

Thoughts for the Week

A famous children's hymn has the line: Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so. A little thought suggests this famous line is not true. We learn of the love of Jesus from loving human beings who share their love with us. A better version of the line might be: Jesus loves me this I know for my mother told me so. We learn to love on the knees of our mothers. The Bible tells us that is even true of Jesus. On mothers day let us all give thanks for the mothers in our lives who taught us to love and to pray. May we pass on all they have given us. Amen.

The Ven. Dr. John Bailey

DATES TO NOTE

Today!	Early Music Concert, 4 pm, Church
Mon. May 15	Trustees Meeting, 7:00 pm, Upstairs
Tues. May 16	Church Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, Fireside Room
Wed. May 17	Alt Vespers, 7:00 pm, Church
Tues. May 23	Sexual Misconduct Policy Training, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room

CHILDREN AT CHURCH - EVERY SUNDAY

At the 10.00am service there are Church School classes for all children who wish to attend. Children are encouraged to come to the front of the church for the "Children's Focus" and then leave for their classes, returning during the Peace. The youngest (newborns to two years old) can use our "Noah's Ark" room (just off the side of the church) under parental supervision.

EARLY MUSIC CONCERT

A nice thing to do for mom today, (it is Mother's Day after all), at 4:00 pm, is come and listen to nine Handel Arias performed by Janice Long, soprano, accompanied on harpsichord by Christina Hutten. Admission is by donation. Suggested donation: \$20. A tax receipt will be issued for donations above \$20.



SENIORS CAFÉ

Seniors Café continues on alternate Tuesday mornings in the Fireside Room from 10:00 until Noon. Join us for tea, coffee, refreshments and friendly conversation or find a partner for a game of crib or Scrabble. We also feature arts activities and sometimes a local speaker or musician. This is a community-focussed program and everyone is welcome – please reach out and invite a friend or neighbour to Seniors Café.



KINDERTOTENLIEDER CONCERT

Come to St. Philip's at 4 pm on May 28th for a rare concert experience. St. Philip's sanctuary will ring with Gustav Mahler's Song Cycle, the Kindertotenlieder.

Soprano Martina Govednik, under the direction of Jonathan Girard, will be accompanied by the NUBC Chamber Ensemble, led by our own Paolo Bortolussi, flutist.

Admission is by donation.

Suggested donation is \$20.

Donations above \$20 will receive a tax receipt.

KNITTING 9 INCH SQUARES - A HANDS-ON PROJECT

The objective is to provide blankets for our neighbours in need by knitting (or crocheting) 9 inch squares which can be sewn together into beautiful blankets.

Here's what to do:

- knit (or crochet) 9 inch squares using whatever pattern and colours you want, but please use machine-washable wool or yarn
- Leave the completed squares in the basket beneath the mailboxes
- Leave any spare yarn that others can use in the other basket by the mailboxes
- If you do not know how to knit, ask someone to show you, go on-line, or borrow a book from the library. Perhaps someone would be willing to provide a lesson for beginners...
- Once enough squares have been collected to start putting them together, hold a sewing bee—each quilt will be 5 squares wide and 8 squares long so take 40 squares.



Why not ask family members, friends, fellow-students and colleagues to get involved? It is easy and relaxing to knit a square while chatting, listening to music, or enjoying some downtime—a great summer project! And gentlemen, remember that sailors, especially fishermen, traditionally knitted their own socks and sweaters—9 inch squares are far simpler and a great starting point...

We will hold regular “Tea and Bee” sessions so that the blankets will be ready before the cold weather sets in—again. Please join us—the more the merrier. Thank you!

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY TRAINING

Some of you may be aware that the Diocese requires all members of certain groups to be familiar with the Diocese of New Westminster’s Sexual Misconduct Policy. This requires renewal every 5 years. The training is approximately 2 hours long (including a short video).

Medium Risk Ministries are those ministries where duties and responsibilities that “permit few chances for a person to be alone with a child or vulnerable adult, or permit some access to moderate amounts of financial resources or confidential information. People in these ministries are in a position of authority and trust”.

High Risk Ministries are those that “permit opportunities for a person to be alone with a child or vulnerable adult or permit access to significant amounts of financial resources or sensitive and confidential information. These ministries are positions of authority or are positions that allow a person to establish long-term relationships of trust. All residential or off-site ministries with children or vulnerable adults are always ranked high risk”.

The following ministries have been ranked medium or high risk, and all members must complete this training: Pastoral Care Team; Church School Coordinator and Teachers; Property Committee; Christian Formation; Finance Committee; Counting Team; Neighbourhood Ministry; Stewardship; Envelope Secretary; Endowment Fund Board; Server instructor; Youth Leader; Music Director; Church Committee; Trustees; Wardens; Treasurer ; Outreach; Refugee Sponsorship.

If you belong to one (or more) of these groups, and have not completed the training in the last 5 years, please ensure that you attend one of the sessions.

We will be having 1 more session in May: May 23 (Totem Room) at 7 pm. We will have another session on September 17th at noon in the Fireside Room. RSVP to Beth in the office as to which date you plan on attending.

SENIORS CAFÉ – CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Seniors Café would benefit from having several more volunteers to help set up the Fireside Room and greet visitors. Come and share some laughter and great stories around the café tables. If you could contribute an hour or two on a Tuesday morning this spring, please contact Ann Kent at ann@catkinggardens.ca.

REFUGEE NEWS

There have been some recent positive developments in our refugee sponsorship process. The application to sponsor Lama and her four children, refugees from Syria now in a camp in Lebanon, has been approved by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). Apparently this means that the application itself was satisfactory, we are approved as sponsors, and the file will be sent to the Canadian Visa Office in Lebanon for further processing. This will include an interview of Lama and family and will take about ten months. The final decision as to whether Lama and her children can come to Canada rests with the Visa office, although we do not anticipate a problem.

The Refugee Fund has received a wonderful memorial donation of \$10,000 from the family of Howard Lear who wished to cover the sponsorship of Lama's parents, the grandparents of the family.

We have also received a wonderful pledge of support from St. Faith's Anglican Church. They have pledged \$5000 when our refugee family arrives and another \$5000 to help with the transition at the end of the one year sponsorship period.

Lama's parents asked if we could include their youngest son, Ward, who is 23 years old, and has a little work experience in construction. Lama, her children, her parents and Ward have been living together in the camp. With the recent donations, we feel confident that we can cover the costs of sponsoring him as well. The applications for Lama's parents, Nasriddin and Fatmeh, and Ward are essentially complete. We are awaiting permission from IRCC to submit them.

It is expected we will need to raise at least another \$15,000. If you wish to donate, please make cheques payable to St. Philip's and write "Refugee Fund" on the envelope as well as on the memo line. For more information please contact Mary Lymburner, 778-898-5117 or kmarylymburner@telus.net

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

After picking up packets, fruit, and sandwiches from Irene at St. Helen's (thanks, Irene) I met Peg and Viona (a med student from our mobile care unit) at McBride Park. We went to Mark's camp on Jericho. M was not there so we stashed packets and food under his tarp. We had a new 3 inch foam mattress pad which Peg and Viona hid under his tarp. Just then M arrived. He had been to the washroom. Delighted to see us, he remade his whole camp using the new mattress. Viona had a great conversation with M dealing with his health and how much he has improved. From there we went to No Frills where we met C, R, and T. They gladly accepted our packets, fruit, and sandwiches. C took our remaining mattress pad and packed it up on his bike. We had lots of laughs and good time standing in the sun with these three. In front of London Drug was S, who accepted what provisions he needed from our offerings. Viona had an appreciated chat with S regarding his health. S was in and exceptionally good state. At whole foods we met R who was enthusiastic and glad to have our gifts and more importantly, our conversations. On the corner was P, the MegaPhone salesman, who was his usual cheerful self. At Broadway and Vine were D and R. One more of our family was under his sleeping bag on the corner of Broadway. Waking him up, we plied him with sandwiches and packets. It was so good to have Viona with us, and Peg has such a compassionate feel for this ministry. Thank you both. And thanks to everyone for their prayers and support. Don

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday May 24, 2017 Trendell Lounge, St. John's Shaughnessy Parish 1410 Nanton Street, Vancouver (corner Granville & Nanton) 7pm-9pm Light refreshments provided.

ST. FAITH'S ANNUAL BOULEVARD SALE

On Saturday, June 3, 2017 from 10 am to 1:00 pm, St. Faith's will be having their annual boulevard sale. This event is a fan favourite in our community. There are delicious baked goods, preserves, bedding plants and books, books, and more books for sale. The Church will be beautifully adorned with quilts made by the Pumpkin Seeds Quilters. Come out for a hot dog and some ice cream. Buy a ticket for the raffle for great prizes. Tickets Only \$2.00 each.

Draw date: Sat, June 3, 2017 1:00pm. All funds raised go to the St. Faith's Outreach Fund which supports local and global caring ministries. St. Faith's is located at 7284 Cypress St (W. 57th near W. Blvd).

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY NEWS



I am very pleased to share with you that the Neighbourhood Ministry has been selected as a Care+Share recipient in the Diocese of New Westminster for 2018/2019. As a recipient, we will receive half of the funding that is collected Diocesan-wide through designated Care+Share giving. Diocesan Council noted "the impressive track-record of this ministry of fruitful collaboration with community, parish and governmental partners. the articulation of the vision and the plan forward are exemplary". Funding received will be used to continue our work, particularly with respect to expanding the Mobile Care Unit concept and collaborating with other Westside outreach service.

In addition, Diocesan Council has designated the Neighbourhood Ministry a "Related Group", which means the NM now has Diocesan wide standing while still being operated independently by the four churches.

In other news, we have received a donation of \$1000 from the Diocesan ACW in recognition of our work. We have also received formal notice from Services Canada of funding for two summer students. We have confirmed Benita Yi as one of these students. Benita has been serving as a Social Work practicum student with the Mobile Care Unit this past year and will continue with this work, as well as assist with Neighbourhood Ministry program communications. We are in the process of hiring a second student.

So very much to be thankful for. I appreciate your sharing this news with your parishes.

Blessings,
Pitman

