

*The*

# Contact

**Saint Paul's**

Nanaimo, B.C.

*Keeping your home  
in contact with your parish*

**October 2017**

**Interim Priest In Charge: The Venerable Alan Naylor**

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## From the Rector's Niche ...

Dear St. Paul's Family,

Those who know me are subjected every summer to my grumbling about cervine pests in my garden (from the Latin word cervus meaning "deer"). This summer, which has been so dry, it seems these fleet footed neighbours have been more active than ever, treating themselves to the smorgasbord of delights from my gardening efforts. Given that my thumb is not very green, this has caused some distress to me and my garden. From bean sprouts and young tomato plants to tulips and hydrangea plants, all have been devastated by these uninvited visitors.

Over the years many kind folk have given me their favourite 'eco friendly' deer repellent remedies for which I am grateful – a spray of egg yolk, mixed with water and baking powder; tying laundry sheets on the plants; spreading human hair on the soil – all have entered my arsenal and do help. But not entirely!

One evening in July we noticed a stag with large antlers in the garden, munching on something we would rather he left alone, however it was such a beautiful sight we decided not to disturb him. He eventually lay down in the shade of our crab apple tree, apparently feeling safe and contented. There was something satisfying about being a host to such a magnificent creature and I was torn between intervening to protect my garden and sitting back,

enjoying the sight of him being nurtured on the piece of land I call "mine."

It causes me to wonder if that is how God may feel as we gratify ourselves with the buffet of delights around us. From our feeding off the fruit of the land, to harvesting of what we call natural resources, to our use of animals and even other human beings to meet our needs. Often uninvited, sometimes downright rudely, we help ourselves to what we see. The socio-economic system in which we coexist, built on the notion of our work being the way in which we sustain ourselves, gives us a sense of rights and entitlement. Some even measure the success of a life by the degree to which it is able to amass wealth from the earth's bounty.

However, we often forget that this is only because of the benevolence of God our Creator, who caused all to be, and who I imagine sitting back with some satisfaction at the sight of us as 'guests' nurturing ourselves from the Harvest of Creation. But perhaps also with consternation and gracious tolerance of our greed and self gratification, as we consume whatever we see. No potions are mixed and applied to repel us, no expressions are given that we are unwelcome, as we munch on what God has called good, oblivious to the plans God has for Creation. Not to mention the plans God has for us as individuals and as a society. It all adds up to a broken relationship between Creator and Created.

As Christians we proclaim that the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the proof of God's grace, but also the means by which we are

reconciled to God. By faith we re-establish a relationship with the One who has given not only the means of life but our very life itself. Jesus said: "I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." During this season of Harvest and Thanksgiving we do well to remember that the restored relationship with God in Christ renews our sense of being welcome guests in God's Creation and in each other's lives - and raises our level of respect for all that is around us and for the dignity of every person. We might also take the opportunity to re-examine how well we replicate God's generosity in our own lives towards those with less.

My 'cervine' guest is welcome to return to my garden from time to time and I will allow him a certain degree of freedom, but not too much! And he will continue to remind me of God's infinite grace and generosity towards me.

Happy thanksgiving!

*Alan*

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**THE WARDEN'S CORNER**

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The month of September has seen the start of a new stage of our journey together at St. Paul's. The Bishop's Consultation Team has been approved by Parish Council and the Bishop has arranged a meeting for the beginning of October. The Venerable Alan Naylor has joined us as Interim Priest in Charge of St. Paul's, and, with his wife, Diana, have both taken the time after services to meet and speak with many of the members. Their ministry with St. Paul's will continue to support and inform us as we make progress with our search.

SPIF Sunday was well-attended and I encourage anyone who felt an interest in one or more of the displays to explore that committee's work further. St. Paul supports a wide range of activities offering a variety of ways to contribute your time and talents. I am reminded at this point of the words "Seek and ye shall find".

As we search together for someone who will minister to/with us, perhaps we could also personally search within ourselves for what we can offer in ministry to others. If there is an area of activity at St. Paul's in which you have not yet participated, this may be the opportune time to do so. I know that any of the groups would welcome your expression of interest.

I trust we will all have a wonderful Harvest & Thanksgiving at October's start and enjoy a spooky Hallowe'en to end the month.

*Janice Valecourt,*  
People's Warden

**NOTES FROM THE  
TREASURER**



The last Financial Statement available is to the end of August 2017.

Total Income for 8 months	\$ 172,524.95
Total Outgo for 8 months	<u>208,181.81</u>
	\$ (35,656.86)
Balance fwd. Jan. 1/17	<u>(16,509.98)</u>
<b>Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ (52,166.84)</u></b>

Open and Envelope offerings are still below our 2017 budget, by \$12,000.00. Our deficit increased by about \$7200.00 in the month of August. Your Parish Council is understandably concerned, so passed a motion to not pay the Diocesan Assessment or the loan interest until such time as our deficit drops to or below \$40,000.00. This is to assist us with our cash flow - we will still owe the assessment(s), and hope to be able to be clear by the end of the year.

A bright note is that **offerings are up** about \$8,000.00 over this time last year, which means our parishioners are increasing their givings. For this we give thanks and rejoice.

Full copies of the Financial Statements may be found on the bulletin boards in the Narthex and hall. If you have any questions, I will do my best to answer them. I can be reached by email at [sue\\_gue@telus.net](mailto:sue_gue@telus.net), or by telephone at 250-758-6674.

*Sue Gueulette, Treasurer*

PS. I have the cow (thanks to Mary McCrae), so watch for news about LC and her new offspring, Luna!

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## HAPPENINGS AROUND THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

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The Fall Crocuses are in full bloom indicating that Fall is upon us.

**BARRIERS IN THE PARKING LOT** – Have received a fresh coat of white paint on the ends to make them more visible in the Winter evenings. The **YELLOW** post has been repainted.

**EXTERIOR ELECTRICAL OUTLETS** – As they have been abused by street people they have been shut off at the panel boxes. The outlet by the parking lot/ vestry door has been the most problem, and it has been removed completely. People have camped outside the door and others have come at all times of the day & night to recharge their cell phone, etc. If an attempt is made to open the doors at night-time or if the doors are accidentally bumped, it's possible that the security system is activated and a call-out or the security company ensues. Each call-out costs the Church \$50 each time they come. There were 5 call-outs in August alone!

**GRAFFITI** – Two items of graffiti were removed for the wall by the Vestry/Hall door.

**NEW HALL** – Boyd Shaw, Colin Sheen, Caroline Grimmer, Travis Whiteman from Heatherbrae, David Porion, the Architect did a walk through the new building designating areas that need repair/modification. The work should take place soon. The work will be covered under the “New Building Warranty”.

**PARKING LOT SIGN** – Brian Humber replaced the backing on the sign as the original plywood backing was splitting. He has also put a new frame around it. Thank you, Brian.

**TREES** – Highline Utilities have trimmed & tidied up the trees along the fence, the oak, holly and the laurel. The cost of the tree work has been met by 2 parishioners.

**WROUGHT IRON FENCE** – As 5 posts (3 on the fence along the front lawn and two on the fence under the holly hedge) anchoring it to the bases had rusted away, they needed to be secured. Nanaimo Sheet Metal was engaged to do this repair. It has been completed. The cost of the repair has been met by a parishioner.

*Caroline Grimmer, Building and Grounds*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We're back...although Tammy and I only left for the summer. We had resigned but now Sunday School has been rescued because Jane Barnes, Merron Booker, Kathie Day, Kathy McRae and alternate, Marilyn Browning, have volunteered their time. Tammy and I teach 2 Sundays a month and the others teach one Sunday a month. It is SO great that Tammy and I can now attend church services. Thank you very much Jane, Merron, Kathie, Kathy and Marilyn. And Sue, for pleading our case.

This fall we have 5 regular attendees. Theia is 11, Robert is 10, Liam, 9, Reid 7 and Jonathon 4. They are delightful youngsters and we always look forward to our time with them. This fall we are studying the parables of Jesus found in the book of Matthew.

Some of the parables are a challenge but find that acting out the parable is fun and thought provoking. The craft reflects the lesson. And if you wander into the St. Mark room, you will see a display of the crafts on one of the boards.

*Diane Wade & Tammy Williams*

Sunday School

## FUN, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

As this "Contact" goes to print, our October 1st. Harvest Festival Pot Luck Luncheon will have come and gone. This was a true "pot luck". The goal was to make a fun time without having a totally planned menu with cooks in the kitchen. We thank all those who participated and prepared a dish for this "truly pot luck lunch".

This year's Annual Hallowe'en Party has been cancelled because of the busyness of the season for the FFF committee during October / November. We felt we could not stretch ourselves to plan, host, and implement this family Hallowe'en Party this year. Perhaps a couple of families or individuals might consider taking this on next year. Please speak to a member of the FFF committee if there is an interest in carrying on this event. The Fun, Food, and Fellowship Committee have sponsored this event for the past 10 years.

Downtown Business Association sponsored Hallowe'en Event. This year again on October 28th we will participate in this downtown event by welcoming children at the church doors. Our volunteers will be in costume to greet the children on their collection of treats. As in the past we ask for donation of these treats for our visiting Fairies and gremlins. Suggested prepackaged donations are items like: small bags of cheesies, chips, boxes of raisins, mini chocolate bars, etc. These may be left at the church for the FFF committee to package.

November 11th Remembrance Day we will host a hot dog/hot chocolate lunch for the youth participating in Remembrance Day Parade. In this way we support the Legion in this activity and are appreciative of their donation of the hot dogs and fixings. We donate the space and volunteers. This year we have invited the Nanaimo Ambassadors to assist us in the serving.

FFF Committee Members: Les Annesley, Kathie Day, Mary Jackson, Heather Lester, Alison Lowry, Kathy McRae, Sue McDonald, Carol Shaw, Marilyn Browning, Jan Monkman.

*Kathie Day & Les Annesley*

Co-Chairs

## ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

News from The Diocesan ACW : The baling of the DORCAS items will be on Monday October 30 at 9:00 at St John's Church in Duncan. Anyone who would like to take part in this activity please contact Carol Shaw. Sorting is done in the morning, then, after lunch the bales are assembled. It is fun to see the years work baled and prepared for shipping to the parishes in the Diocese of Caledonia . Many hands are needed for this so check your calendar and see if you can spare a few hours. We will car pool from St Paul's at 8:00 AM. Please bring any items for DORCAS to the church prior to October 30 so they can be taken down to Duncan.

October 18 there will be a Regional Diocesan gathering. We will car pool from St. Paul's.

10:00 am Eucharist

Diane will be giving a report from the National Gathering

Noon: Bag Lunch

1:00 Presentation and update from Threshold

Our next meeting for St Paul's ACW is on Wednesday October 4th. Brown bag lunch at 12:30 , the meeting begins at 1:00. We welcome new members and try to keep the meetings within one hour.

Thank you to all who participated in the ACW Bakeless Bake Sale for the month of September and I hope you all enjoyed your zero calorie bakeless treats !!

The Church calendars are now available at \$5.00 and are available from the church office.

*Carol Shaw,*

President

# PWRDF REPORT

## **PWRDF responds to Hurricane Irma with \$40,000 for Cuba and Haiti**

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund has announced an initial grant of \$40,000 for immediate response to Hurricane Irma in Cuba and Haiti.

PWRDF will allocate \$20,000 for the upcoming ACT appeal for Cuba, \$10,000 for the Episcopal Church of Cuba and \$10,000 to support the rapid response fund request for Haiti by the ACT Alliance forum there. The ACT Alliance members and the Episcopal Church of Cuba are continuing to do their assessments, and consult with the local government agencies and other stakeholders.

The latest information from ACT Alliance is that there will be an appeal for Cuba and a rapid response fund to support immediate needs in Haiti and Dominican Republic.

“For Dominican Republic, we will wait and see the need and the corresponding request,” says Naba Gurung, Humanitarian Response Coordinator for PWRDF. “For the small islands, we will wait for further details if any partner within the ACT network or any known or trusted network will be responding. Lots of info is yet to be revealed and recovery will take years.” While PWRDF awaits further details, donations will also be accepted to help recovery efforts in Mexico, where an earthquake measuring 8.1 magnitude occurred on September 8.

To donate to Hurricane Irma recovery efforts, please write “Hurricane Irma” on your cheque or donate online and choose Hurricane.

### **PWRDF Advent and Christmas resources.**

An Advent resource and Christmas cards will be available in late fall. Lent 2018 resource will be available in early 2018.

*Janice Valecourt*

PWRDF Representative

## *St. Paul's Christmas Marketplace*

**When? Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>**

**10:30 am - 2:00 pm**

**Where? St. Paul's Centre for  
Ministry**

**(ALL of it)**

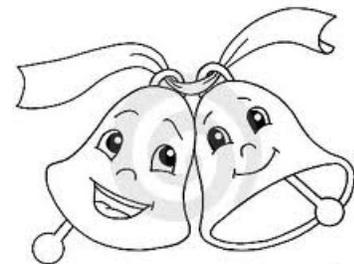
**LUNCH**

**CRAFTS**

**JEWELLERY**

**BAKING**

**SILENT AUCTION**



dreamstime.com

**CHRISTMAS TREASURE TROVE**

**MYSTERY GIFTS**

**DELI**

**JAMS & JELLIES**

**QUILTING**

For more information, contact Patricia Sheen at 250-754-0121.

# MONTHLY BRUNCH

Reaching Out makes breakfast every second Saturday of the month in conjunction with Christ Community Church at the 7/10 Club across the street from the Police Station.

We are in need of some volunteers to help out.

We have shifts starting at 7:30 for prep work; 8:30 for set up; 9:15 for serving scrambled eggs, sausages, pancakes, coffee or ice tea and of course there are always dishes to wash.

We need to have 8-10 people each time so if you would like to help us out and enjoy the companionship with us please contact Diane Scott at 250-758-8155 or e-mail j-dscott@shaw.ca.

Many hands make the job easier.

*Diane Scott,*

Reaching Out Committee

*Thanks to all at St. Paul's for their prayers for the victims of the hurricanes that hit the northern Leeward Islands (and nearby islands) this past month --- Irma, followed by Maria. Having close family ties (my two adult children among other family and friends on Anguilla) it meant so much to feel that your prayers were said. Some gave funds too to help! Anguilla itself, along with many other islands in that chain in the Atlantic from North to South America suffered greatly, with many people hurt, some killed, and with their homes and businesses destroyed.*

*Some people were left with literally just the clothes on their backs. Still, power and telephone service is not restored in many parts. However, your prayers HAVE and WILL help their hearts and minds recover as the land very slowly heals. I personally felt bolstered with your prayers as my two children returned slowly home by air and sea this past week.*

*Thank you ALL, my friends, for helping me feel others were with me as I did and do keep watch on events there.*

*Janice Byerley*

## *Parish Happenings*

### **In Memoriam**

Catherine Roberts

24 September 2017



### **NOTES OF THANKS ...**

*The family of Gwyn Oaten would like to extend our deep gratitude to the wonderful women working in the kitchen during Gwyn's Memorial Tea on July 27th. Additional thanks go to Carol Shaw and Norma Humphreys who went above and beyond! Your help was invaluable and made for a lovely celebration. We would also like to thank those that attended and made donations to Loaves and Fishes. Your generosity on Gwyn's behalf was moving and a very appropriate way of celebrating the life of a generous human being.*

*Penny Oaten*

When you speak to me,  
Your words  
Fall on parched soil  
Like rain,  
And from the dust  
Arise a hymn

by Jean Parkin.

## **Tony's footnotes ...**

Those of you that receive the Worship Schedule will have noticed that the latest schedule only covers the months of October & November.

We will be issuing another Worship Schedule for the months of December & January in due course.

The deadline for the November Contact will be October 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Thank you.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Until next time ..