

St. Cuthbert Anglican Church

The Communicator

Pandemic Edition
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“To seek and encourage growth as a Christ-Centred Community, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to know God and to make God known in word and deed.”

Kisha's Baptism

September 27, 2020 was a marvelous day. The sun was shining and the temperatures were mild. Truly it was like a day stolen from summer even though we were a week past the autumn equinox.

The more marvelous thing however, and a gift to all at St. Cuthbert's that day, was the baptism of young Kisha at the ten o'clock service. Before the service started Pastor Paul related how Kisha had requested a full immersion baptism, and how she had responded when asked why. After thinking for a moment, she told him that she wanted all of her to follow Jesus. This is such a profound answer for a nine year old, and reflects a level of faith we could all aspire to. Later, during the course of the service and immediately before she was baptised, Pastor Paul asked her another question: Why did she want to be baptised? Once again, she had a thoughtful answer: "The reason why I want to be baptized is like you said, I want the whole of me to be with Jesus, and also I feel like I've lost a part of me by not being with Him so I want everything of me you know, so my heart can be full of His love." She added that she'd like to say a verse and she quoted John 3:16.

This was a most amazing and beautiful service. Thank you Kisha for allowing us to be a part of your special day, and thank you Lord for the gift of this little girl and her love for you.



Order of the Diocese of New Westminster

November 1st, All Saints' Day, was another marvelous day. The sun was shining, the skies were bright, and the trees were in glorious autumn colours.

Once again, a marvelous event was going on inside St. Cuthbert. We joined many other parishes in the diocese, as members were inducted into the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster, in appreciation for their service and dedication to the church over many years. As with all things these days, Covid restrictions had to be taken into consideration. With this in mind, Bishop Melissa pre-recorded her sermon which was projected for us. Following this, Pastor Paul read the citations for our two inductees, Christine Goater, and Gail Revitt. Medals were presented by their husbands and they were each presented with lovely bouquets.

Following, are the citations for Chris and Gail, and also for Sharon Grove who was presented with her medal at Holy Trinity, Vancouver.

Mrs. Christine (Chris) Mary Goater
St. Cuthbert, Delta
Upon the presentation of the Order of the
Diocese of New Westminster 2020



The introduction of the recipient read at the Service

Chris was key to starting the compassionate "Front Room" and "Positive Haven" food programmes for the homeless, destitute and needy in Surrey's inner city. She coordinates a church outreach programme at a North Delta senior care facility.

She was the Mothers' Union Branch Leader for 15 years. Chris has been a volunteer office administrator, receptionist, pastoral care leader, Parish Council member, Altar Guild member, sidesperson, greeter, prayer station member, Alpha Course helper, and is currently also a lay assistant.

The Citation as recorded in the Permanent Register of the Order

Chris has attended St Cuthbert, North Delta, since 1968. For several years she has been the Sunday School Superintendent and led the "Life in Eucharist" course. For 15 years she was the Mothers' Union Branch Leader. In that capacity, she organized the St Cuthbert "Celebration of Baptism" parties for 12 years, luncheon for care centre residents, "Quiet Day", and "Lady Day" services, bake sales, and parenting courses. She was the coordinator for "Fellowship of the Least Coin" for ten years and organized an "Ingathering" Service at St Cuthbert. The "Front Room" ministry was a lunch programme for people living near Surrey's "downtown east side" on 135A Street, just off King George Boulevard. Chris was a leader in getting that ministry started over 20 years ago. After a few years, they expanded to become a compassionate food bank working with HIV/AIDS clients and chose to name it "Positive Haven". About 20 years ago she began visiting North Delta's Northcrest Senior Care Centre. Soon after she began a programme of Gospel hymns, scripture and prayers aptly named "Good News". Once a month she assists the priest with Holy Communion there. Also, about once a month she supports the Director of the facility in running a Memorial Service. She is also on a rotation list from St Cuthbert to run a Sunday Service as a homilist at Northcrest. She adds: "Our team feels uplifted singing the Gospel songs, and I hope the residents feel the same way." From her early years at St Cuthbert, Chris volunteered in a number of positions including volunteer "office administrator", receptionist, pastoral care leader, Parish Council member and secretary, and "Neighbourhood Link" representative. Also, she has volunteered in several other capacities including the Altar Guild, coffee and tea helper, sidesperson, greeter, prayer station, flower delivery, church clean-up sessions, and "Healthiest Babies Possible" helper. Chris has hosted several Alpha courses in her home, and assisted in a number of them elsewhere. She helped organize the church photo directory a couple of times, organized a FoodSafe course at the church and was involved in organizing a Newcomers' Lunch. Chris is currently also a lay assistant.

Order of the Diocese of New Westminster

**Mrs. Helen Gail Revitt
Bishop's Nominee
St. Cuthbert, Delta**

**Upon the presentation of the Order of the
Diocese of New Westminster 2020**



**The introduction of the recipient
read at the Service**

Gail has been a leader of the Anglican Church Women for many years, in her parish of St Cuthbert, Delta, and then at ACW Place starting with the Social Action Committee. As a representative to the ACW Executive Board, she was then appointed Member for Social Action. From that appointment, she became Vice President for three years and is now serving a three year term as President of the Diocesan ACW, while continuing her interest in social action. The Anglican Church Women have branches in many churches in the Diocese and Gail is particularly encouraged by their support which provides used clothing to parishes in the Diocese of the Yukon and to local organizations, and their commitment to other charities through the Grains of Salt program.

The Citation as recorded in the Permanent Register of the Order

Gail has been worshipping in the Diocese of New Westminster since 1975, where she has attended St. Cuthbert's in North Delta the whole time. Throughout the years, she has been a Sunday School Teacher, member of Parish Council and on the building committee in the 1980s for the new St Cuthbert's church building. During this time, she also was the leader of the Anglican Church Women for many years, then various executive positions, leading to her working at ACW Place with the Social Action Committee. As a representative to the Executive Board for ACW, she was then appointed Member for Social Action. From that appointment, she moved on to become Vice President for 3 years and is now serving a three year term as President of the Diocesan ACW Board. Her work with Social Action continues as well. The Anglican Church Women have branches in many churches in the Diocese and one of their mandates is to provide used clothing to many parishes in the Diocese of the Yukon and to local organizations, and support to many other charities through the Grains of Salt program. It was a pleasure for Gail to have been a volunteer in 2019 for the National Synod.



Order of the Diocese of New Westminster

**Ms. Sharon Lee Grove
Bishop's Nominee**

Holy Trinity, Vancouver

Upon the presentation of the

Order of the Diocese of New Westminster 2020

The introduction of the recipient read at the Service

Sharon's involvement at St Cuthbert, Delta, and Holy Trinity, Vancouver has been extensive, including as a sound operator, a Trustee and an emergency plumber. But diocesan work brings her here today. She has served on Diocesan Council, on the Canons and Constitution Committee, and on the Diocesan Evangelism Unit, and with Mission to Seafarers and at General Synod 2019. Sharon has also accompanied the Archbishop on many of her parish visits, allowing her to explore the rich diversity of parish life in this diocese.

The Citation as recorded in the Permanent Register of the Order

After moving to BC Sharon's family started attending St. Cuthbert, North Delta, where she still attends the early service most Sundays. Currently, she is a member of Holy Trinity, Vancouver where she attends the main service which has been life-altering. As a firm believer that actions speak louder than words, she, like many parishioners, has done a multitude of tasks in the parishes she has attended; Prayer Chain, Sound Operator, Altar Guild, Trustee, coffee hour and lunch provider, help with weddings and funerals, greeter and sometimes emergency plumber. She initiated a series of formal gourmet dinners at Holy Trinity, small gatherings where new and not-so-new parishioners could meet and socialize outside of regular church events. These continued until every parish member had been invited. Of course, she did not do this alone and she had a very faithful sous-chef more formally known as the Rector's Warden. A long-time supporter of Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child, in 2016



she became a local area coordinator for the annual shoebox collections using Holy Trinity as the collection centre. Last year her team accepted, packed in shipping containers and drove to the shipping centre, 944 boxes. Each donor who drops off shoeboxes receives a prayer, a heartfelt thank-you, and a candy cane. She has been active in Mothers' Union, ACW and the Healthy Babies lunch program. Currently the Diocesan Council Lay Representative for Granville Deanery, she is a member of the Canons and Constitutions Committee, several small short-term committees and previously a member of the Diocesan Evangelism Unit, organizing workshops starting with the event at the Vogue Theatre in 2001. She has served as a Mission-to-Seafarers host and General Synod 2019 volunteer. As part of her commitment to Diocesan Council she has been privileged to visit many parishes as a guest, accompanying the Archbishop. It has been a very rewarding experience, - she treasures the opportunities she has had to explore the rich, diverse parish life that is the Diocese of New Westminster.

A Response From Christine Goater

Further to my Investiture into the ODNW at the 10.00 a.m. Church Service, on November 1st, 2020, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Paul Woehrle and Church Committee for my nomination. I also wish to acknowledge the faithful, generous and kindly people our Lord Jesus has surrounded me with, to accomplish His work at St. Cuthbert.

Many dedicated people have assisted me in our Outreach projects, usually working in the background. Last but not least, I would like to thank my long-suffering husband, George, who loved and supported me in my endeavours.

As someone aptly pointed out to me, you never retire from your Christian duty, so I am patiently awaiting my next 'assignment' from our Lord.

Whatever you do, do all to the Glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31)

It's Not the Changes, it's The Transitions! By Pastor Paul

I have read a book which I recently saw quoted in the Vancouver Sun, in an article entitled "The Science of Change Management" by Eli Sopow which explores COVID'S emotional roller-coaster.

The book is Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change, by William Bridges.

I am struck by what I perceive as the need for people of faith to stay rooted and grounded in the present moment, because that, as C.S. Lewis has stated, is more like eternity than either the past or the future. The present is the most like eternity. I believe Lewis says this because it is in the present that we encounter God. It is in the present that we experience God's presence, with the Holy Spirit guiding, healing, calming, informing and empowering us to remain rooted and grounded in God's presence, rooted and grounded in love. No matter what happens around us – we know who we are.

I have found it such a blessing to be able to fellowship in person – with the sun streaming through the windows (most Sundays, anyways). I am thankful for even this 'partial expression' of the church of St. Cuthbert.

Vancouver Sun, November 14, 2020 *Dr. Eli Sopow is professor of Change Management at University Canada West and author of several research studies about human and organizational change.*

Besides the physical health threats of COVID-19, the pandemic is wreaking emotional damage on many as uncertainty and confusion beget fear that morphs into anger and a demand for immediate solutions, answers and actions that science cannot provide. The increasing sense of crisis may appear chaotic with no light in our dark tunnels of isolation. But the science of change management explains that things are quite normal.

In fact, events of the time are following very established patterns explained by change management.

And to understand those patterns may bring at least a flickering light of hope and direction to us.

The principles of scientific change management are quite simple. [*I have reformatted the following – PRW*]

Change affecting our lives can often bring

*a sense of surprise;

*fear if the facts are not clear;

*apprehension if the facts are clear but they hurt us;

*confusion if our role is ambivalent; and

*anger and reaction if we are faced with continued uncertainty and a sense of powerlessness.

Our reaction to all manner of threats is chiefly emotional as our brain's amygdala triggers a flight, fight, or freeze reaction. We see a new threat in the context and experience of what happened before, designing reactions based on what worked before.

Today the pandemic is neatly charted on any of the many models of change management. William Bridges, an authority on change and transition and author of Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change, argued that **change is best described as a journey**

from emotionally letting go of what we once had, (First group of people)

entering a neutral stage of questioning and ambivalence, (Second group) and finally

moving forward with a new beginning. (Third group of people) [*emphasis mine- PRW*]

There is a percentage of people who can't let go of things as they were. They cling to an evaporating economic certainty, to past cheerful bonds of socialization, and to clocks set to a predictable future. Their emotions of fear and anger run strong. Those emotions are evidenced in "anti-masker" protests, conspiracy theories, and "facts" that fill the uncertainty of science and bring an illusion of knowledge and safety.

There are some [in this first group] who argue that all that is needed is "better" communication with those who are trapped in what Bridges described as "fear, loss, and hard to let go." But that is a simplistic solution. Those stuck in the first stage of transition are squeezed by attitudes and behaviours long in the making and rooted in institutional and societal mistrust.

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It's Not the Changes, it's The Transitions! Cont...

It is the second and far larger group, those in Bridges' **"neutral zone"** of **"searching, confusion, and highs/ lows"** that we need to address.

It can be argued that society is stuck in this "neutral zone," unable to enter "the new beginning stage" encompassing a "new identity, new energy, new purpose, and optimism" because of an erosion of trust.

The research on trust agrees that the defining characteristic of trust in others and in institutions and organizations requires the presence of competence, fairness, dependability, honesty, openness, experience, and consistency. Those characteristics must be embedded in communication that is clear, useful, and timely. *[It might be a helpful exercise to reflect on our church's communication in light of this list. PRW]*

Today, as much of society spins its wheels in the murky waters of the pandemic, seeking some hope of traction to drive us to a new level, trust seems to be a diminishing resource. The science of change management has an explanation for that. It is simply that we are basing our trust on old models, hoping that yesterday's solutions and response to urgent problems will return us to the glory days of yesteryear. That things will "change back" to where we were. It simply won't happen.

We are confusing "change" with "transition."

As Bridges said, "It's not the changes that do you in, it's the transitions. They aren't the same thing. Change is situational ... transition, on the other hand, is psychological ... getting people through the transition is essential if the change is actually to work as planned.

I am proud of the way our church has been handling the transitions – and there have been many, with new ones on the horizon. The "Neutral Zone" where the old is still with us and the new has not yet emerged, is marked by **"searching, confusion, and highs/ lows"**. I admit that the neutral zone is not a destination, and the discomfort we experience during this transition is a kind of suffering. But better to suffer with a Saviour 'familiar with suffering' than to lose ourselves in binge-watching or gaming, overeating and/or drinking and 'wishing it weren't so'. It would be 'easy' to focus our hope on a vaccine so that we might feel better. But more information will not make us feel better. It is like waiting to hear if Mr. President-elect Biden is in fact The President-elect. More information doesn't change the dial on how you might be feeling. Acknowledging our feelings before one another and before God is a healthy first step. Journaling about how you are feeling is healthy. Getting out and raking the back yard just might help you feel better, or going for a walk, or washing a window. **Remaining rooted in the present, where God's presence can be experienced is the touchstone.** Participation in Holy Communion, reading your Bible and praying facilitate this rootedness.

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, great is thy faithfulness!"

-Song lyrics by Dave Hunt

Where this really gets to be a test is if you are experiencing OTHER STRESSORS in the midst of the pandemic; health concerns for yourself or for a loved one, a notice of exposure to the virus by a call from a contact-tracer, less income from less work or a lay-off, or changes at work with their attendant transitions, to name just a few. And if you are sensitive to the reduction in light-time hours, then the emotional life is a challenge to keep on an even keel – without getting swamped. The fact is, we need each other! And so it is good to meet, even if on Zoom. Pandemic restrictions have fractured the Body of Christ - not being able to meet as a whole. But consider that Jesus was made known to the disciples in Emmaus "in the breaking of the bread". Could it be that there are new ways to know Jesus through our present situation? And through the Mysteries of Bread and Wine we who are fractured are put back together or 're-membered' by God.

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It's Not the Changes, it's The Transitions! Cont...

Christmas is a challenge to plan and at this point, clarity has come regarding the Christmas Pageant which will be in video format and shared on Advent 4 (December 20) at 10 a.m. and again on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. (on-line only). The 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. services are tentatively scheduled for in-person + Zoom and posting as we presently do. There is a question as to whether, in addition to the gathering in church, we project the services (at least 7 p.m.) in St. Cuthbert Hall, since it is considered a separate building and has a separate entrance where we could welcome approximately 20-30 people. Christmas Day (Friday) will be a Zoom set-up from our living room in front of the fire – a very informal service of Morning Prayer. Sunday, December 27th is planned to be our Sunday of Lessons and Carols, and we are still trying to figure out how we might have a “Christmas Around the World” with music and carols from recordings of choirs from around the world, with fewer readings, either done ‘in-person’ or recorded at home.

Let's resist calling 2020 ‘a dumpster fire’ and resist being in a hurry to ‘turn a page’ to 2021. Let's live each day, for “this is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24). We manage the transitions the best we can with the help of one another and with the help of God. For me it is reminiscent of going through white-water in a raft; both thrilling and dangerous. In order to navigate the upheaval successfully we need to work together with clear direction. And even doing our best, we will likely get wet ☺.

Yours along the way,
Pastor Paul

Music Notes – Choir in the time of COVID-19 By Barb Buxton

As everyone knows, singing in the time of COVID-19 has been severely restricted. So how does the St. Cuthbert's choir manage to record hymns and anthems for our Sunday services? It has taken some time, and trial and error, but we have worked out a system that follows protocols.

The Diocesan office has said that we can have a maximum of four people singing and they should be 20 feet apart. So, when we record hymns that is what we do. Tony and Sarah Houghton stand together as members of the same family, and the other singers are spread around the church at least 20 feet apart. Each person has their own mic, which gives a bigger sound than if we had just one mic picking up everyone.

It is a bit different when we record an anthem. This takes a lot more organization, and it has challenged singers to conquer fears and gain confidence. Three or four weeks before we are to sing Tony and I send out scanned copies of the anthem music to each singer, along with a recorded version if I can find one on YouTube or a publisher's website. Then Laura plays each part on the piano and sends that out. Sometimes Tony, Sarah or I sing a part and record it and send it out. This way singers can learn the music without having choir practice. It is more difficult learning alone than with a group, but the singers are working out how to do this.



When we meet to record the anthem, everyone is masked when they arrive. Everyone who is not being recorded, sits in the back half of the church on the green Xs. We begin by recording Laura playing with one person or bubble singing. This is the base recording which everyone sings to. Then each individual or family group is recorded and videotaped singing along with this recording in front of the altar. This is how we keep everyone sounding like they are singing together. Once all the recording is done, which can take as long as two hours, Jinx takes the recordings home to work his magic. He balances the sound, lays out the video screen and adds pictures – and apparently takes time to erase the sounds of pages being turned.

I commend Jinx for the hours he puts in to make this all work. I also commend all the singers who have had to work through their fears of singing alone in front of a mic, as well as having to learn the songs on their own. Given that many of them do not read music, or play an instrument to learn the tunes on their own, we are very fortunate to have so much technology available to us to make it all work. Thanks be to God who has given us the technology at the time we need it most.

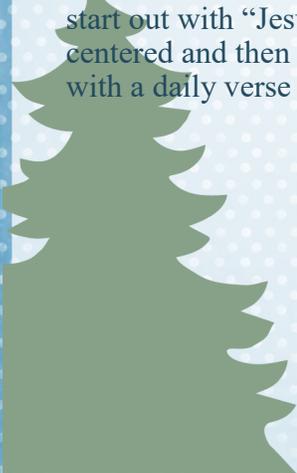
Christmas is coming and we are working hard to find ways to make the music of Christmas come alive for you even when we can't sing during the service.

My Bible Journey By Cory McCaig

As many of you might have experienced, my journey through the Bible started in Sunday School. My parents took us (my brothers and me) to Sunday School from the time we were in kindergarten. From Sunday School I learned the stories of the Bible and found out who Jesus was. After I was confirmed I stopped going to church and did not return until I was in my early twenties. Over the years I have tried to read the Bible starting at the beginning but never got much further than Exodus. It was always a struggle to concentrate for any length of time and not having background knowledge of the history surrounding the events laid out in the Bible it was a struggle to understand the Bible without the context. Since the church readings only cover a limited amount of scripture that was about as far as my reading and knowledge extended to. I did use "Daily Bread" for morning prayers and since joining Home Fellowship my scripture reading has grown but still not the extent that I would like and then disaster struck. Almost six years ago, my grandson Tyler, at the age of 18, had a massive stroke and almost died. I stayed in Edmonton for four months to be with him and my son, while Tyler remained in hospital, and during that time a fellow from a local Christian motorcycle club brought us a Bible. During this terrible time, I tried to read the Bible, but it took too much energy and I just could not do it. It was too hard. Since that time, I was given a copy of "Jesus Calling" thinking I could start with baby steps but for some reason I just couldn't pick up my Bible again and left the book unused. Then this past Easter I decided, that for Lent, I would start to read the Bible. At exactly that time a pop-up ad called "Daily Bible" showed itself on my phone and so I downloaded it and have never looked back. I start out with "Jesus Calling" to get myself centered and then tap into my phone. It starts with a daily verse and then I tap into the daily

plan. The readings started in Exodus with a chapter a day and so far, I have gone as far as 2 Kings. By reading one chapter at a time it is like have a story told to you. I can't wait until tomorrow to see where the story goes. It was a bit tough slugging my way through Leviticus and Numbers but with only one chapter a day I made it through. The daily plan also has a reading from the Psalms and the New Testament and in total it takes anywhere from 14 to 20 minutes to get through the whole lesson. By going through the scripture reading in small increments it is bringing the people to life for me and I am really enjoying the pronunciations of some of those weird names. You can read all the scripture readings or push the play button, and have it read to you while you read along or not. It's only taken me 74 years, but I am finally really excited about reading the Bible. I think by the time one year goes by I will have read the whole bible.

P.S. I think that pop-up ad coming onto my phone when it did was another one of those small miracles that have happened in my life.



Parish Council Corner (11/11/2020)

COVID-19 continues to affect so many aspects of the daily life of our parish. Parish Council is focused on ensuring the continuity of our Parish and our parish community during these challenging times. Pastor Paul, Jinx Stringer, Barb Buxton and the extra Sunday volunteers ensure that our parish can worship each Sunday in-person, via Zoom or on-line. Pastor Paul and Pastoral Care are available to support parishioners in need.

The work of Parish Council continues, despite COVID restrictions:

Finances: Parish Council is gratified by the strong financial support by parishioners, along with contributions from the Diocese, which has enabled our parish to meet our financial obligations and also make donations to some of the charities we pray for each Sunday. The Sunday offertory continues to exceed the offertory amounts in 2019.

Property at 8227 - 116A Street: Interest payments were issued in September to parishioners who loaned money towards the purchase of the property. VanCity provided a six-month deferral on the principal payments on the mortgage and the deferred amounts were paid in full in September. In addition, a 10% pay-down was made on the mortgage in September.

Rectory: The parish has been granted an exemption for property taxes for the rectory, by the City of Delta. Volunteers have worked on repairs to the rectory (special thanks to Pat Lamoureux).

Election of New Bishop: Our synod delegates participated in the election on October 3, 2020. Rev. John Stephens was elected to the interim position of Coadjutor Bishop and he will become our Diocesan Bishop on March 1, 2021 when Archbishop Melissa retires.

Children & Youth: The Sunday School has implemented on-line programming for children and youth, and Pastor Paul is leading on-line Confirmation Classes. Confirmation is now scheduled for January 2021 at St. Cuthbert's and the Archbishop will lead the service.

Order of the Diocese of New Westminster: Our parishioners who received the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster on November 1st are: Christine Goater (nominated by the parish), and Gail Revitt and Sharon Grove (nominated by the Archbishop). Congratulations to them all for this well-deserved recognition. For more information, see the separate article in this newsletter.



Caterpillar Fun House Daycare: The daycare is up and running as of September, and they have added further enhancements to the facilities (exterior sidewalk and new fence/gate, improvements to the playground, addition of exterior security cameras and lighting).

Maintenance: The heat vents in the Pioneer Hall were replaced by the maintenance team, and the floor and ceiling vents were professionally cleaned. The team also worked on improving the drainage on the east side of the Pioneer Hall and assisted the daycare to address safety issues on the playground equipment.

Gardening: Work on enhancing the lawns and gardens continues.

Small Groups: Most weekly Bible Study groups have found a way to continue to meet, in spite of COVID restrictions. Parish Council acknowledges the importance of keeping these groups connected and meeting regularly.

User Groups: Existing and new user groups have returned to in-person meetings at the church, and each has signed a copy of the new parish COVID Protocols.

Wishing you a safe and healthy autumn, as we anticipate together the joy of Christmas.

From your Parish Council

Joanne Woehrle reflects on her experience supporting her elderly parents

The big move is over. Mom and Dad are safely settled in their new place, seniors independent living with meals provided. I ask myself is it too late? Mom keeps on thinking they are on holiday, to return home tomorrow or the next day. When we attempt to reorient her she is shocked that she didn't know they had moved here, that she doesn't drive anymore, that she hasn't played tennis in 12 years. I remind myself not to remind her anymore about the truth, it is too cruel to see her absorb the losses over again. Just go with the flow, "on holiday to return home soon". I'm becoming good at bending the truth for my mother.

In the big move it was up to me to decide what would fit into the new apartment, what keepsakes would fit, what pictures on walls. Dad knew he wanted five paintings and the rest, it was up to me. He actually didn't want family photos on the walls because of a new reality with Mom. When he would go down for his afternoon nap Mom would get busy. She would want to bring all these precious photos with her when she went home tomorrow so she started to take them all down, pack them away in safe places like drawers and little bags (I thought I had removed all potential suitcases!) Dad would wake up to empty walls, even the nails removed with great efficiency, and this upset him.



These empty walls upset me too. If the pictures aren't up on the walls how will Mom remember her loved ones, her history, the great times she and Dad had over the years, her grandchildren!?!

Meanwhile my basement is full of boxes of Mom and Dad's things I couldn't part with just yet. My friends tell me it takes time to let go....until that time there will be no ping pong in this house as the table is covered in memories. Tea cups and silverware, pictures and letters going back to the early 1900's, much of it from my paternal grandmother from when my Dad had to pack up his mother's house when his father died in the late 60's and she couldn't cope living alone. Will I be the one to finally say ok its time to let this all go? IF I was creative I would make little shadow boxes of historical vignettes for every grandchild with old letters and things.....maybe one day.....or wishful thinking.

At least Mom still knows who I am and that I love her. I hope she never forgets she is loved.



Calendar for Advent

November 29 - Advent 1 - Hope

10:00 am Service via Zoom and posted on Vimeo at Noon

December 6 - Advent 2 - Peace

10:00 am Service via Zoom and posted on Vimeo at Noon

December 13 - Advent 3 - Love

TBA

December 20 - Advent 4 - Joy

TBA

10:00 am Christmas Pageant Video

December 24 - Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Pageant (Online Only)

7:00 pm TBA

11:00 pm TBA

December 25 - Christmas Day

Zoom - informal service from the Woehrle home

December 27

“To Be Confirmed”

All services may
change due to COVID
protocols, please check
your email for the
latest news.



St. Cuthbert Anglican Church
11601-82 Avenue
Delta, B.C.
V4C 2C3

We are on the web
www.stcuthbert.ca

The Communicator is brought to you by:
Barb Steele & Beth Fortin.