

*The*

# Contract

Saint Paul's

Nanaimo, B.C.

May 2018

*Keeping your home  
in contact with your parish*

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

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## From the Rector's Niche...

With the arrival of better weather comes the annual challenge of navigating road construction and detours. It always reminds me of the story of the doctor, the engineer and the town planner, debating whose profession is the greatest. The doctor pointed out that in the Bible, one of the first things God did was to create Eve from Adam's rib and this required surgery, so the medical profession is greatest. The engineer countered with an earlier passage in the Bible which said before that, God created order out of chaos, which is what engineers do, so theirs is the greatest profession. "Ah yes" said the planner with a smile, "but before that, who do you think created the chaos?"

With apologies to contractors and planners for poking fun at their important jobs, I guess it is true that none of us can plan changes of any kind, or implement them, without causing some chaos. Whether in our personal lives or in institutions, planning ahead is difficult especially in these dynamic times of global connections and rapid change. There are perhaps two reasons for this.

First we tend to extrapolate from the present. In other words we draw straight lines from the trends we observe. But rarely are we able to foresee big changes coming in the status quo and so the basic equilibrium of current conditions is usually assumed in our planning. Anyone engaged in long term financial planning over the years would know about this phenomenon.

Second, I would suggest that our lack of foresight arises because we don't always include God in our forward thinking. The biblical witness and experience of countless people of faith, is that God seems to have a habit of completely changing the rules of the game, especially where there is healing, wholeness and transformation on God's agenda. The greatest ever of those planned changes was Christ, in whom God revealed "...*what no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor human heart conceived... what God has prepared for those who love him*" (1 Corinthians 2:9) And to the prophet Jeremiah (29:11) God said: "*For surely I know the plans I have for you... plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*"

Have you ever considered that God has a radical plan for you, for your own future, or perhaps at this time a plan for dealing with a predicament which is pinning you down? Something which your modest and 'straight line' plans have not even thought of?

And for the Parish of St. Paul's, it is advisable at any time, but particularly in this time of welcoming new clergy leadership, to shelve our straight line plans, and to await *what God has prepared for us who love him*, as St. Paul put it. And to *await our future with hope*, as the prophet Jeremiah put it. The promise is that when we entrust ourselves and our future to God's will, there are things we haven't even imagined yet, towards which God calls us and desires for us.

We may extrapolate and plan for what we think we can see ahead, and there's absolutely nothing inherently wrong in that. But we need to be aware

that God does indeed have thoughts and desires for us which are likely outside our lines of thinking and way beyond our imagining. When we open ourselves to God's grace, they are worked into our lives and into our community.

This will be my last Contact submission, pending the start of the ministry of the Rev. Clara Plamondon with you. I commend Clara and each of you to God's never failing care, and thank you for your friendship and support over the previous most enjoyable nine months.

*Alan*

## From the Deacon ...

Wow, finally some sun from the Heavenly Father to help make our days brighter. The past week I heard from an elderly gentleman, "Happy Earth Day" and he then went on to say that the Assisted Living facility that he is in had a lot of visitors and that it was good. As I shared on Sunday, our seniors are very much a part of Earth Day just as we are. Like our seniors, our young people have a lot to tell us about life, and we must take time to listen to all that is being said. Encourage people to talk.

In my everyday work, I work with people who suffer from dementia - a very debilitating disease, and this disease affects many family members and friends. The challenge is learning how to dance or walk through the stages that present themselves. As I have said before anger is one of the biggest issues that is very present with this disease and it can affect the whole family. Some family members are not able to understand what is going on. The best thing that can happen with someone who has dementia is make or take small steps. Decisions can be made for them, but make it so they have come up with the idea and that will help to remove a lot of the angst. Pose only ask one question at a time and make it a one choice answer by saying something like *Would you like to do and whatever that is.* Or *How about we do this,* and make it present. Do not present something on a Monday and then expect them to remember on Wednesday. That will not necessarily happen in a person with dementia. They will not remember or will get very frustrated as they cannot remember. They will know something is

going to happen but they will get anxious because they are expected to remember and they are at the point in their lives that they are not able to remember.

Every person can use a little bit of help. The person with dementia may be able to be present through an entire church service – something that has been very ingrained. Someone might, if able to listen to the music they like and know, be very present at that time. It is because it is further back in the memory and something that has been ingrained in them.

Always remember to walk with a person who suffers from dementia – be their friend and most importantly take care of yourselves.

Blessings to each and everyone of you, enjoy the sunshine and always remember "you are not alone you live in Gods world"!

*Reverend Lynn Cawthra, Deacon*

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## THE WARDEN'S CORNER

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I was a bit late in noticing, but Canada celebrated National Volunteer Week from April 15th to 21st with the theme "**Celebrate the Value of Volunteering – building confidence, competence, connections and community.**"

Upon reflection, I thought this subject was worthy of closer consideration. Just this past weekend, I was fortunate enough to attend the Symphony, which was augmented by a full choir for part of the presentation. Some members of that choir are also members of St. Paul's choir – volunteers all, offering a gift of time and music. Thinking this way led me further back to Friday last week, when St. Paul volunteers prepared the Community Neighbours' Lunch. As you can imagine, continuing along this train of thought brought to mind the recent request for additional volunteers to assist with Sunday School. And indeed, some volunteers have stepped forward to help.

Going back two years, I considered the many hours that were given to preparing plans for the Centre for Ministry; then the additional time spent over-seeing the project – from clearing out the old hall, to

dedicating the new one – volunteered time. The committees that work within the church, the staffing at the front desk, the people who work at all our church events are volunteers. And we are not the exception. On top of the weekly & monthly amounts of work produced by volunteers for the church – a great many of them volunteer for other organizations and community groups as well.

In turning to the national and international stage, the Primate’s World Relief & Development Fund wanted to shine a light on the extraordinary impact volunteers make on PWRDF’s work around the world by using the examples of parish volunteer representatives. This brought me to think of the groups of volunteers who fund-raised to bring refugees into Canada in the past few years and then gave their time to walk the journey towards integration along with them. The further I travelled tracing the various paths of volunteerism, the more profoundly I felt that, in truth, it isn’t money that runs the world; it is indeed, LOVE.

For what is volunteering, if not an expression of love for our neighbours, wherever they may live.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MAKE CHURCH - CHURCH!**

*Janice Valecourt, People’s Warden*

**NOTES FROM THE TREASURER**



The last Financial Statement available is to the end of March 2018.

Total Income for 3 months	\$ 57,231.72
Total Outgo for 3 months	<u>69,785.68</u>
	\$ ( 12,553.96)
Balance fwd. Jan. 1/17	<u>( 24,761.97)</u>
<b>Balance (deficit)</b>	<b><u>\$ ( 37,315.93)</u></b>

Although Open and Envelope offerings are under March 2017 by \$3500.00, we need to remember that we are comparing 13 Sundays in 2017 with only 12 in 2018, so our givings are actually on par with this time last year. However, we are under budget by \$11,851.27, which is not good. Starting in June, our payroll figure will be about \$4,000.00 higher each month.

Thanks to the efforts of our Stewardship Committee, the St. Paddy’s Day event netted just over \$1,700.00. We also have a portion of the Lent/Easter offerings showing this month under Church Festivals.

We were able to pay the \$1,000.00 towards the loan interest this month. All other expenses continue as predicted.

Our end result is a deficit of \$37,315.93. If we subtract last year’s deficit of \$24,761.97 that was brought forward, we have actually spent \$12,553.96 more than we have received in the first 3 months of the year. We continue to survive on the balance in the Project Account.

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*

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**ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN**

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The ACW Springtime Tea took place on Saturday April 14 and a BIG thank-you goes out to all who helped make this event a success. There was heavy bidding on favourite items on the Silent Auction Table and very little left on the Baking Table to sell next day. The Plant Table had a variety of indoor and outdoor plants and containers . The coffee and tea flowed freely and everyone enjoyed their tea sandwich and dessert. We thank the parish and invited guests for their support of our annual Tea .

The ACW will be meeting on Wednesday May 2 and will be honouring our member Blanche Gates with a light lunch and cake to celebrate her 100th Birthday. We will be conducting a short regular meeting after lunch. All ACW members please note the time and date. We will begin at precisely 12:30 in the St Matthew Room.

There was a fire last week at the church office at St John's Church in Duncan . The DORCAS items are collected and stored in the attic there for baling in October. Unfortunately all of the bags that were taken to the storage area were extensively damaged in the fire and all is lost.

To continue a 160 year tradition of DORCAS ministry to the Diocese of Caledonia we are going to put our backs to the task and try to make up for the loss. Ladies, we are starting from scratch . Anyone who can knit, sew, donate childrens items and supplies for the JOY Bags please bring the items to the church office. We will be given a supply of Knitting kits from the Diocesan DORCAS Chair in the next week and will supply the yarn free. If anyone has a stash of yardage that our sewers can make into Joy Bags, let me know.

*Carol Shaw, President*

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## FUN, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

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The Maundy Thursday simple pot luck dinner on March 29th was well attended, and we were assisted by Nanaimo's Shriners. Thanks to everyone who brought food. Approximately \$220 was donated by the diners towards activities that the Shriners support, such as hospital burn units.

There have been several church fund-raisers this Spring, so it was decided that this year F,F&F would not plan a community outing. However, with the approval of our Parish Council, we will again host a St. Paul's information tent at the Canada Day celebrations on July 1st at Nanaimo's downtown waterfront.

F,F&F Coordinators are Kathie Day and Sue McDonald. We are always happy for new members and occasional helpers.

*Kathie Day, Sue McDonald, Co-chairs*

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## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

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The Committee is seeking volunteers during the months of July and August to staff the Church from Noon to 3:00pm. We will need 2 people (each day) to sign up for a 3 hour shift, Monday to Friday, to greet visitors and show them around our lovely church.

Last year there weren't enough volunteers to be open every day, although most of the volunteers did more than one shift, and if memory serves we had at least 200 visitors. This is a great opportunity to use the TIME part of Stewardship. If you ask a friend to keep you company, this will help with time management as 2 persons are required for safety reasons. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex in May.

The Committee has worked diligently with the TREASURE part of the triad and has raised, so far, approximately \$2,400 towards the budget deficit, between The St. Paddy's event and the "No Frills Lunch." There will be one more lunch in June and The Mad Hatter's Tea Party in May, to add to this total.

On July 15th we are co-operating with the Capital Committee to "Retire The Debt", as we still owe to money to the Diocese. This will take the place of an afternoon concert with Soprano Eve Daniell. More on this later but check out her website at [www.evedaniell.com](http://www.evedaniell.com).

Thank you to all who helped make the above possible.

*Marjorie I. Adams,*  
Chair, Stewardship Committee

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## ALTAR FLOWERS

The main altar is available for flowers on:

- June 17th 2018 (Father's Day)

Contact Colleen Johnston 250-753-2528

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# PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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Thank you Jesus

On behalf of the Prayer Shawl Ministry, I would like to thank Joanne Bevis for her monetary donation and Claude and Roseleagh Lalonde, Barbara Barnett, and Vivian Scott for their donations of yarn to the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Thank you to Patricia and Colin Sheen for the generous donation of bags for the prayer shawls. Thank you to Yvonne Oliver for a stamp that says Prayer Shawl Ministry to stamp the bags.

Our shawls are made with love, if you know anyone who could use a warm hug. Let us know. The creation and presentation of a prayer shawl enriches the giver as well as the recipient.

We accept monetary donations to purchase yarn or donations of yarn in any colour, soft and washable approximate 1000 yards of worsted weight yarn. Even if you have never knitted or crocheted before and would like to learn, here is your opportunity.

Teaching to knit or crochet is available. Once you have learned to make a shawl, you can then work on your shawl at your leisure. The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets to pray, share, knit or crochet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at one to three o'clock in either the St. Matthew or the St. Mark room. All are welcome.

If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Oliver at 250-754-8614.

## PWRDF REPORT

**The Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partner with PWRDF (and others) in several development aid programs. The following information is for educators and youth leaders. Please pass this information on to students and teachers whom you know.**

**Learning Tour to Uganda for Youth Leaders**  
<https://foodgrainsbank.ca/learning-tour-to-uganda-for-youth-leaders/>

Canadian Foodgrains Bank is inviting educators and youth leaders to join us in Uganda to learn more

about hunger, food security and the culture and history of Uganda. The trip is for educators who want to learn about global hunger, are interested in longer-term action and advocacy efforts, and are ready to engage their students in the issue of global hunger upon their return to Canada. The tour will take place approximately **August 2-17, 2018**. (Exact dates will depend on flight availability).

The delegation will learn about food security issues in Uganda, visit relief and development projects supported by the Foodgrains Bank, and explore ways to engage Canadian youth in issues related to world hunger. The group will be made up of about eight participants and two Foodgrains Bank staff. Upon return to Canada, participants are expected to engage in community awareness activities and advocacy initiatives. (We are available to support and encourage you!)

Here's what past educator tour participants have had to say:

"This learning experience taught me so much more than food security. It highlighted the perseverance of amazing people who are incredibly hard workers and who strive to do their best in their communities." Rev. Janet Jones of Orangeville, ON

"The Nepal learning tour provided me with a rekindled desire to share agriculture! The projects which I got to see and the connections I got to make with tour members, project organizations and local Nepali people were encouraging, to see that each and everyone has a role to play in food security. And that the issues and underlying complexities affect us all." Brittany Brydon of Fredericton, NB

"As a teacher, I now have the first-hand narrative and context to relay to my students the importance of food security issues around the world. I now have the tools to be able to teach this in an informed and effective way through my first-hand experiences and the teaching tools gained from interactions with group members and partners of the Foodgrains." Joel Kulik of Winnipeg, MB

The tour cost is \$2800. Application deadline is May 15, 2018. Please apply as early as possible. For more information, please contact Roberta Gramlich [rgramlich@foodgrainsbank.ca](mailto:rgramlich@foodgrainsbank.ca) 1-204-926-4245.

*Janice Valecourt*, PWRDF Representative

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### DISCUSSION GROUP

The next monthly meeting will be held in the St. Matthew Room on Thursday, May 17th. The guest speaker will be Mr. John Horn, Social Planner for the City of Nanaimo, who will make a presentation on mental health issues in our community.

All are welcome to attend.

*Bill Capier*

### MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY

Join us on Saturday, May 19 at 2:00 pm for a Mad Hatter's Tea Party! Enjoy a traditional afternoon tea and lots of Alice in Wonderland inspired fun! The wearing of hats is encouraged!

Tickets priced at \$10 will be available shortly.

### REACHING OUT FUNDRAISER

On Friday June 1st Reaching Out committee members will host a fund-raising event called A EUROPEAN EVENING.

Foods from different countries will be available and entertainment provided. A special feature will be the "Pop-Up Bakery" where delicious temptations from both commercial city bakers and individual bakers will be ready to go home with you --- FOR A PRICE.

Please buy your Tickets (note the "s") early. Tables can be reserved. Cost for this awesome evening is \$25.00 per person. Tickets will be available on Sunday after the Services and from the Church Office.

*Joanne Bevis*

Chair Reaching Out Committee.

## CANADA DAY

St Paul's will be having an Information Booth on Canada Day at Maffeo Sutton Park from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm on Sunday, July 1st. Setup will be at 9:00 am.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex during the month of June. Volunteers are asked to sign up for 2 hour shifts.

More to follow in the next CONTACT.

*Carol Shaw*

## *Parish Happenings*

### **In Memoriam**

Helen Audrey Pollard

6 April 2018

Olive Handley

<See below>

### **Newcomers**

Mackenzie Carreck

Gwen Logan

Doug MacIntyre

Bert Mountney

Joy Sheppard

## IN MEMORIAM

### OLIVE HANDLEY

Olive arrived in Nanaimo in August 1954 to work in the Old Nanaimo hospital and immediately joined the choir. My recollection is that this is where we met and where the banns were read in September, 1955 before our wedding in England. We returned to Nanaimo in November 56 and she rejoined the choir until I was transferred to Alberni in 1959 only to return to 1962 and land at St James until the closure.

*David Handley*



## NOTES OF THANKS



## NOTES OF THANKS

*Rev. Alan and friends at St. Paul's,*

*My thanks to Rev. Alan at Easter and to my friends for good wishes on my birthday.*

*I am well looked after and I wish you every blessing.*

*Elsie Porter*

*I am pleased that I can take this opportunity to thank our Church Family for the prayers, care and support given to us during the last year. It was a rough road to travel, but we did not travel alone. You visited the sick, fed the hungry, mourned with the grieving and honoured the dead.*

*Special thanks to Rev. Alan for his kindness, patience and guidance as I struggled to plan Des' Celebration of Life Service, and to the members of Reaching Out and Altar Guild for the gift of their time and energy to make the Reception a joyous event. If I attempt to name individuals I shall surely omit someone, so please all accept my gratitude and love. With God's help, through you, in my weakness I was made strong. Thank you.*

*Joanne Bevis*

## *A Farewell to Venerable Alan & Diana*

As you know, Alan's last Sunday with us will be May 27. We had planned to have a little farewell lunch that day, but our hall is booked for the whole weekend (this is a busy place!). So, we are planning it for Sunday, May 20, following the 10:30 service.

A light lunch of sandwiches and goodies will be supplied, along with one of our traditional cakes that we use to mark all special occasions.

There will be a group card to sign, but we will also have a basket for people to leave their individual messages or cards.

We do hope as many of you as possible will join us that day to say thank you to Ven. Alan and Diana for getting us through our interim period so smoothly!

There will also be a small celebration after the 8:00 am service, for those who cannot come at 10:30 am.

## Tony's footnotes ...

The new Worship Schedule will be available towards the end of May. A reminder to please let the Office know as soon as possible if you are planning to be away for any of the Sundays between June & September. Thanks.

If you are thinking of volunteering for any of the duties, now is the time to act. We are in urgent need of readers, especially at the 8 o'clock Service and Evensong. If you would like to help by being a Greeter, Reader or Intercessor, please contact Tony at the Church Office.

A grand total of 104 households are now receiving the Contact in electronic format. Please send an e-mail to [stpaulsnanaimo@shaw.ca](mailto:stpaulsnanaimo@shaw.ca) and let us know if you would like to sign up for this service. It really helps the Office save time & money.

Finally, a Happy Mother's Day to all of our St. Paul's ladies for May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Until next time ...