



# ST. PHILIP'S POST

*DUNBAR'S ANGLICAN COMMUNITY*

JUNE 2016

## WELCOME TO THE VENERABLE JOHN BAILEY



Photo: Adele Wonnick

With the departure of 'John S', the Canonical Committee had the daunting task of finding an Interim Priest-in-Charge fairly quickly. We were therefore very relieved to receive the candidacy of 'John B' as it quickly became apparent he was just who we were looking for to help us through the transition period while we search for a new Rector.

John grew up in West Point Grey and attended Queen Mary Elementary School and Lord Byng Secondary School and sang in the choir at Christ Church Cathedral. He comes to St. Philip's with many years' experience of parish life – most recently he was Rector of Holy Trinity Cathedral, New Westminster, the original cathedral of the diocese of New Westminster; he was also Archdeacon of Westminster, the geographic region on the north side of the Fraser River from Burnaby to Whonnock. John has a Doctor of Ministry degree with a thesis focused on changing understandings of death and the impact on Anglican Funeral rites in the twentieth century.

John's first Sunday with St. Philip's was May 1st and he has quickly become part of the ministry team with Marilyn and Clare.

John and his wife Brenda have three adult children and live in Coquitlam with their Bichon Frise, Sophie. They enjoy gardening, cross-country skiing and exploring the bike paths in the Lower Mainland and at Whistler.

We are delighted to welcome John to St. Philip's and appreciate the gifts and wisdom he brings to the role of Interim Priest-in-Charge.

*Sarah Burns, Assistant Warden*

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Photo: Ann Kent

## FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

*The Venerable Dr. John Bailey*

It is 'D' Day as I sit to write my first article for the POST. Today marks the beginning of the end of a European wise fascist regime responsible for the death of millions of people, most dying because they happened to be born Jewish. The full significance of these events unfolded over the succeeding year. This year in Canada, perhaps by chance, also marks the day when the Supreme Court of Canada ruling with respect to assisted death goes into effect because Canadian law makers failed in their effort to write a new law to satisfy the orders of the Court.

Five hundred years ago death was a very public matter. For most life was painfully short. I think of the capital at the top of one of the pillars holding up the walls of Wells Cathedral. The stone carver shows us a scene of a man with a toothache (perhaps the carver himself) holding his hand to a very swollen face. Pain was accepted as a normal part of human life. And scenes of death tell us that everyone gathered at the death bed of a member of the community. While women prepared bodies for burial men dug the grave. All joined in the procession from place of death to place of burial. They surrounded the whole process with prayer and song. And they consumed cakes and liquid refreshment. Fear of death was beginning to shift from an emphasis on a Day of Judgement at some point in the future to a new emphasis on moment of death and death bed confessions.

Jump forward four hundred years and the very public nature of death has become a private matter. Immediate families gather around the bed of the dying person. The parlour, once the public room of a large private house, is eliminated from house design by the time of the First World War. Susan Sontag, in her book on the *Metaphor of Illnesses*, examines the sorts of painful death people fear. Pain is now focussed on the physical body not a fear of the afterlife. New institutions emerge, the funeral parlour and hospitals among others, designed to hide the reality of death from the public eye. Privatization allows many of us to avoid looking at the reality of death for decades.

Where once it was normal, now it becomes abnormal, something to be managed and controlled even if we have not yet found a way to conquer death.

Christians have a vested interest in these matters. Death lies at the heart of our understanding of life. The cross speaks to both the painful reality of the human condition and to the foundations of our Hope in a God we believe loves us. The way in which we approach death speaks volumes about the way in which we live our lives.

The current debates in Canada, as well as other parts of our Global family, are helpful in that they are bringing discussion of a taboo subject out into the open. There is evidence to suggest that experience of war in Europe a hundred years ago and then again seventy years ago, caused a generation to avoid talking about death. They felt they had seen enough pain to last a life. Now, as Baby Boomers face their own end, the veil is beginning to lift. We need to find ways to talk openly about death and to consider both the implications for ourselves and our society. For death is more than a private matter. As individuals baptized into the death of Jesus we are called to acknowledge both the pain of letting go and the grace set free to transform the world in and through death. Let us play our role in building a world grounded in the love set free in the Cross of Christ.

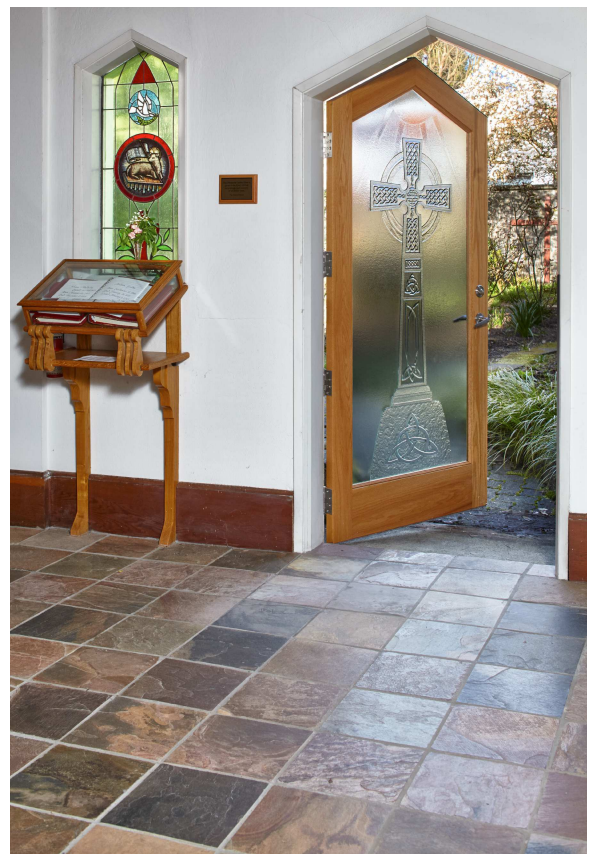


Photo: Martin Knowles

## POP-UPS--A CREATIVE APPROACH TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*Marilyn Hames*

Ever noticed that ideas and questions about faith just pop up out of the blue--maybe following a conversation, a news item, national debate or something said in a sermon? Often others are quietly wrestling with or wondering about the same things, but their 'shelf life' is short--in other words their relevance or our interest sometimes seems to diminish quickly over time.

Or have you ever been intrigued by a workshop or Spiritual Formation series that we offer at St. Philip's, but you just could not fit it in to your schedule, or missed it for some other reason? Maybe you were away when it was advertised, or 101 other reasons.

On the other side of the coin, the Christian Education Committee is having to plan so far in advance in order to book the rooms, organize speakers, send out the advertising and all the other details, that having not found that magic crystal ball, we cannot anticipate those topics that come to the fore in the natural course of life.

The answer? Pop-up events. We have a lot of talent in our parish, a lot of 'experts' on many topics--you being one! Starting in the Fall, if not before, we are going to experiment with this more spontaneous approach to capture the energy around 'topical' topics, but you will have to be on your toes... Look out for the notices and emails, check our website and listen to announcements...

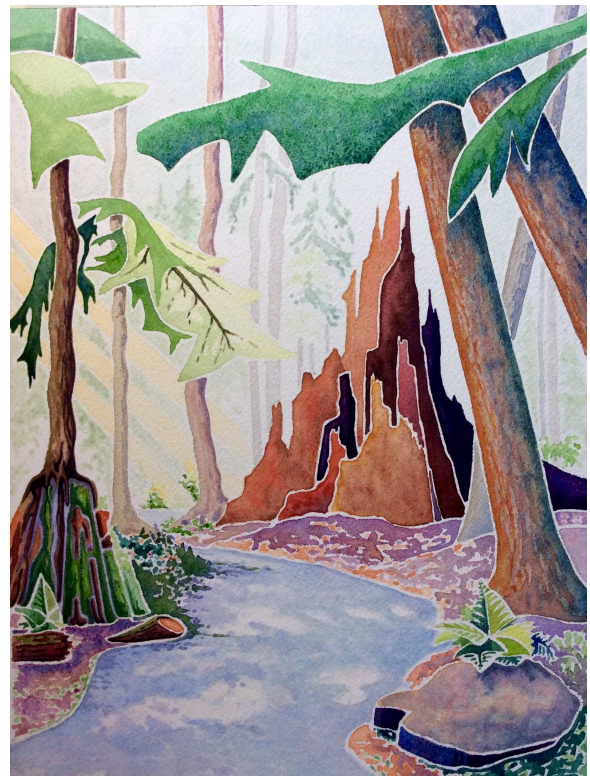
What kind of topics are we talking about? Everything from:

- A mini Bible-study on a troublesome or intriguing reading
- An ethical issue raised by a news story
- How to knit squares to create blankets for people in need of some 'warmth' eg refugees
- Banner-making for special liturgical events and seasons
- Creating your own labyrinth design from the shape of your personal spiritual journey.

Yes, there will still be more structured Christian Formation series and events such as our Parish Retreat at Rivendell in October, and a new modular format for those wishing to explore their faith further and possibly affirm it in a year or two-years' time through Baptism, Confirmation and/or Reaffirmation. See the separate articles about these. We will see you there! God bless.

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## RECOGNIZE THIS PLACE?



Marilyn Hames # 1

In this issue there are three local scenes, painted by Marilyn. For everyone submitting a guess at all three locations (via her church email: [mhames@stp.dunbar.com](mailto:mhames@stp.dunbar.com), voicemail (604 224 3238 local 205, or the office) she will organize a mystery "summertime stroll" to visit one or two of the locations, with a prize for the first to spot the exact scene.

## FROM YOUR CURATE

*Clare Morgan*

After many months of nail-biting I finally received a date for ordination, and by the time you read this I will have been ordained a priest in the Diocese of New Westminster. Although my official journey of discernment began in Advent 2013, my unofficial discernment has been a decade of soul-searching which led me up to this moment.

I could not have done any of this without my St. Philip's family. I cannot tell you how incredibly grateful I am for all of your support, prayers, and love. I also owe deepest thanks to John Stephens, John Bailey, and Marilyn Hames for being strong and passionate advocates and mentors for my ministry, and for Michael, Anne, and Christine in the office for being the most fun staff team ever. Team ministry is a joy to me, one I unfortunately cannot hope for once I strike out on my own this time next year, so I plan to enjoy my remaining time at St. Philip's as much as possible.

Since the last Parish Post I have had the pleasure of journeying through St. Philip's Holy Week, a joyful if tearful send-off of our beloved John Stephens, a warm welcome of our new interim priest John Bailey, an inspiring Mission and Leadership Conference, a profound Diocesan indigenous justice circle, and a wild youth room painting party!

My latest project is a brand new service at St. Philip's which we're calling Alt Vespers, which will meet weekly on Wednesdays at 8.00pm. It was developed for those seeking a contemplative, casual, and creative atmosphere in which to encounter God. It incorporates simple contemporary music, silence, group wondering around the Scripture readings, and is almost entirely paperless! We had our first one on June 8th and I found it moving and meditative. It is the perfect way to end a Wednesday. We do hope you'll come and check it out! During the summer months we will be meeting outside in the courtyard by the office stairs. You can learn more at [altvespers.wordpress.com](http://altvespers.wordpress.com). We are also on Facebook and Instagram!

Ongoing Diocesan projects I am involved with include a Confirmation working group, Diocesan indigenous justice circles, and music and worship at Sorrento the week of July 17th, where I will be joined by Kevin Zakresky, music director at St. Helen's.

It's going to be a great year! I am so happy I get to spend it with all of you.



Photo: Adele Wonnick

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## REFUGEE UPDATE

*Mary Lymburner, 778-898-5117 or [kmarylymburner@telus.net](mailto:kmarylymburner@telus.net)*

Just before Easter, the Diocesan Refugee Unit, in discussion with St. Mary the Virgin Chaldean Church (mainly Iraqi Christians worshipping in the Anglican Church of the Epiphany in Surrey), identified a refugee family for St. Philip's to sponsor to come to Canada. They are the Zirak family, consisting of parents Yousif and Shamira, their five children ages 16, 15, 10, 5 and 4 and an 18 year old nephew. This is a family of Iraqi Christians who left their home and small business and fled into Turkey in response to conflict in their homeland. The estimated cost of supporting this family for one year is \$40,000 as the Chaldean Church have been given the use of a townhouse for them for one year and will also provide some of the start-up supplies.

Thanks to parishioners' generous response we now have almost \$24,000 in our Refugee Fund. We have committed to the sponsorship, and are now awaiting clearance from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada to submit the application. To reach our final goal, further donations will be gratefully received. Cheques can be made payable to St. Philip's with Refugee Fund marked on the envelope, not just on the memo line.

## AFFIRMING YOUR FAITH AND DOING IT YOUR WAY

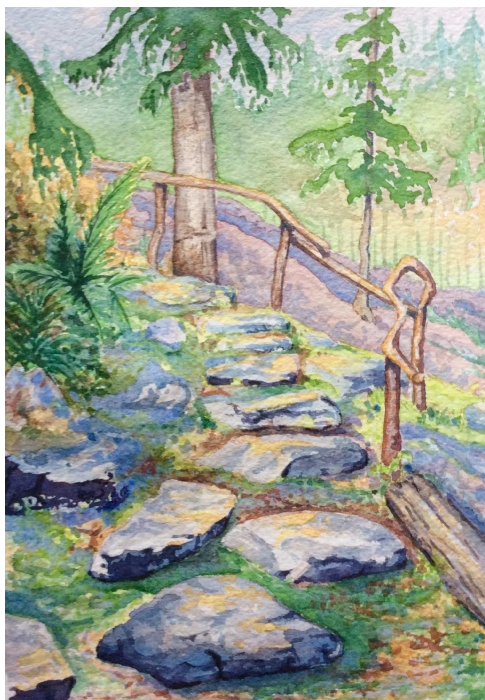
*Marilyn and Suretha, John and Clare.*

For years, St. Philip's has offered one of the best programmes in the Diocese to help folk explore and affirm their faith through Baptism, Confirmation, Reaffirmation and/or Reception. Depending on our backgrounds, these all describe the profound act of publicly affirming the Christian faith, then drawing from the support of God and the community in 'keeping the faith'.

Starting this Fall, we shall be approaching the topics listed below on a modular basis, so that you can cover the material in a more relaxed fashion, spreading the full course over 6-18 months. This will allow a lot more time for discussion and enjoying opportunities to explore and grow in faith in the fellowship of others—perhaps forming new friends or getting to know folk better. You can start where you like, do as few or many of the modules as you want, and with the guidance of one of our clergy design your own path towards affirming your faith, or simply expanding your current knowledge and experience of Christianity in greater breadth and depth.

Different times and formats will be available, including: morning, afternoon or evening sessions, the parish retreat and mini-retreats, home-viewing or book-studies, hands-on experiences with different prayer and meditation styles, involvement in special worship services, and field-trips. Here are the main topics, but there will be others designed to meet popular interests and needs:

- The basis of our faith and how our baptismal promises help us grow as Christians
- The history of Christianity and development Anglicanism (video tapes also available)
- How we worship God through liturgy, and what we think, say and do in our daily lives
- The spiritual life, including different ways to be aware of God's presence through prayer, nature, beauty, silence, and taking "time out", in other words, to celebrate Sabbath time
- Brief introduction to the Bible and other inspirational books that can feed our faith
- The creative spirit—discovering God's Holy Spirit in creation and your own creativity.
- Discipleship—it's commitments and responsibilities as opportunities to serve and grow, with a chance to assess what form of service feeds your soul as well as the need of others.



Marilyn Hames # 2

You may have covered some of the materials before, or something similar, so after discussing it with your clergy mentor you may decide to 'tick that box' and move on, or quickly review the topic.

We encourage you to sample as many of the worship and devotional experiences as you can, not only Sunday and Wednesday morning Eucharist, but Evensong, mid-week Vespers, the Parish Retreat or one of our Quiet Times, also any events or volunteer work through which you may discover your route to deeper faith. We are hoping to organize a Parish Mission with a guest leader either in Holy Week or Lent 2017, and that could help draw many strands of this together.

Over the summer, why not start keeping a journal or scrapbook of your questions, thoughts, photos of special places that feel holy, inspirational quotations and prayers, articles that spark a faith response? This is about your spiritual journey and the way you want to approach it, but remember, we are all journeying together, all companions in Christ and all cheering you on.

## JOHN STEPHENS TIME WITH US

*Jane Dunlop*

It was 2001 and at that time, as Charlotte French is now, I was Bishop's Warden and chair of the Canonical Committee, as we searched for a new Rector for St. Philip's. (Incidentally we also needed to find both a new temporary Organist as Susan Ohannesian was temporarily at St. Mary's Kerrisdale, and a new caretaker, and also bring help to our Outreach committee which was stoically being maintained by two people, Betty Edwardson and Helen Weatherall.)



Photo: Derek Simpkins

With the invaluable help of Derek Simpkins, who was People's Warden and the wonderfully supportive Canonical Committee of that time, including Anne Anthony, Moira Bryans, Jocelyn Gardner, Sally Haugan, Don Lamb, Jock Munro, Donna Parnell, Sheila Roberts and youth member Beth Vondette, we compiled a new parish profile for the Bishop and his Advisory Committee and started the process of looking for our new rector. Various members of the canonical committee reached out within and without our Diocese for good candidates to persuade them to apply and as a result of this one successful candidate was persuaded! Bishop Michael Ingham and his Advisory Committee selected from the applicants the candidates they thought would fit our parish and gave us the list; now work began in earnest.

Derek and I met each candidate, and toured them around the church. I remember hearing many compliments about the art, the windows, and the new hanging in the Chapel. Each time, this was followed by members of the Canonical Committee hosting a dinner party, where we all met with the candidate and their spouse. We plied them with questions about their faith journey, where they had trained, their spiritual practices, their families and why they wanted to join our congregation, and generally tried to get know them. From a questionnaire we had circulated we knew the congregation wanted someone with a young family.

It took us just six months to make our selection. As you know we selected John Stephens and Ruth, with Sarah and Matthew. I remember being told that if our selected candidate declined the offer to be our Rector we would have to start the whole process again from the start. Horrors! What a relief when John accepted, with his wonderful sense of humour, which was very evident at the next Vestry meeting of the community when I was stepping down from being Rector's warden, and I remarked to all present, that I had been convinced he would be mad to come to us when we invited him due to our being a rather distressed parish at that time. He roared with laughter as did everyone else present! Oops!

With Derek's help we also found Michael to be our very talented organist and David Anderson as our very caring caretaker. What a Triumvirate. I am so happy we still have Michael Murray with us.

Thus started a new life at St. Philip's, a Rector whose humour and laughter embraced and welcomed us all, leading us to create our sanctuary nursery, to nurture the children's involvement in worship, to improve our welcome to new-comers, to pray more spontaneously, to discuss without embarrassment our faith concerns, and, with John leading the way, to become more involved in our local community, and those in the preschools downstairs. He was always so approachable, sitting in his new office site at the top of the stairs, with almost always the door open for us to find him. I expect you can all add to this list of the results of his presence with us. He is not far away but he is not here anymore and I miss him.

My prayers and thoughts are with our present Canonical Committee as they select our next Rector. That person will have big shoes to fill.

## CANONICAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

*Charlotte French*

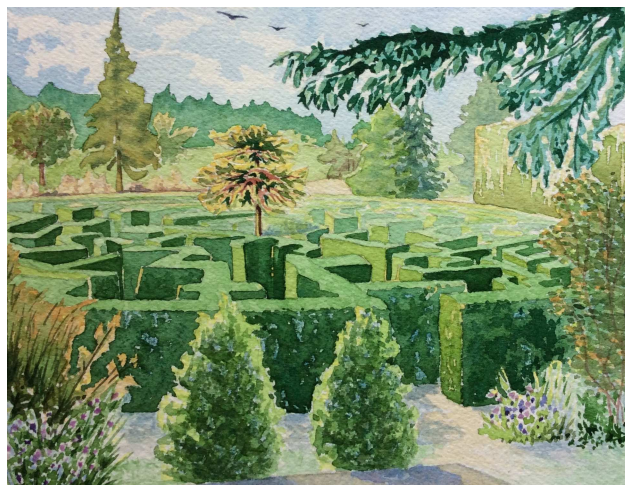
In the last Parish POST I provided an overview of the phases and minimum timelines for the Canonical Process. The members of the Canonical Committee are now underway with the second big task, creating the Parish Profile.

What is the purpose of the Parish Profile? The Parish Profile is not only how the position of Rector is posted it also tells potential candidates about St. Philip's as a parish. Through reading the Profile potential candidates know if they might be a good fit with the community of St. Philip's and through the process of writing it we get to know who would be a good fit for us. It will include information about our history, our current ministries, our buildings, the demographics of the parish and our neighbourhood, and the qualities we are looking for in a future Rector.

Pulling together the material for the profile is an opportunity to really look at ourselves, discern what we are about - our priorities, strengths, areas of focus - and look to the future in terms of how the Parish wants to develop.

The Committee is in the information gathering and discernment phase at the moment. The visioning process has helped tremendously. In addition, committee members have been gathering information from various committees, photos from many sources, and other material needed for the profile.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed their time thus far and for those who will be working quietly over the summer to continue the work.



Marilyn Hames # 3

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## VISIONING 2025

*Charlotte French*

The Parish Visioning project began as a 90th anniversary project with the goal of starting a 10 year plan for the 100th anniversary of St. Philip's.

The first Parish Visioning event in November 2015 was very successful. Opened by the Rev. Dr. Herbert O'Driscoll it was followed by sessions where many parishioners contributed their ideas and dreams for the parish. With the announcement of John Stephen's departure, plans for the spring were adjusted and a parish questionnaire was distributed to gather input for both the visioning and canonical processes.

The second successful Parish Visioning event was held the first week of June. This time the group was led by Diana Ellis and worked toward a new parish mission statement and five overarching goals to set the direction of the Parish. Diana will be working with the Church Committee and the Visioning Committee to finalize the mission and goal statements after which they will be forwarded to the various parish committees and groups to add more specific objectives and tasks.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the process and provided their thoughts, insights and dreams.

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## 20/20

Continuing each Sunday and throughout the summer, pick up your tea or coffee and join friends in the 20/20 meeting - a twenty minute discussion on any question or topic prompted by the readings, sermon or words in the hymns perhaps. We keep it strictly to 20 minutes, although, topics are so through provoking that you may be lured into lingering!

## SENIORS CAFÉ – DUNBAR: A NEW COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

*Ann Kent, coordinator*

Seniors Café offers seniors who live in the Dunbar area a consistent, year-round social program that provides free and accessible opportunities for connection and companionship. The Café is hosted by St. Philip's Church with the assistance of two community partners, the Dunbar Residents Association and the Dunbar Community Centre Association. Funding for the project during 2016 is provided by the federal government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP).

Seniors Café takes place every other Tuesday morning, from 10:00 to Noon, in the Fireside Room at St. Philip's Church, 3737 West 27th Avenue. Everyone is welcome. The church is wheel chair accessible via the east entry door adjacent the passenger drop-off zone.

The Café offers a series of bi-weekly events with each session offering a short talk or presentation followed by social activities, or a short workshop on a theme chosen by participants. Regulars at spring sessions say that having lots of time for friendly conversation, refreshments, and informal social activities is what draws them to the Café.

In the spring of 2014, several of the seniors now involved with the Seniors Café attended a seniors' forum and tea at St. Philip's organized by the Dunbar Residents Association. About a dozen community agencies were represented at this event.

Among concerns raised that day was a lack of consistent and continuing social programs for older residents in the Dunbar area to which they had easy access, either by walking or a short transit ride. Unlike many other residential areas of Vancouver, Dunbar does not have a dedicated, local seniors' community centre or friendship centre.

To receive funding from the NHSP, St Philip's and its community partners needed to commit to a project that promotes volunteerism among seniors and other generations, engages seniors in the community through the mentoring of others, and supports social participation and inclusion of seniors.

St. Philip's has a long history of outreach in the Dunbar community. The church offered to provide the space to hold an ongoing program. Seniors from the parish and from the Dunbar community assist with Café events and promotion of the Cafe.

On Tuesday, April 12, Seniors Café was launched with a friendly gathering of volunteers, partners, and local seniors. After a short planning meeting we enjoyed planting seeds and making up some patio herb pots to take home.

Two weeks later, on May 26, we welcomed local resident and retired BC Hydro bus driver, Angus McIntyre, who gave a fascinating presentation on the history of Vancouver as seen through his 40 years as a bus driver. This was followed by a lively hour of coffee and conversation as people shared their own stories about riding the streets of Vancouver.

Come join us on a Tuesday morning to share wisdom and friendship through talks, workshops, and social activities. For details about bi-weekly events, check out the Café's public Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/seniorscafe.st.philips.dunbar](http://www.facebook.com/seniorscafe.st.philips.dunbar).



Photo: Ann Kent



## CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

*Clare Morgan*

We have had another wonderful year of prayer, play, and partying! Thank you SO MUCH to all those who give of their time, talent, and treasure to this important ministry at St. Philip's, including our parent volunteers and teachers in our preschool and Godly Play programs. If you are interested in becoming a Church School teacher or helping us out with the children and youth programming, please speak to Clare or Dorothy!

### **Our Youth Room**

On June 4th eight of our youth arrived in their grubbiest to tackle two walls of the youth room with paint!

Before our party, we had a chalkboard wall on the north side, a bright blue blank wall on the east, and a half-finished mural on the west. Since that room was last used as a youth room, the layout has changed so that the chalkboard wall was not as accessible as we would have liked. We also had some other ideas about ways we could make the room our own.

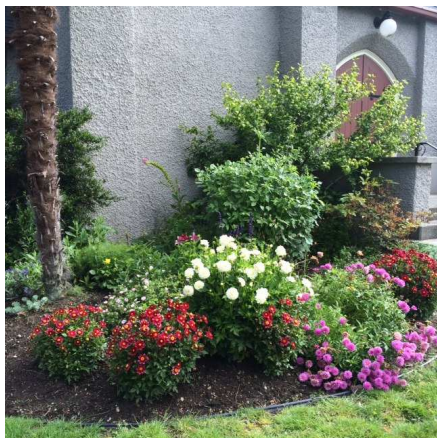
So together, we reinvigorated that blank blue wall with inspirational quotes written in purple paint, we transferred the chalkboard wall from the north side to the west side, covering up the unfinished mural, and we covered up the old chalkboard wall with a beautiful navy blue, with the intent to cover it with painted glow-in-the-dark stars! I also plan to purchase a mini-fridge and some storage containers for snacks and drinks.

The goal for this room is to make it an accessible place for the youth to feel a sense of ownership and sanctuary. Currently, the room contains books, a Nintendo Wii and some games, a few card games, some "sacred supplies" like candles and a cross, and a few craft supplies. The next steps in achieving this goal are to draw up some "norms" for the use of the room to foster community and safety, and to create a video for our website that can promote our youth program! I also have a great senior youth group program ready for the fall and can't wait to implement it!

This is where all of you come in!

We have already received several wonderful donations of furniture and the Wii system, but we could use your help with a couple more things. Do you have an old love seat that needs a new home and would fit in the space? How about books, board games, DVDs, or CDs you think our youth might like? They would be thrilled and grateful! If you would like to contribute to an ongoing youth initiative, be sure to bring bottles for their recurring bottle drives, which will run two to three times a year, or replenish their 'canteen' with snacks and drinks if you are willing!

In closing, if you would like to see the new room, you are welcome to, BUT...make sure you always check with a youth group member first. They will likely be thrilled to show you the good work they have done to reclaim this cool space.



### **NEW EVENING SERVICE**

**Alt Vespers**, our new evening prayer service, is held Wednesday evenings at 8.00pm in the garden. Alt Vespers

is a casual, contemplative and concise service with beautiful music and time to respond creatively to Scripture. Learn more at [altvespers.wordpress.com](http://altvespers.wordpress.com) and find us on Facebook.



## CONCERT SERIES FOR THE FALL

*Michael Murray*

Over the last couple of weeks, I have been finalizing concert dates for the St. Philip's Music Series 2016 - 2017. At this point it is pretty much done with one or two details to sort out. All the concerts take place in the church and unless otherwise indicated are at 4.00pm. Details of 2017 concerts available in the fall.

### **August 27th Saturday 7.00 - St. Philip's Summer Choir**

Credo from Bach's B minor Mass  
Come Ye Sons of Art by Henry Purcell  
Five Mystical Songs by Ralph Vaughan Williams  
featuring soloists and orchestra

### **September 25th Sunday - Fall Concert**

with Josquin Singers performing Renaissance motets, and Angeliq Po piano and Liz Hamel narrator performing Poulenc's Babar the Elephant

### **October 16th Sunday - Cascadia Reed Quintet performing folk song arrangements and new music**

with five of the cities best wind players:  
Marea Chernoff - oboe  
Christopher Lee - clarinet  
Colin MacDonald - saxophone  
Olivia Martin - bassoon  
AK Coope - bass clarinet

### **November 11th Friday 7PM - Music for Remembrance**

Requiem by Maurice Duruflé, the St. Philip's Church Choir with orchestra, organ and soloists

### **December 11th Sunday - Christmas Carol Sing-a-long**

### **December 17th Saturday 3.00 - Joy to the World! Christmas Concert**

with musica intima vocal ensemble, and Michael Murray organ.



*As for other performances I am involved in off the premises, please see the following:*

### **October 1st Saturday 7:30pm - Two Organ Recital at Queen's Ave. United Church, New Westminster.**

Two instruments, Four organists: Peter Janson, Nicholas Fairbank, Suzanne Gibson and myself.

### **November 5th Saturday 7:30pm - Vancouver Cantata Singers present Bernstein: Before and Beyond**

at Ryerson United Church featuring Chichester Psalms.

### **December 4th Sunday 7:30pm - Abendmusik Chamber Choir present Advent Vespers at Knox United Church.**

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## SHADOW OF DEATH PANEL DISCUSSION

Following up on the tremendous turn-out for our first panel discussion on Physician Assisted Death on September 16, 2015, Dr. Michael McKenzie and the planning group at St. Philip's organized a second evening of discussion and reflection on this very timely topic. The event took place on the evening of June 8, 2016 and was moderated by priest-in-charge of St. Philip's, the Venerable Dr. John Bailey.

A sizable group gathered at St. Philips to discuss the topic, End of Life and Medical Assistance in Dying. Following presentations by Dr. David Kuhl (palliative care specialist and author of "What dying people want: Practical wisdom for the end of life") and the Very Rev'd Dr. Peter Elliott (Dean of Christ Church Cathedral), it was time to hear voices from the audience.

A detailed summary of the evening can be found at <http://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/news/shadow-of-death-panel-discussion>.

A big thank you to Dr. Michael McKenzie, the Ven. Dr. John Bailey and the panelists for their efforts and time.

## DO-IT-YOURSELF LABYRINTH DESIGN KIT AND COMPETITION

*Marilyn Hames*

Here's a summer project for you—something for all ages, something creative, relaxing and fun! Whether you are going to spend time at the beach, the cottage, or at home, doodling, gardening, getting out the embroidery silks, trying your hand at play-dough pottery, painting... Wherever you are, whatever you are doing you can design your very own labyrinth, and maybe draw it in the sand, or use chalk on the driveway for the whole family to enjoy, then let the waves or rain wash it away ready to try a new one. If you like, you can carve it in wood, cast it in stone (well clay or play-dough), draw, paint or embroider it, or make a green collage using plant trimmings. Even use it for the icing on the cake—the choice is yours, the options are limitless.

All you need is a ball of wool or thin, soft, flexible string, or else a paper and pencil to get the idea and try it out at one of our brief pop-up demonstrations. Where does the competition come in? Well check out the space in our courtyard now that the bushes there have been tamed. Once the bike-rack is moved and pretty planters are in place there will be plenty of space to have a lovely little outside labyrinth to share with our neighbours and passers-by. You have plenty of time to try out different designs then submit your favourite in the Fall for the parish to decide which to use.

Why a labyrinth? Unlike a maze that is intended to trick folk into getting lost, a labyrinth only has a single path leading to the centre, even though that path circles around, in and out, back and forth. A good one becomes a symbol for the spiritual life, so is like an autobiography. For example, at certain times, sometimes during special celebrations or alternatively times of trial, we may feel very close to God; at other times we seem to be wandering in the 'wilderness' so God seems remote—it happens. By thinking back over our lives we can sketch the ups and downs, twist and turns, then build them into the design that leads to Christ at the very centre of our being. Of course, Christ is with us every step of the way, so walking a labyrinth helps us focus on that.

There's a lot more to this than meets the eye—believe me! So come and find out for yourself.

*Love*

*Marilyn*

PS Ask Ann Kent to tell you how she introduces plants and foliage into creating labyrinths, or ask Sheila Roberts about our Chartres one, or visit our library where you can find books on this.



Marilyn Hames

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## REPORT FROM FINANCE

*Paul Clinton, Treasurer*

Total revenue for St Philips through end of May is \$199.7 k, + 2% versus budget and +5 % versus year ago actual. Receipts from identified givers (pledges) are slightly behind budget (-2%), so the slight improvement comes from increased and rental income from the church hall and increased wedding income.

Expenses through April have been well managed by virtually all committees and cost areas, coming in 2% below target, which has us ( through April ) with an improvement versus budget of \$8.9k - our YTD deficit is currently \$6k versus a budgeted loss of \$15k.

It is important to note that we did approve a budget with an operating loss of \$34k, so all efforts around cost management and increased revenues will be extremely helpful in what remains a difficult budget year.

Anything we can do to shrink the deficit allows us to minimize the use of church investments to bridge the gap.

Please assist your finance committee in managing cash flow by remaining up to date on your pledges.

[pa\\_clinton@hotmail.com](mailto:pa_clinton@hotmail.com) / 604 505 9619

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

#### August

27 St. Philip's Summer Choir Concert

#### September

11 Welcome Back Sunday

18 Bishop Melissa Skelton visits the parish

25 Fall Concert - Josquin Singers

#### October

2 Pet Blessing

14-16 Rivendell Retreat

16 Concert - Cascadia Reed Quintet

### NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

#### November

11 Music for Remembrance

13 Stewardship Sunday

26 Christmas Fair

27 Advent Begins

#### December

4 Advent Carol Service

11 Christmas Carol Sing-along

## CONTACT US

Phone: 604-224-3238

#### Priest-in-Charge

The Ven. Dr. John Bailey  
[jbailey@stpdunbar.com](mailto:jbailey@stpdunbar.com)

#### Spiritual Director

The Rev'd Dr. Marilyn Hames  
[mhames@stpdunbar.com](mailto:mhames@stpdunbar.com)

#### Curate/Youth Ministry

The Rev'd Clare Morgan  
[curate@stpdunbar.com](mailto:curate@stpdunbar.com)

#### Organist

Michael Murray  
[mmurray@stpdunbar.com](mailto:mmurray@stpdunbar.com)

#### Church School Coordinator

Dorothy Bortolussi

#### Parish Manager

Anne Richards  
[arichards@stpdunbar.com](mailto:arichards@stpdunbar.com)

#### Caretakers:

Victor and Cynthia Lowe

#### Wardens:

Charlotte French,  
Conrad Guelke

#### Associate Wardens:

Sarah Burns,  
Craig Wilson

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTRY MAY TO JUNE

### Burials

John Rae Watson

Hubert Richard Whittall

Lorna Lichfield Brien

*"May the souls of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace"*

## LOST IN FLIGHT

A bird was lost inside our house;  
a small black-headed chickadee  
got caught between the blinds and window.  
In vain I tried to set it free.  
I opened wide the blinds and doors,  
sat down to see what it would do.  
It perched on branches of a palm.  
I shook the tree then off it flew.

Sometimes we, too, are lost in flight  
and seek direction where to go.  
God opens possibilities;  
we see the light then off we go.

Like birds, when we are lost in flight  
we find our way toward the light.

*Adele Wonnick*



Photo: Ann Kent



# LABYRINTH

## DO-IT-YOURSELF DESIGN

June 26th, July 3rd & August 14th

Join Marilyn for a 10 minute demo' during coffee.

Here's a summer project for you—something creative, relaxing and fun!

Wherever you are, you can design your very own labyrinth--draw it in the sand or use chalk on the driveway for the whole family to enjoy, then let the waves or rain wash it away ready to try a new one. If you like, you can carve it in wood, cast it in stone (well clay or play-dough), draw, paint or embroider it, or make a green collage using plant trimmings--the choice is yours, the options limitless.

All you need is a ball of wool or thin, soft, flexible string, or else a paper and pencil to get the idea and try it out at one of our brief demonstrations.

You can also enter you favorite design in our competition to decide which one will best fit the space in our courtyard now

that bushes there have been tamed. Once the bike-rack is moved and pretty planters are in place there will be plenty of space to have a lovely little labyrinth to share with our neighbours and passers-by.

### Why a labyrinth?

Unlike a maze that is intended to trick folk into getting lost, a labyrinth only has a single path leading to the centre, even though that path circles around, in and out, back and forth. A good one becomes a symbol for the spiritual life, so is like an autobiography that tells the story of all life's twists and turns--times we feel very close to God and times we seem to be wandering in the wilderness.

There's a lot more to this than meets the eye—come and find out for yourself.

**SEPT**  
**11-18**

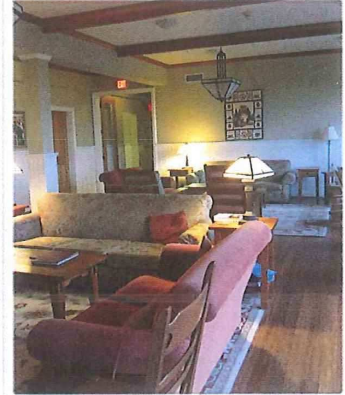


## **AFFIRMING YOUR FAITH DOING IT YOUR WAY**

### **Reaffirmation programme information & registration**

Starting this Fall you can complete this on a modular basis, spreading the full course over 6-18 months. A variety of times and formats will be offered to cover the following topics:

- The basis of our faith
- A brief history of Christianity and Anglicanism
- Worshipping God at all times and in all places
- The spiritual life--101 ways to enjoy God's presence
- An introduction to the Bible and other inspirational books
- Discipleship--a call to serve & grow by using your gifts for the good of others
- The creative Spirit--discovering God's Holy Spirit in creation & your creativity



# Parish Retreat

14-16th October, 2016

Registration now open--space is limited!



## Rivendell Retreat Centre

This is a beautiful, welcoming place on top of a hill on Bowen Island. It has fantastic views in all directions. Transportation is easy, just a short ferry ride from Horseshoe Bay. It is a great time to get to know each other better, a time of relaxation, and a time for reflection on some aspect of our faith. Led by one of our clergy, the weekend is designed to offer a chance for personal and spiritual refreshment. Typically there are three theme sessions, but also plenty of free time for reading, walking, taking photographs, maybe catching up on some sleep or enjoying a coffee with friends in Snug Cove. (Shh, don't tell anyone, but 'happy hour' on the Saturday is also a delightful tradition.)