

The Territory of the People

Anglican Church of Canada

Bishop's Bulletin

27 March 2018

"The Territory of the People walk together with all God's people, journeying into a new creation, and trusting with faith and courage in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We love as Jesus loves, living with integrity and openness, and are committed stewards of God's world."

Bishop's Message – Easter 2018

We Are An Easter People, Alleluia!

As we move through the final days of Holy Week and move to the celebration of the day of Resurrection, we are once again reminded - we are an Easter People.

In the early days of Christianity, St. Augustine proclaimed: "We are Easter people and alleluia is our song!" Yes, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the centerpiece of our Christian faith. The only response that makes sense is the one we will sing for fifty days, from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday, "Alleluia! Praise to our God!"

Easter celebrates such wonderful good news that Christian people should never find one day long enough to celebrate its importance in their lives. The fifty days of the Easter season offer much food for our journey of faith. God's holy word is rich, and if we listen closely to the Easter story, we too will be transformed, restored and renewed.

The good news of Easter is that Jesus Christ continues to be alive among us today. The events of Holy Week were real, but they were not the end. Throughout the Easter season in our readings from the Acts of the Apostles, we encounter the friends of Jesus who met the risen Lord and were obviously changed in a dramatic fashion. They were relentless in their pursuit of continuing the mission of Jesus Christ.

As Easter People we know that Mary Magdalene and the other women did find the tomb of Jesus open and empty that first Easter morning. Jesus did die, was buried and rose again so we might have life – a new life in Christ. It is the heart of our faith. The passage from death to life which was experienced by Jesus Christ must also be experienced by every Christian. It is what sends us into the world as Easter people to carry out Christ's mission in the world.

Each Easter gives us the opportunity to once again be in touch with the new life in Christ we celebrate. We are reminded at the great Easter Vigil as we renew our baptismal vows together that it is through the water of baptism we move from death to new life. The chains of the old life have been broken and we rise into the new life in Christ as Easter people, - people of the resurrection.

The joy of the Easter message for those who follow Christ is that each Easter we once again celebrate the fact we are Easter people and alleluia is our song!

Happy Easter!

+Barbara



Annual General Meeting – Assembly 2018

This year is the “between year” of our full Assembly which will take place in May 2019, and our Assembly which allows us to meet the requirements of the BC Society Act to hold an annual meeting each year. As set out in our new Territory Constitution we have made Coordinating Council and its spring meeting (April 27th) the Assembly, and the delegates to this Assembly, are the members of Coordinating Council who were elected at Assembly 2017. We sent the notice widely, all are welcome to attend but only the members of Coordinating Council will have a vote.

The business before this Assembly is limited to:

1. The Adoption of the minutes of the Assembly 2017,
2. The acceptance of the audited statements,
3. The appointment of the Auditors for 2018.

We anticipate this Assembly will last about ½ hour.

All regular business will be dealt with at our full Assembly in 2019.

Announcements:

- I am pleased to announce that Barbara Liotskos has accepted my appointment as interim priest in charge of St Michael’s, Merritt.
- I am pleased to appoint Linda LaGroix as the summer staff person for Barkerville for this year.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Please pray for:

- ❖ The Rev Isabel Healy Morrow as she continues her journey of recovery through dialysis and chemo treatments
- ❖ Peter van der Leelie and Nancy as they begin retirement
- ❖ The parishes of Lytton and Scw’exmx as they seek a new spiritual leader
- ❖ The parishes of St. George’s Kamloops and St. Michael’s Merritt during this time of transition in the life of the community
- ❖ Archbishop John Privett as he prepares for retirement

EVENTS:

▶ National Worship Conference – “Responding to Disaster”

Will be held **July 16-19** in Victoria, BC. The conference reflects the vital role worship plays in times of local, regional and national crises to provide comfort and support for people in communities where we serve. The conference will equip participants with resources and ideas centred around prayer, song and presence to provide solace and healing in the aftermath of disaster. Click [here](#) for more information. The Territory has some funds available to supplement expenses for participants to attend. Please send your request to Bishop Barbara: apcibishop@shaw.ca

▶ Sacred Circle

will be held from **August 6 – 11, 2018** within the Territory of the People at the University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC. Five indigenous delegates will be selected by **April 15, 2018** by the Bishop and Pastoral Elders to attend from the Territory. Please email the apcibishop@shaw.ca, if you are interested in attending.

▶ Companions Program – God’s Rhythm

This **September, 2018**, the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine will begin the third year of their still-new Companions program. It is a FREE opportunity for women aged 21 and up to spend a year living alongside the Sisters – building community, learning from a healthy traditional community, and developing spiritual disciplines they can take out into their future lives. Visit the website [here](#).

► **Sermon Preparation Resource**

Wycliffe College is offering a new sermon preparation resource for clergy and laity free of charge from their website: a weekly podcast on the Revised Common Lectionary readings by the Rev. Dr. Christopher Setz. Click [here](#) to access the website

► **Church Websites**

Church OS (now called *Ascend*) has been working with Anglican churches since 2010 and has a special offer of 50% off the set up fee. Click [here](#) to see more.

Handy Links:

Book of Alternative Services: click [here](#)

Common Praise online: click [here](#)

Territory of the People website: click [here](#)

2018 Calendar of Intercessions Prayer Cycle: click [here](#)

Pilgrim Paths: labyrinth prayer walks accompanying the church year of prayer, feasts and celebrations.

Volumes One and Two in pdf format. More information [here](#)

Employee Assistance Program (Lifeworks). Click [here](#) to see the *Balance Sheet* monthly newsletters.

Bishop's Schedule and Important Dates and Deadlines

March 29	St. Paul's Cathedral – Holy Thursday	April 21 – 24	National Urban Indigenous Ministry Gathering – Winnipeg, Manitoba
March 30	St. Peter's Monte Creek – Good Friday	April 24 – 25	Small Diocese Meeting – Winnipeg, Manitoba
March 30 – April 4 Territory office closed for Easter			
April 1	Scw'exmx – Easter Service	April 27 – 28	Assembly & Coordinating Council – The Shrine, Cache Creek
April 4	St George's Parish Council – evening meeting	April 30	Deadline for Capital Fund Applications
April 5	WECAN meeting on Zoom Call	May 4	St George's Parish Dinner
April 7	Ministry Fund Grant Allocation Committee Meeting – 100 Mile House	May 6	St George's, Bishop's Visit
April 8	St. George's, Kamloops – parish visit	May 13	St Paul's Parish Visit
April 9-13	National House of Bishops – Niagara Falls, Ontario	May 14 – 22	Bishop on holidays for family wedding
April 18	South Regional Deanery Meeting – Ashcroft – 5.30 pm	May 25 – 27	EQUIP, Prince George

