth Fortin at rcee99@hotmail.com so that we can abide by the rules.

The ACW Board met by Zoom on Sept 1 and we decided that we would try to have the Area Meetings via Zoom. The Greater Vancouver/North Shore Meeting will be on Tues., October 6, and the South West Fraser Meeting will be on Tues., November 17. Further information will follow. Unfortunately it would appear at this time, that we will not be able to host an Open House in December.

Keep well everyone and in touch with those who are important to us.

Blessings

Gail Revitt, President



Chaplain's Chatter

I've been reading "The Skin We're In" by Desmond Cole. I wasn't going to read it. It was one of three books listed for reading during the summer for the UBC Book Club, and I'd already read the other two. This book, by a Canadian author, is subtitled "A Year of Black Resistance and Power", and the reviews seemed to indicate that it is just one more book about Black Lives Matter, and reviewers thought they had read enough about injustices faced by non-white peoples in Canada. I suppose I thought likewise – after all, I've read literally dozens of books and taken several courses on injustices to our First Nations people.

Perhaps I was searching for something lighter during the summer of this Covid time. We're finding it long, and we are already weary. Probably I thought that black people in Canada don't really face the same problems as those in the United States. Yes, our history is different, but injustices toward black Canadians are faced every day. And then the public murder of George Floyd happened. We heard the litany of "all lives matter" – But I began to hear that if you don't grasp that Black lives matter, then you really don't understand what's going on.

So, I started reading the book. It's a quick read, but not an easy read. For as Cole takes us through one year – 2017 – month by month, entrenched and systemic inequality unfolds. Reading through Cole's book, my bubble of Canadian smugness and naïve assumptions of black people in a post-colonial, post-racial nation has been burst.

Covid-19 is changing our lives and will continue to do so – not just the disease itself, and the deaths it is causing – but globally it has laid bare the inequalities and injustices that makes the suffering so racially and economically unequal. It awakened us to the desperate need for climate change. And then, the murder of George Floyd sparked another message – Black Lives Do matter and racism is a religious issue. As Christians, we must take notice.

We in Canada are not immune to what is happening to our neighbour. We are bombarded with the politics of the small, narcissistic, and amoral man in the White House, who with aid of conspiracy theories as in QAnon, and the "underground" of "big money" has appealed to many of our deepest demons and sins – and we find ourselves so often modeling the exact opposite of the spirit of Christ. The spirit of Jesus, who demands of us, that if we follow him, then we are not to be flippantly in denial, but are to take a long hard look at this terrible atrocity of racism and what is happening in our own country.

I believe that the message of that brown-skinned rabbi who was born in what is now Palestinian territory is the message we are to follow. We must relearn what we are here for, and not just what we are against. Yes, we have wandered and strayed like lost sheep – lost in the wilderness of the media and believing the tyrants.

Desmond Cole has shaken me from my complacency and naivete. Time to set aside the pull of the tyrants of greed and power and reclaim the power of Jesus and his ways and bring about a new narrative in our personal and public lives. Covid is likely to be with us for a while – and we've got a lot of work to do. The Lord requires of us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God (Micah7:8) Blessings, my friends on our continuing walk toward personal and global wholeness.

Yours in Christ, The Reverend Beverly Stewart

St. Helen's Knitting by Glenda Colquhoun

Pat Nociar is a member of St. Helen's Anglican Church. During this covid-19 Pat has been very busy knitting 23 sweaters for Babies. They are in many styles and colours. Pat enjoys knitting and has donated the sweaters to the Bales.



Ann Mathew, is a member of St Helen's Anglican Church. Ann loves to knit and has made beautiful sweaters, socks, mitts, booties and dresses for Babies. These all have been donated to the Bales. Ann is in a Seniors home and not able to get out. Knitting helps to pass the time for her.

Ginger Cookies by Barb Steele

Basic Recipe

½ cup unsalted butter, softened	1 cup granulated sugar
1 egg	1/3 cup fancy molasses
2 cups all-purpose flour	1 ½ tsp ginger
1 tsp baking soda	1 tsp cinnamon
¼ tsp ground cloves	Pinch salt

In large bowl, beat butter with sugar until fluffy. Beat in egg and molasses. Whisk together dry ingredients. Stir into butter mixture until combined.

Variations

Double-Ginger apricot drops

1 batch basic dough	½ cup chopped dried apricots
½ cup chopped crystalized ginger	Walnut halves

Mix into basic dough. (I mixed the fruit into the flour first, then added the whole works to the butter mixture.) Oven 350°. Place by tablespoons (I rolled into balls and flattened) on parchment paper and press the nut into it. They say 12 – 15 min. I did 9 minutes.

White Chocolate Ginger Buttons

1 batch basic dough (I used the double-ginger apricot dough)	
8 squares white chocolate	Pinch cinnamon

Roll dough by tablespoons into balls. Flatten. Place 2" apart on cookie sheet on parchment paper. Press thumb into center of each to make a well. Bake as above. When they come out use the back of a 1 tsp. measure and push into wells again. When cool, carefully melt chocolate, stir in cinnamon and put about a tsp. in each cookie.

Around The Diocese During The Pandemic

St. John's, Port Moody in light of not being able to hold their Spring Tea or Christmas Tea are in the preliminary planning of an Online Bazaar in November. This would be a no contact sale open to only their church members. They are awaiting Diocesan permission.

Holy Trinity, White Rock has been holding Zoom dinners. There have been four so far.

Covid 19 Craft Fair

To be held by St. Thomas Anglican Church
2444 East 41 Avenue, Vancouver, OUTSIDE IN THE PARKING LOT
September 12, 2020 10 AM to 3PM
Outside in the parking lot with limited numbers in attendance at any one time, masks mandatory and social distancing

A wide variety of hand crafted items will be available including sewing, knitting, planters, flower arrangements, art work, earrings, cards, pet gifts, jams, pickles and amazing gift items.

If you need any jams/pickles and not able to attend please email the address at the bottom of the page and we will send your information to Carreen and she will arrange to get them to you.



Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced, remember those whose lives are at stake

May we who have no risk factors, remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home,
remember those who must choose between preserving their health
or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children
when their schools close,
remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips,
remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market,
remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home, remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
let us yet find ways to be the Loving embrace of God to our neighbours.

Amen.

Meet the New Board Members

Judith Carling - Member at Large

Judith is a widow, and a retired from being a nurse educator in the Philippines in 2012. She emigrated to Canada after retirement.

Judith became a member of St Michael's Multicultural church ,Vancouver in 2013, an ACW President-2013 to present, and a Vestry member- 2013 to present. Judith enjoys volunteer work– at her local food Bank and helps prepare hot meals for those in need.



Kelly Bowman - Vice President

Kelly was born at St. Mary's hospital, in New Westminster, on April 26. She attended Douglas Road Elementary (Burnaby) for two years and then Renfrew Elementary for about 5 years in Vancouver. She moved to Vancouver Island in Grade 7. She attended High school and graduated from Esquimalt Senior in 1977. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Alban's in Burnaby. Kelly worked in St. Alban's Day care for several years. She taught Sunday School and ran the youth group back in the 1980s.

She then studied Early Childhood Education at Douglas College in New West. She met Trevor, the love of her life. They lived together for 25 years with one of each of his three kids over the years.

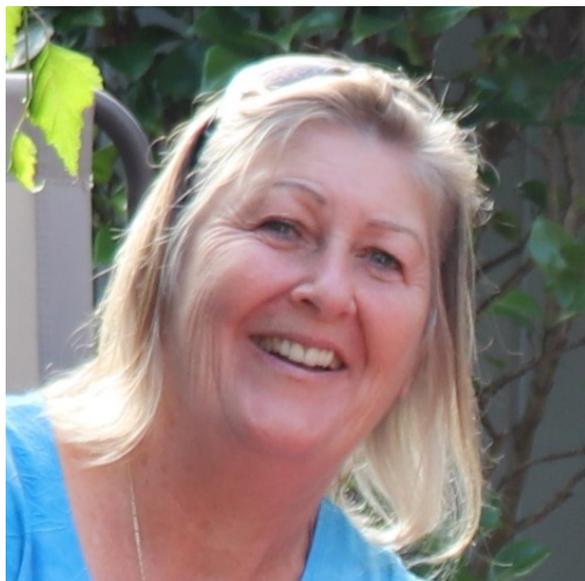
Kelly worked with the City of Vancouver in various clerical positions for 25 years. She lost Trevor to cancer in 2010. She bought her little darling dog, Tucker. Joy of her life. She also has a good cat named Bobbi-sox, a stray that adopted us just a month or so before Trevor's passing.

She returned to church. Kelly enjoys singing in St. Cuthbert's choir. She retired in 2017. She enjoys driving for Volunteer Cancer Drivers a couple times a week. She also

volunteers at ACW Place, is on the Altar Guild team at St. Cuthbert Church. Her hobbies include: Tuesdays at the movies with friends, gardening, and working on my Ancestry Tree.

Kelly likes traveling and weekends away, enjoys a nice glass of wine and good food.

Kelly met David in August 2018. They purchased a home together July 2019 and are living happily ever after in the lovely neighbourhood of Boundary Park. David and Kelly enjoy long walks in the park with Tucker. Watershed is our favorite place to walk Tucker. We also enjoy sun sets at Crescent Beach and walks at Blackie's Spit and the board walk. Kelly enjoys visiting with family and friends.



Update from Vancouver Council of Women by Alberta Rudolph

As an aftermath of the Black life Matters protests and as a response to the recent Indigenous deaths, the National Indigenous Justice Summit was held July 6, 2020 and July 7, 2020. It was comprised of a panel of Indigenous lawyers, legal advocates, family survivors calling for Justice System reform, Canada wide. Within one week of preparation there was an astounding response from Indigenous leaders to participate. The panel included Patricia Barkaskas, Academic Director of the Allard School of Law,; Dr. Beverly Jacobs, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law University of Windsor; Dr. Judith Sayers, Strategic Advisor to First Nations; Marion Buller, First nations Jurist who served as Chief Commissioner for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls; and others.

A keynote speaker was the Honourable Stephen Point, UBC's 19th and first Indigenous Chancellor. He said the Canadian courts agree there is a systemic racism problem propagated by the educational and legal systems. He talked about the history of colonization and the detrimental impact it has on Indigenous Peoples. The model of the European system of justice is incompatible with the Indigenous traditions and culture and has resulted in tragic consequences all throughout history. The Peace and Friendship treaty of 1725 has failed to respect the rights of Indigenous people and the Crown must stand for this treaty.

Consensus prevailed by all the panelists that Indigenous communities are diverse--remote-urban-not one size fits all. Nevertheless they have the right to be heard. That has not been the case.

Policing is modelled after European model--"we versus us" mentality. Police exist to serve and protect--protecting us (non indigenous) versus them (Indigenous). Speaker Scott Robertson pointed out that the need for police reform is the tip of the iceberg. The system, starting with first responders, arrests, summons, wellness checks, criminal records (lasting for the individual, "marked" for life), parole boards (almost no Indigenous representation), remands--systemic racism all throughout including Canadian Medical Association, Canadian Dental Association (wait times are incredible), fostering of Indigenous children; crown prosecutors look for stiffer sentences--even in death, the ones left behind are shown huge racism on coroner's reports and incomplete investigations. Dr. Judith Sayers reported that she has contacted parliamentarians re the need for immediate change to the legal system. On a positive note, she received word on the second day of the Summit from Elizabeth May who announced the formation of a parliamentary committee but it will not meet until the fall. Dr. Sayers said that action is needed now and suggests the formation of a citizen's task force citing the need for a campaign to respect Indigenous women and Indigenous trained trauma counselors . A call for action, not more reports is needed.

Important documents you might already be familiar with: The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People-passed by the United nations 2007 (a non -legally-binding resolution) Bill 41, 2019-Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Report of the Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA-2019 Expanding Our Vision: Cultural Equality and Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights January 15, 2020 by Ardith Walken.

Alberta Rudolf, PCW Justice Convener, ACW Board Rep to VCW

St. Cuthbert Banner by Beth Fortin

With 2020 being St. Cuthbert 60th anniversary, I wondered what I could do to make this year special. I thought of making a wall hanging like we have in the sanctuary but I don't have that kind of sewing skills. So I happened to be going through my button blanket pile. I had a small patch of black fleece left.

I asked Pastor Paul Woehrle if I could make the church a wall hanging. With his blessing, I was off and sewing.

Have you ever sat and prayed in a pew in the summer, when the sun is shining on you through the giant St. Cuthbert cross. The light feels like God's presence is upon you, feeling his warmth and his love, right there in the pew. That's where my inspiration came from. That loving feeling.

St. Cuthbert doesn't have any stained glass windows, only the two crosses. One cross is north and one is south. So I got the idea of making a St. Cuthbert cross, as stained glass on the banner.

St. James earlier this year had gotten their own wall hanging that looked like a button blanket for reconciliation, healing and acceptance. So I thought, why not do the same for St. Cuthbert. As long as it's a banner and not a button blanket, it can be hung on the wall. A button blanket may only be hung on the wall during ones funeral or on their coffin, it is after all a blanket.

A button blanket is earned, by growing up, a major accomplishment, and is normally made by a family member. Both my sons have earned their button blankets for receiving their bachelors' diplomas. Mack for his being a shop/PE teacher, and his bachelors of Education from UBC. Walks Barefoot (Alex) received his for his bachelors in Honours Physics also at UBC. There is more room on both their blankets for future achievements. A button blanket is given in a ceremony which is normally held in a long house. Being a member of St. Cuthbert's I am more than a member, I am part of the family. So as long as the banner is given in ceremony it is done in a good way. Ceremony = Eucharist service. It is my duty, to live my life, in a good way. I have to honour those who have come before me.

There are 120 round buttons along the outside and inside of the red border. If there are four holes in the buttons they are sewn as if they were tiny crosses. There are also sixty oval buttons in the middle to complete the trinity. The oval buttons reminded me of the 1960's, looking groovy, is why I used them.

All the buttons were given to me when I was making the boys button blankets, except for the centre button. I bought that one that looks specifically like a pearl, like the real St. Cuthbert cross.

So I present this banner of the St. Cuthbert cross in recognition of 60 years of worship. It is also in recognition of National Indigenous People's Day. It is a banner that was made by hand, by a Sto:lo woman, in her unique style.

