

# St. Luke's News

April 2021

Vol. 4 #4



## ANGLICAN CHURCH

of

### ST. LUKE

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There is a lot in this month's Newsletter, so all I am going to share this month is a sonnet written by Malcolm Guite in his collection of **The Stations of the Cross**.

### **XV Easter Dawn**

He blesses every love that weeps and grieves  
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept  
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's  
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept  
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs  
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.  
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,  
Or recognize the Gardener standing there.  
She hardly hears his gentle question, 'Why,  
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light  
That brightens as she chokes out her reply,  
'They took my love away, my day is night.'  
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say  
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

-Used with the permission of the author

**Happy Easter**

Submit items for the May Newsletter by April 26th  
[mthain@telusplanet.net](mailto:mthain@telusplanet.net)

Incumbent Priest/Pastor:

The Ven. Noel Wygiera

Incumbent's Warden:

Eric Nyrose

People's Warden:

Deb Mann 403-350-4798

Pianists:

Dorothy Comfort

Judy Miller

Organist:

Jo Wygiera

### Service Schedule

Sunday 10:00 am

**[Check website for on line  
Services and other meeting  
opportunities](http://www.oldchurchrd.com)**

**[www.oldchurchrd.com](http://www.oldchurchrd.com)**

**WEBSITE**  
**[www.oldchurchrd.com](http://www.oldchurchrd.com)**

Visit it often to check for news and upcoming events. If anyone has an item they feel might be appropriate for inclusion on the website please send it to [website@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:website@oldchurchrd.com).

**PLEASE NOTE SOME OF THIS MAY CHANGE DEPENDING ON CIRCUMSTANCES WITH COVID-19. UPDATES WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AND BY EMAIL**

**During this time when we are not meeting face to face it is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT if you change contact information, eg. address, phone number or email address, that you notify the office at: [office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:office@oldchurchrd.com)**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SCHEDULE:**

<b><u>Maundy Thursday - April 1:</u></b>	<b>7:00 pm. For further details watch your email and the website</b>
<b><u>Good Friday - April 2:</u></b>	<b>11:00 am. For further details watch your email and the website</b>
<b><u>Easter Vigil – April 3:</u></b>	<b>8:30 pm. For further details watch your email and the website</b>
<b><u>Easter Sunday – April 4:</u></b>	<b>10:00 am Eucharist – on line service</b>

<b><u>Sunday Worship:</u></b>	<b>10:00 – Watch the Website and emails for further information</b>
<b><u>Ladies’ Group Meetings:</u></b>	<b>Watch the Website and emails for further dates</b>
<b><u>Men’s Group Meetings:</u></b>	<b>Watch the Website and emails for further dates</b>
<b><u>Bible Study:</u></b>	<b>Wednesdays at 10:00 See Website regarding access</b>

**Forward Day by Day**

The May, June, July issue of Forward Day by Day will be available at the end of April. It will be delivered to those who have received it before, unless you wish to change this. If anyone has not received it before and would like to, please contact the church office at [office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:office@oldchurchrd.com).

**Noel's Easter Message:**

I remember a year ago when services were suspended in our church. I thought that we would make do for a couple of weeks and then we would be back in business, and that we would be together for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. By April 1, those thoughts were replaced with the reality that in-person worship would now be suspended indefinitely and that we faced the prospect of not being together in our Church building to celebrate the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. A whole year has passed. We have not celebrated anything together in-person; no Thanksgiving, no Christmas, and soon once again, for the second time, no Easter.

While we have not been able to be together, we still celebrated, and we will celebrate again. If there is something that we have learned about celebrating the Resurrection, it is that what happens there is not about what we do or do not do. It is about what Jesus has done, is doing, and what he will do. And for those who believe, this is true whether we can physically be together to celebrate, or not.

The Communion of Saints exists in all corners of the Earth, past, present, and future. As believers, we are never really apart from one another. Because of what Jesus has done through his death and resurrection, we are no longer alienated from God. The Resurrection we celebrate reconciles us to God and to one another. This is true, as I said above, whether we can physically be together to celebrate, or not.

Our Happy Easter is celebrated not because of what we can or cannot do, but because of what Jesus has done, is doing, and will continue to do. Let us continue to live, and love, in hope.

Happy Easter  
Noel+

**Finances:**

Heat the Church--updated:

Just as it is important to continue giving our regular donations to the church, those who wish to contribute to this fund can do so under the donate button on the website or by e-transfer as outlined below. To the end of February, we have had 9 days covered. Thank you to all who continue to support this. This programme will continue in 2021.

Financial Statement:

	Actual Feb 2021	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Variance
<b>Income</b>	11,080.03	22,896.61	28,353.33	<b>5,456.72</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	15,793.40	30,609.08	30,959.50	<b>350.42</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>4,713.37</b>	<b>7,712.47</b>	<b>2,606.17</b>	<b>5,106.30</b>

The cold temperatures in January/February did not have as significant an impact as expected on our utilities. Our net deficit is \$1700 more than at this point last year.

Again, we thank all those who are contributing to St. Luke's in a time when things are still difficult for many people.

For information on giving go to [www.oldchurchrd.com/news](http://www.oldchurchrd.com/news).

### **Flower Calendar and Memorial Dedications:**

While flowers on the altar are on hold during this time of isolation, the opportunity still exists to remember loved ones and special dates as we do when sponsoring flowers. Please let us know of people and events that you might like remembered as a **Special Dedication** on a particular Sunday. If you so choose, you can make a donation to accompany your memorial and these can be designated to the Memorial Fund, General Fund, or any other Special Fund of your choosing. Special Dedications will appear in the announcements on the designated Sunday. **If you wish to make a donation**, please refer to the giving information noted above. If you are going to send a cheque, please email the office at [office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:office@oldchurchrd.com) to let them know about your dedication and the Sunday you would like it to appear. If doing an e-transfer, put in the message section your dedication, the date you would like it to appear and the fund to which you would like the money designated.

### **Around the Parish:**

#### Flood update:

The restoration complete. Now begins the task of putting everything back.

#### Devotional:

This is the next in our series of devotionals written by members of Parish Council. This month it is written by Shanna Blizzard.



**Proverbs 3:5** Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Change. In our lives we are going through constant change. I like to plan ahead, make the appropriate arrangements, and complete tasks in a timely manner. But life doesn't always go according to our plans. In fact it often throws us a curveball when we think we

have everything under control. My husband Harrison recently received a job offer in Plaster Rock, New Brunswick. So we are packing up and moving across the country next month with our 2 boys and a baby on the way. I am trusting God and his plans for us during this major change. Fear and anxiety sometimes overtake me and I am scared of the unknown that lies ahead. I have learned that in these moments my first reaction should be to pray and to listen. I ask God for his guidance and to help me make the right decisions according to his purpose for me and my family. Knowing that God is walking this path with us allows me to keep moving forward even when it feels like it would be easier to just turn back. We trust that this opportunity is a part of God's plans for all of us and are choosing to dive in head first and see where God takes us.

### **Around the Church:**

The Crucifix:



How many of you have noticed that we have a small crucifix on the wall behind the pulpit? While we celebrate the risen Christ of Easter, we must not forget the suffering endured for us on Good Friday. He is there with us in whatever suffering we may have in our lives.

There is a story behind this particular crucifix. In 1994, three young people from this parish joined a group of about thirty others on a trip to the Holy Land. It was led by the Rev. Richard LeSueur and they stayed at St. George's College in Jerusalem. Our three participants were the only Canadians on the trip. Those who went from this parish were Luke Murray, Suzanne Kaprowski and Jen Dixon.

The parish had a yearlong fund-raising campaign for the trip. Among other things, there were Coffee House nights with people singing and storytelling. Viggo Nielsen made small ceramic pots that were filled with fudge and then sold.

Jen bought the cross at a small open-air market in the Old City so they could bring something back to thank the parish for their support in helping fund raise for the trip. The crucifix is made of olive wood. While there they walked the top of the walls around the Old City, walked through Hezekiah's Tunnel<sup>1</sup> (in waist deep water!), visited the Dome of the Rock, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Wailing Wall. Outside of Jerusalem they visited and 'swam' in the Dead Sea, visited Masada, Bethany (including the tomb of Lazarus), Bethlehem (including the Nativity Church), Nazareth, the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum<sup>2</sup>, and hiked at Wadi Qelt<sup>3</sup>, where they built a stone altar

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<sup>1</sup> Also known as the Siloam Tunnel. It is a water tunnel that runs under eastern Jerusalem. Originally thought to date from the reign of King Hezekiah (late 8<sup>th</sup> and early 7<sup>th</sup> century BC) but more recently felt to have been built in the late 9<sup>th</sup> or early 8<sup>th</sup> century BC. It is 533m long and runs from the Gihon Spring to the Pool of Siloam.

<sup>2</sup> Israel's largest Holocaust memorial located on the slopes of Mount Herzl, or Mount of Remembrance, on the western edge of Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> The lower section of a valley through which runs a stream from Jerusalem to the Jordan River near Jericho. St. George's Monastery is located in this section of the valley.

and had a Eucharist. The day before they left to come home, they went to Emmaus where they heard that Hamas had set off a suicide bomb in Tel Aviv. This made their subsequent trip to the airport the next day very difficult with multiple military checkpoints.

(Thanks to Luke and Jen for sharing their memories of the trip)



Suzanne, Jen and Luke at the Calgary Airport

### **PWRDF News:**

Submitted by our Parish Representative, Brenda Dowell

The work of PWRDF has continued through the pandemic and I am going to bring you up to speed in a small bit of it. The internet, Webinar and Zoom have helped me understand the continual work of our very important charity.

### **A Cookbook:**

I will just mention two projects from the past months. The first is a cookbook "*Sharing Food: Recipes from Partners Around the World*" by Zaido Bastos who was executive director of Developmental Partnership for many years. This is not only a colorful recipe book; in it Zaido shares insights into the lives of the people she visited and shared meals with. In page long stories interspersed between the twenty recipes the reader learns about topics including the reality of empowering women, help for AIDS victims and the purchase of a tractor which are all benefits of PWRDF. The recipes range from those with a few ingredients such as spicy peanut butter to ones with several very unusual ingredients. These are often stew and soup recipes we would not find in cookbooks or the internet. A soup recipe which sounds delicious features pumpkins and sweet potatoes. Beautiful photographs of foods and lifestyles are throughout the 30 pages. Zaido states "Trying a new food or recipe can take us to another country or culture without leaving our kitchen or dinner table"

*Sharing Food: Recipes From Partners Around the World is now available with a suggested minimum donation of \$25 of which \$10 is used for the printing of the book and \$15 is a donation to PWRDF. If you would like a cookbook, just phone me at 403-346-0662 or email [povridge@telus.net](mailto:povridge@telus.net). I will order you a cookbook then you can pay*

*me when you pick it up! You will receive a tax receipt from PWRDF for the \$15 (if you pay \$25) or for any amount you donate o*

### **Goats!**

On March 16 I attended a Webinar with Anglican church people from coast to coast to coast. The subject of this presentation was the Goat Seed project in Malawi. Remember our Christmas project two years ago when with small and large donations we were able to purchase 19.62 goats which increased to 137.35 goats with the matching grant from the government. Our parish may initiate this project again some time later in the year. *“PWRDF is implementing the Goat Seed Project in Neno district Malawi in partnership with Partners in Health Canada (PIHC) and Partners in Health Malawi.”*

### **Prayer during a Pandemic:**

This is from St. Paul's Church in Lexington, Kentucky and was provided by the Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, to PWRDF, who posted it on their website.

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 own 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 find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbour.

Amen



