

Thoughts for the Day

There is a fine line between constructive and destructive dialogue within communities. Paul travelled extensively throughout the middle east, Turkey, Greece, and Italy. He experienced communities at their best and at their worst. He knew what it meant to be thrown in jail or beaten for expressing views diverging from others in the communities he visited. He wanted the Church to be a place where people could express themselves constructively, a place of faith, hope, and love. In a Christian world still divided, Lord help us to treat one another with respect and to be build the world Paul envisioned. Amen

The Ven. Dr. John Bailey

DATES TO NOTE

Sat. Feb. 4 Open Gym, 5:30 pm
Fri. Feb. 10 Deadline for Lent/Easter POST
Sun. Feb. 26 Vestry Sunday, after Church
Sun. Feb. 26 Chamber Music Concert, 4 pm
Mon. Feb. 27 MAID talk, St. John's Shaughnessy, 7 pm.



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.

ST. JUDE'S ANGLICAN HOME FUNDRAISER

St. Jude's Anglican Home is putting on a capital fundraiser by putting on a play at the Metro Theatre at 1370 S.W. Marine Drive on Wednesday, March 8th at 8 pm. The play is called "Guilty Conscience". Tickets are \$50 each, but receive a \$25 tax receipt per ticket. There will also be a silent auction, a 50/50 draw and light refreshments available. For tickets, speak to Beth Vondette in the Church office.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH COMMITTEE 2017-2018

If you are interested in being part of Church Committee for 2017-2018, or wish to nominate a candidate, please contact Sarah Burns. Voting occurs at the Vestry meeting which will take place on Sunday, February 26th.



REFUGEE UPDATE

The application package for Lama and her four children, Syrians in a refugee camp in Lebanon, was mailed to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada just before Christmas.

In the new year, Mary will also put together an application package for the family's grandparents. Including the grandparents will cost an additional \$10,000 to the original fundraising goal of \$40,000, making the new goal \$50,000. We have already raised more than \$25,000 and will likely have a year or so to fundraise the remaining money.

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



ALT VESPERS NEWS

Alt Vespers will be cancelled until February 1st while Clare is in Jerusalem. February 1st we will have a special Labyrinth walk and Candlemas service. All are invited!

STREET MINISTRY

Dear all,

I met Don (and Arthur from Dunbar who took a package) at the Shoppers on Dunbar Street. I was laden down with wonderful packages, clothing, fruit and well wishes.

Many thanks to Don and the indoor team for putting together such a spread!

I headed on over to Safeway and teamed up with Hyok and Nancy. We immediately travelled down 10th, did not see anyone at the Bank, but found lots of our fellows outside No Frills: R, B, T, C, M, W and B. We chatted for quite some time and everyone was thrilled with all the goodies they got... Nancy had also brought a lovely duffle coat which B promptly put on. He has done well with the clothing Nancy has given him... last month he received from Nancy a sweater that fit him perfectly. I had some new HBC mitts and four of the fellows were very happy to receive a pair... C took a warm Ralph Lauren scarf... he looked spiffy. M got a nice pair of warm leggings (left over from another trip) and generally everyone was in good spirits... I believe the only fellow in this group who is still outdoors is M.

We then headed over to Jericho hostel and found M at the substation. He was under covers when we arrived, but emerged to give us a smile and hello and happily accepted everything. He also took a warm sweat suit. A had still not returned.

We headed up Fourth to the MacDonalds, parked and found D sleeping in his usual spot. He took everything including a heavy sweatshirt (this trip was great as I was managing to hand out all the remaining clothing I had left over from the Christmas Blitz!). We also gave him a \$10 MacDonalds card as he was situated right outside the place! We met P at the corner of Whole Foods and we gave him some sandwiches and fruit, we did the same for D who was sitting outside Shoppers - he looked fairly warmly dressed but we did not get much out of him. We also met M binning at the Safeway and he was happy to take sandwiches and fruit. We did see S on his bike riding down Fourth on our way back to the car, but tried to find him after crossing the street and he had disappeared... we did not see him again.

We found S, G and J at the corner of 10th and Granville... they have a wonderful spot there. We had saved two packages for them, but had made up a few more packages from some of the extra items we had in the car and gave J one... we only had two peanut butter sandwiches left which of course S and G wanted. J is a very sweet fellow. I think he camps separately from S and G but hangs out with them from time to time... he was on his bike.

We then headed back down Broadway and parked near David Hunter to see if we could find A, but he was no longer around that area.

We travelled further down and found D (a youngish fellow with a shock of red hair and beard - really pleasant fellow) sleeping outside the Safeway. We woke him up but he was not upset about that. He took a package that we had made up, and blanket. We also found A outside the MacDonalds near Waterloo. He did not look very warm and we offered him things but he was having a hard time talking and declined everything. We did leave him a package and some fruit. I hope he goes back to the substation... I think it is warmer there and M seemed to be laden down with extra sleeping bags, etc.

We went up to St. Helens and as B did not appear to be there any longer, we headed over to the United Church and en route saw B walking down the street.. we parked and found his home at the United Church so we left what remaining items we had and headed on home.

We had a very enjoyable busy day... it was cold but clear and everyone we met appeared to be in very good spirits.

Thank you from Team 2, Jane

BOTTLE DRIVE

Hello, everyone.

The youth groups annual Bottle Drive is starting. It will last from December 11 until January 22.

Please bring in any empty bottles that you may have. This year's proceeds are going to a refugee family.

To make the whole process easier I am going to manager@stpdunbar.com set up a Return-it express account for the church using the church phone and the email. That way when the bottle drive is over you can easily collect the money for the assigned purpose.

Rebecca Gregg, Head Server



Street Ministry



CLARE'S JOURNEY TO THE HOLY LAND

I am on the trip of a lifetime to the Holy Land! I am both excited and a little nervous to make the journey. The course will take us on tours to Jerusalem, Yad Vashem, Bethlehem, the Judean wilderness (the Wadi Qelt, Jericho, Qumran, and Kahlia Beach), Jordan (Mt. Nebo and Petra), Salt, Gerash, Nazareth, several lakeside sites and Baniyas, Haifa, Akko, and the Mount of Olives.

Some of my friends and family have expressed concerns about the timing of this trip. It should be noted that most of the time the region is fairly safe, as Israeli security is some of the best in the world. But there is, of course, always a risk. This is a hotly debated piece of land and always has been since the beginning. Although I am not terribly worried about the trip, I am choosing to lean into the risk. I am inspired by the fact that my journey takes place in the season of Epiphany, a season full of light and colour which for me also contains a shadow side: the shadow of Herod's rage at being tricked by the wise ones whom we all celebrate at this time and his subsequent slaughter of the innocents. Despite the joy of the Christian world during what is widely known as "carnival season," there is still the memory of this fearful story, which of course is an expectation of the bracketing story of Jesus' innocent death on the cross.

This dusky thread woven through our faith reminds us that Christianity is not only about gentle love, but fierce love, love that refuses to be silenced or pushed aside, love that stands firm and strong in the face of violence, love that opens its arms wide and invites all of the best and worst that humankind has to offer. I will be thinking of all of you as I make this trip, and I will be sure to offer up what I learn and share on my return. Please keep me, my fellow student from our Diocese the Rev'd Lucy Price, and all of those who participate in this course in your prayers.



STEVE MADDOCK AND HIS HOT THREE! BENEFIT CONCERT

Join Steve Maddock and his Hot Three rhythm section for an afternoon of Jazz standards today at 4 pm in the Church.

Steve is one of the best Jazz singers in Canada and his programme is guaranteed to delight the audience. He will be joined by Sharon Minemoto, piano; Adam Thomas, bass and Joe Poole, drums.

Admission will be by donation. Funds raised to benefit our Refugee Family.

PARISH POST

I have been asked to publish the next Post on Ash Wednesday, therefore I will require all articles to be submitted to the office by noon on February 10th in order to meet that deadline. This deadline is firm. Please attach any photographs or pictures in a jpeg format if you would like them included in your article.



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING DISCUSSION

St. Philip's is presenting a public event, featuring Dr. Charles Blanke at St. John's Shaughnessy at 7 pm on Monday, February 27th. St. John's Shaughnessy is located at 1410 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver.

SENIORS CAFÉ - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We hope to continue Seniors Café in 2017 and would benefit from having several more volunteers to join our cheerful team. Come and share some laughter and great stories around the café tables. If you could contribute an hour or two on a Tuesday morning, starting mid-February, please contact Ann Kent at ann@catkinggardens.ca.



OUTREACH REPORT

At our recent Outreach Committee meeting we donated to Aunt Leah's and AIDS Vancouver. We received a thank you letter from Missions to Seafarers for a donation we made before Christmas. Thank you for supporting Outreach and making such donations possible.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next men's breakfast will be on February 5th at 8:30 a.m. All men welcome.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

Please join us in the gym after this morning's 10:00 service to prepare packets for the Neighbourhood Ministry.

JONES GIRLS

The Jones Girls next meeting will be on Monday, February 6th at 11:30 am, followed by a belated Christmas luncheon.

Neighbourhood



Ministry

Annual Reports - now overdue.

If you are a committee chair or group leader and you have not submitted your report for 2016, please do so in the next few days.

Email your report to manager@stpdunbar.com

Many thanks to those whose reports have been received.