

Thoughts for the Week

Five hundred years ago Martin Luther attached statements to the door of the Church in Wittenburg to promote debate about the nature of the Church. In retrospect, this event marks a beginning of a Reformation in Western Europe. From our perspective, we see the emergence of new cities, new economies, and new systems of government. The cost included social upheaval, peasant revolts, and war.

Our age too shows signs of rapid change and social upheaval. As Christians, we recall our baptismal vows and the call to respect the dignity of all humanity. Help us to remain grounded in our faith even as we seek to play our role in building institutions of peace.

The Ven. Dr. John Bailey

DATES TO NOTE

Tues. May 23	Senior's Café, 10:00 am, Fireside Room
Tues. May 23	Sexual Misconduct Policy Training Workshop, 7:00 pm, Totem Room
Sun. May 28	Kindertotenlieder Concert, 4:00 pm, Church
Sat. Jun. 3	Horticultural Therapy, 9:00 am, Totem Room
Sun. Jun. 4	Clare's Benefit Concert, 2:00 pm, Church
Mon. Jun. 5	Jones' Girls, noon, 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.



KINDERTOTENLIEDER 1904, DOROTHY CHANG'S BAGATELLES 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.

REFUGEE NEWS

The application to sponsor Lama and her four children, refugees from Syria now in a camp in Lebanon, is being processed at the Canadian Visa Office in Lebanon. This will likely take several more months. We are still awaiting permission from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada to submit the applications for Lama's parents, Nasriddin and Fatmeh, and younger brother, Ward. It is expected we will need about 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

PARISH POST

The next parish Post will be published at the end of June. In order to meet the deadline, all articles must be submitted prior to June 22nd. This deadline is firm. Please attach any photographs or pictures in a jpeg format if you would like them included in your article.



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).

CAMP ARTABAN

Registration for Camp Artaban is open and places are available in all the camps. We believe that every child should have the opportunity to experience summer camp. At Camp Artaban, we have campership bursaries to enable those who can't afford the full fees to still attend. If you know of a child or family would benefit from Camp, please contact the Camp office for more information or to begin the application process or have the family contact us directly.

If you would like to support the campership program, we accept donations which are earmarked just for that purpose. You can donate through the Camp office or securely online at <http://campartaban.com/make-a-donation>.

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.

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!

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.

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

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 in September 17th at noon in the Fireside Room. RSVP to Beth in the office as to which date you plan on attending.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

For those who are involved in the Neighbourhood Ministry or would just like to learn more about it, the Neighbourhood Ministry AGM will be on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at the Trendell Lounge, St. John's Shaughnessy Parish, located at 1410 Nanton Street, Vancouver (corner Granville & Nanton) 7pm-9pm. Light refreshments provided.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

Don Lamb met team 3 at St Philip's this morning and set us off with a bounty of items contributed together with St John's: dozen packets, a flat of water bottles, bananas, oranges, a bag of extra socks, another of golf shirts, a fleece jacket and a rain shell, hmmm, was there more? Weather, spotty clouds, rain, sun, bit of a chill in the air. There, the scene is set.

Carol, Sue, Lindsey and I set off, first looping toward Dunbar to check the Shoppers, no one there. Shortly after we realized several packets had an item leaking inside the bag. With some sorting we realized it the fruit cups were the culprit - their tin tops seemed easily punctured. So, some quick sorting, discarding of some of the affected contents, and cleaning up (best we could), we were again on our way.

At 4th & Highbury we saw C, B, R and D (both new to us), another fellow who's name we didn't get, and just before we left M arrived. All got packets and fruit. Everyone seemed a little somber. They were all very appreciative, and happy to chat with us, but this winter has been extremely difficult on all of them. They are all eager for a change in the weather.

C says he was hit by a car. He said he saw a doctor, who prescribed him Tylenol, but he wasn't walking well. He also is needing a waterproof coat as he is struggling to stay dry.

R and D seemed to be mates. R would be mid to late 50s, slight build, 5'8", full beard with lots of grey. D is a little younger, similar height, somewhat less slight build, and more fair colouring. Both very nice, happy to talk and very appreciative to have our offerings. D's cart was stolen recently and he lost everything. He is slowly working to replace everything but desperately needing and extra blanket and pair of size 9 shoes (running shoe). They are also looking for another rice cooker, which they'd had a routine (before stolen) to plug in somewhere at night and warm some things for dinner. We talked to him about housing (he does have an application and apparently talked to Vicki about this). We also chatted with R a bit. He gratefully accepted a few pieces of warm clothing - a fleece jacket and windbreaker. They fit him to a tee.

B looked relatively good today and said he was feeling well. It sounds like he has a good doctor who is helping him through his issues.

We gave another package to a fellow inside the mall parkade on a bike and with carts. He didn't speak to us, and apparently doesn't speak much, but was grateful for the packet.

M arrived just as we were about to leave. He was not in a good place, said his bike was just stolen last night off of a bus – someone took it at a stop while he was on the bus. He was disgusted and quite angered that someone would do that to him in his current state. He was concerned how he was going to get around, and to the income assistance office. He thanked us for the package.

We carried on up 4th Ave to Shoppers where was a gentleman sleeping outside. He did not rouse when we approached, so we left the packet and carried on.

At Burrard we looped up to Broadway and worked our way west. At London Drugs we caught sight of a young man and a bike and cart. By the time we parked and crossed the street, he was not there (we think he went into the store) but we left a packet with his belongings. So we're not sure who he was.

Further along Broadway at the Safeway was another fellow we didn't know. And he had a large bag of cigarette butts (hundreds of them) that he was busily working to recover leftover tobacco (we think was his goal). He gratefully accepted the package but seemed reluctant to talk. We didn't push. Someone to keep a look out for, as we wonder if he might relax a bit if he becomes more familiar with us. Mid-fifties to early sixties, white, frail, short hair, clean shaven, ball cap, receding chin (like he might not have teeth), nervous. We carried on and returned to Jericho beach to check on M. He was there beneath his tree by the works yard parking lot. He was quite cheery and sat up and chatted with us. He also took a golf shirt and some extra socks. We mentioned to him the belongings still in the doorway of the Hostel where he used to be. He says that there is another fellow camping there although he may have gone to jail. M says that he does expect he will return for his belongings though. Someone to keep a look out for.

At the substation/pumping station, we looked for A. However it looks like the city again has construction work pending for the building, as the space was again cordoned off – and no A. We carried around to the Locarno concession stand and he wasn't there either. Also, no M in the area today. The beach area was particularly busy today already with lots of people about and a charity dog walk going on.

We next carried on up to the United church to see B. He was there but greeted us with a no thank you, don't need anything (and seemed quite convicted), so we wished him well and left.

Lastly, we saw A on 10th Ave. We stopped to offer him our last packet, however, he said he didn't feel well - bit of a stomach ache and a head ache - and so he declined.

Last stop was back to St Philip's, where (Don) we put a couple unused sandwiches and fruit into the fridge, rinsed off the sticky bags and unused sticky contents, and returned then and other unused items onto the stage, there for you to find.

o.b.o. team 3, Dale and Lindsey.

