

Celebrant: The Rev'd. Canon Dr. Harold Munn

Preacher: The Rev'd. Dr. Eileen Scully

The priest in charge would like to say a warm thank you to all members of the congregation who gave their time and skills to make possible the wonderful Christmas services. There were nearly 450 people attending those services. A special thank you to all the staff, each of whom contributed their special skills and commitment. Thanks to Beth who kept everything organized and arranged and printed 650 leaflets for seven separate services and packed most of the 100 small gifts for the children's service. We'll done, everyone!



DATES TO NOTE

Sun. Jan. 7	Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am, Fireside Room
Mon. Jan. 8	Jones Girls, noon, Fireside Room
Mon. Jan 15	Outreach Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, Upstairs Meeting Room
Tues. Jan 16	Church Committee, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room
Wed. Jan. 17	Sacred Sanctuaries Presentation, 7 pm, Fireside Room
Thurs. Jan. 18	Annual Reports due for Vestry

The Rev'd Dr. Eileen Scully was a cradle Anglican who left our church as an adolescent, had ecumenical adventures, began studying theology, eventually came back to the Anglican church, and has never stopped studying-learning. She has worked in ecumenism and teaching theology, and, now, at the General Synod, pays attention to matters of faith, worship, and ministry of concern to our church at the national level. She was ordained to the priesthood in 2010, and thinks a lot about the relationships amongst baptismal and ordained ministries. It's not often a parish gets a chance to meet a senior national church officer - join Eileen for an "Everything you always wanted to ask about the Anglican Church but were afraid to ask" session in the Fireside room during coffee after the 10.00 a.m. service this Sunday.

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.

REFUGEE NEWS- MOST IMMEDIATE NEED IS FOR STORAGE SPACE

Lama and her children have had their medical examinations and interviews with the Canadian Visa Office in Beirut, and are awaiting the Visa Office's decision as to whether they will be accepted to come to Canada. We have had offers of furniture from a couple of households who are moving. It would be good to be able to accept this furniture for the use of our refugee family when they arrive, but we have no storage space. So if anyone has storage space to offer, that would be very useful. Please contact Mary Lymburner at 778-898-5117 or kmarylymburner@telus.net.

Brenda Harrison is setting up a registry of furniture and household/personal effects that you might be able to contribute. If you are not moving, we request that you hold on to these items until they are needed. Please contact Brenda with a list of what you can contribute along with your contact information at brendaharrison@shaw.ca or leave a note in the "H" slot outside the Totem Room.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The deadline for annual reports is Thursday, January 18th. Please submit your committee reports to the office no later than noon, so that Beth may begin compiling the report. This deadline is firm. Thank you.



FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

We are happy to report that donations from Identified Givers, the backbone of our budget, are doing well to the end of November. However, some long time parishioners are no longer with us and this has reduced the number of contributions. Although we started the year with a significant budget deficit, we are on track to be able to balance the budget by year end if pledged giving is at least maintained. The deficit has been reduced due to a combination of: controls on spending, increased rental revenue, and a generous donation from a parish family. Thank you for your support of St. Philip's throughout 2017 and please continue to meet your pledge to the end of the year.

HELP FINDING A LOCAL RENTAL HOME FOR OUR RECTORY TENANT

Do you know of a home rental opportunity? After 8 years renting our rectory, our tenant will be seeking new accommodations in this neighbourhood - ideally West of Granville. Occupation would start April 1, 2018. If you know of an opportunity with 4 bedrooms, please pass the information onto Beth via manager@stpdonbar.com. Note: that they do not have any pets.

ST. JUDE'S ANGLICAN HOME FUNDRAISER

St. Jude's Anglican Home is putting on a fundraiser to raise funds to refurbish their bathrooms by putting on a play at the Metro Theatre located at 1370 S.W. Marine Drive on Wednesday, February 7th. The performance of "Murder by the Book" by Duncan Greenwood and Robert King begins at 8 pm, but there will be a silent auction and light refreshments at 7 pm. The tickets are \$50 each, but a \$25 tax receipt is available upon request per ticket. Beth Vondette has 8 tickets available for purchase in the office.

ARE YOU READY FOR TOMORROW'S DECISIONS? – *Conversations about Advance Care Planning to increase your comfort in discussing ACP with family and health-care providers.* Join us Sunday February 4th, 2018 beginning with a light lunch at 12:15, session from 1-3pm at Dunbar Ryerson United Church 2195 West 45th Ave. Preregistration required: swg.vancouver@gmail.com or 604-731-6307

SACRED SANCTUARIES: DELPHI TO JERUSALEM

On Wednesday, Jan. 17th @ 7pm, at St. Philip's Church (located at 3737 West 27th Avenue), Derek Simpkins will be offering a lecture and slide presentation on "Sacred Sanctuaries: Delphi to Jerusalem". Both he and Linda, together with Jocelyn Gardner, recently completed a voyage around the Eastern Mediterranean, where they were able to visit some outstanding "sacred sanctuaries".

In addition to his lecture on Jan. 17th, Derek and Linda will introduce their new book, "Jerusalem the Golden".



NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

Team 1 set out on Saturday under clear, cold skies, loaded down with packets, fresh sandwiches and eggs, and many warm blankets, leather jackets and rain coats offered by St. Helen's. Thanks to Elinor for all of these goodies, and to Pitman for sending us off with a prayer. With us today were Heather, Peg, Ellie and Vicki.

We started with a visit to B up at the United Church. He was deep in his sleeping bag, but did poke his head out to accept a packet and another warm blanket. Next we went to the 4th and Highbury fence, where T, R and B stood chatting. All were in good spirits. T was very happy to accept a new coat, as the zipper on his old one had broken. R reported that he had now been at the Gathering Place shelter for 2 full months - the longest he had not slept outside in a long time. B has recovered from his Christmas flu. We didn't see M, but B said he was nearby and took a packet for him too.

We ventured down 4th Avenue and found T out front of Whole Foods. He was happy for a packet and food. There were signs of several camps along the south side of the street, but nobody home. No sign of C or R, but Heather still sees them throughout the week.

We looped up to Granville Street. Evidence of S and G, but no signs of them. We left packets and food. Headed up Broadway. We saw T near a bus stop, but when we approached, he was nowhere to be found. No sign of S anywhere. On Broadway near Safeway, we found J. He is sleeping in a nearby ally and said he had enough blankets, but was happy for some food. Finally, we found S and dog Betsy, and as usual S was very chatty. He has a warm sleeping bag and a tent, in the woods at Jericho.

The recent cold, wet weather has likely been very hard on our homeless friends, so please keep them in your prayers.

Another great day out with my friends on Team 1!

Respectfully submitted by Vicki