

Notices for Sunday, October 4, 2020

Dear lovely people of St Philip's!

I hope you have had a good week and been able to enjoy this week's sunny weather?

I'm sure many of you read Don Thomson's overview of the state of the Parish finances in the Sept. 20 bulletin with some concern. The coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent lockdown has had a huge impact on churches across the Diocese. Without the ability to receive our usual rental income or fundraise in our traditional manner, it is not surprising that we find that we have a large hole in our income at the moment.

In response we had two important meetings this week that sought to address the problem! On Tuesday, the Trustees met to talk specifically about creating a three-year financial plan that would help us to reduce our deficit whilst enabling us to grow the parish. The plan involves a change to how we give to St Philip's, building on what was discussed at this year's vestry with regard to designated giving. We will be discussing this plan at Parish Council this month, but in large handfuls we would like to end designated giving in favour of asking parishioners to give to the St Philip's General Fund. In that way, the leadership will have a greater ability to target our resources where they are needed most.

To use a Naval analogy, when a ship has been holed below the waterline, the Captain needs to focus all the resources of the ship to repair the damage as soon as possible! Once the hole is watertight and the integrity of the ship is restored, then the skipper can focus more readily on the other parts of ship! The COVID-19 torpedo has certainly holed the finances of HMCS St Philip's, but we feel that by enabling the leadership to encourage donations and target our spending where it is most needed, we will be able to plug the hole and continue on our journey!

On Wednesday, the COVID-19 Fundraising Working Group met for the first time to brainstorm how we can raise funds in new ways even in the midst of the pandemic. It was a very creative meeting and lots of ideas are now being worked on. More details to follow, but stand by to volunteer if you are able: we will certainly need all hands of the good ship St P to get us through this storm!

Yet even now the Son is breaking through the clouds. It was in the midst of the storm that Jesus walked out on the troubled waters to the frightened and weary disciples and said, 'Take Courage! It is I. Don't be afraid' (Matt 14. 27). Jesus comes to us in the midst of every storm. God has blessed us with a fantastic ship and wonderful shipmates and I know that, together, no storm will ever overwhelm us.

Stay safe and peace be with you.

Stuart

DATES TO NOTE

Wed. Oct. 7 Property Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm
Sun. Oct. 11 Thanksgiving Sunday
Mon. Oct. 12 Thanksgiving Holiday, **church closed**
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 service of Evening Prayer from the Iona tradition lasting approximately 45 minutes, with readings and music sung by a cantor. A new service aimed at those who see themselves as spiritual, if not religious. Tell your friends! Celtic Evening Prayers repeat Oct 11 & 25, and so on.

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.



THANKSGIVING DONATIONS

We always rely on generous giving during the High Holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. Please consider giving an additional donation to our Thanksgiving fund in gratitude for God's gifts to us.

[Donate to Thanksgiving 2020](#)

MIDDAY PRAYERS

Join Stuart Mondays to Thursdays for Midday Prayers. Whether you are in lockdown at home or busy at work, this 20 min service will help you relax and reconnect with yourself, your community and your Creator... Follow the Zoom link to access the service at noon.

Topic: St. Philip's Dunbar's Midday Prayers

Time: Monday to Thursdays at Noon.

<https://zoom.us/j/98044347032?pwd=NjdIQmg5bTc4Ym9GaidYL1BZNCtBZz09>

Join by phone, dial 778-907-2071 Meeting ID: 980 4434 7032



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. Stuart's letter in the Sept. 20th bulletin explained that Parish Council advised that St Philip's should remain in Phase II for the

meantime, having added a 4:30 pm in-person service, and should continue to offer online worship for the many parishioners who cannot attend in-person services. 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>



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

The meeting ID is the number on the link



WORKING GROUP

FUNDRAISING WORKING GROUP

This merry band met to brainstorm ways to raise money during COVID restrictions. Initial plans include an online Silent Auction, plus online sales of Christmas Cakes, Poinsettias, and Gift Bags of St P's Christmas Treats (a selection of home baking, Kitchen Gourmet preserves and Rectory Tonic). Shoppers will collect their purchases in early December. Stay tuned for more info soon! Calling all Kitchen Gourmet cooks: please put aside some of your preserves for this venture!

LOOP HEARING SYSTEM

Ask your health care provider or hearing specialist how to connect your hearing aids to our new Loop system at St Philip's. Not all hearing aids are compatible with a Loop system. If you are considering new hearing aids, discuss the Loop system with your hearing specialist.



EPISCOPAL TRANSITION: *SEEKING OUR NEXT BISHOP*

Candidates being considered for the next Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster are The Venerable Allan Carson; The Reverend Philip Cochrane; Reverend Philippa Segrave-Pride; The Right Reverend Riscylla Shaw; and The Reverend John Stephens.

Go to [vancouver.anglican.ca](https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca) to find Diocesan news, the candidates' bios, candidate videos, and an Episcopal Election Town Hall recorded on Sept. 17. Use the handy links below. If you haven't already, you might want to peruse these sources prior to the election of our next bishop on October 3, 2020.

Parishioners are also invited to subscribe on the website to the Diocesan Newsletter to receive the latest news by email all year round.

<https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/programs/episcopal-transition>

<https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/seeking-our-next-bishop/candidate-information>

<https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/news/episcopal-election-candidate-videos>

<https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/news/episcopal-election-town-hall-video>



DELEGATES TO THE ELECTORAL SYNOD

Please pray for our Delegates to the Electoral Synod on Saturday, Oct. 3 who are charged with electing a Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of New Westminster. Let us pray for Janice Hope, Graeme Mix, Claire Munn and Catriona Wilson.

A Prayer for the Electoral Synod

As the day of the Episcopal Election approaches, we invite all the people of the diocese to pray: "Triune God, Three-in-One and One-in-Three, you created the Church to embody your mission in the world. We thank you for the gift of your presence so that we may be still and know your will for us. We thank you for Jesus who taught us that strength and growth come through acts of humble service. We thank you for the Holy Spirit sent to lead us into all truth. Bless the Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster as we prepare to elect a Bishop Coadjutor. Keep us steadfast in faith, united in love and courageous in action, so that we may manifest your love for this world. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Friend and Helper. Amen."

NEW OFFICE HOURS

St Philip's new office hours are:

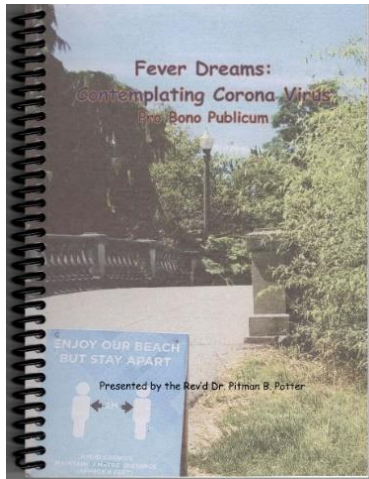
Mon & Fri 8am to 1pm

Tues, Wed, Thurs 9am to 12pm & 12:30pm to 2:30pm.

Please note that these are Beth's contracted office hours and if you require Beth's help, she will **only** be available during these times, unless it is an emergency! Many thanks.



COVID CONTEMPLATIONS THAT PROVIDE A BALM FOR THE SPIRIT



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

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.

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. 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 copy for a suggested donation of \$20—all proceeds to the Neighbourhood Ministry - please contact our WANM parish liaison Rhona Thornton at rhonat@telus.net

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY – MOVING FROM INDOOR TEAM TO OUTDOOR TEAM

By Suzi Noetzel

On Saturday, I accompanied Rhona Thornton on my first official Neighbourhood Ministry outing. I have been assembling the packages, organizing our donations of clothing & food and soliciting donations from St Philip's Parishioners for a few years, but haven't really participated in the handing out of what comes in. It was a really good experience to connect what we collect to what we give out. The food packets were all eagerly received and most of the people we came across wanted a fleece, jacket, blanket, sleeping bag or tarp. We always include socks in the packages we hand out, and one person put his on right away. I really enjoyed being able to talk to the people we met with, there are quite a few chatty sorts out there, once they are comfortable that the person asking really does want to hear what they are saying. I think the one encounter that stayed with me was the gentleman who told me that not everyone on the



street was friendly, but you soon learn and his goal was to stay positive and look on the bright side, words to live by in this difficult time.

We gave away almost everything in our cupboards to the homeless shelters at the beginning of the pandemic and now need to restock our shelves. Please consider donating one of the items we need to help restock.

Food Bank: On another note, thank you to those of you who have dropped off donations for the food bank. I dropped 10 bags of groceries off to the new Marpole Food Bank running out of St. Augustine's, last week they had 198 people picking up bags of food and the numbers are increasing weekly. Your donations were greatly appreciated.

Homelessness Action Week

Each year in mid-October, the City of Vancouver joins communities and organizations throughout the region to mark Homelessness Action Week. Earlier this year, the preliminary results from the 2020 Metro Vancouver Homeless count found some of the following statistics:

- 2,095 residents identified as homeless
- 547 people were living on the street
- 1,548 people with no fixed address were living in sheltered locations, including emergency shelters, detox centres, safe houses, and hospitals.

The full results of the 2020 Vancouver Homeless count will be presented to City Council this fall.

Request for donations

We are currently low or out of all food, clothing and camping type items. We recognise that it is harder for people to donate items when they are not routinely going to church on a Sunday. That is why we leave the bins out 24/7 and offer to pick up your donations. If you would like somebody to do a pick up, please email Rhona Thornton at rhonat@telus.net.

Food

Canned meat/fish, soft cereal bars, soft protein bars, Ensure type drinks, puddings, fruitcups

Clothing and camping supplies

Rain jackets, rain pants, fleeces, long underwear, socks, men's underwear, "one size fits all" gloves, boots, tarps, sleeping bags, sleeping pads



ST. PHILIP'S RINGERS

The St Philip's Ringers are calling every parishioner to chat, ask if you need a hand, and let you know that we are thinking about you all. If you can help us call parishioners in the future, 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.**

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.



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, Richard Fenner, Jan Alexander and Hazel Mauner. Let us pray for those who have died and for their friends and family bereaved by their loss.

MILESTONES

Matilda Hallam celebrates her first two-digit birthday on Oct. 7th!

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

GRATITUDE CONFETTI

Let's toss gratitude confetti on Brenda Campbell who sang at last Sunday's Celtic Evening Prayers accompanied by Michael Murray on piano. Thank you, Brenda. Let's also show our gratitude to the four Synod Delegates – Janice, Catriona, Claire and Graeme - who will represent us at the Electoral Synod this Saturday.



Staying Close While We're Apart,

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