

Thoughts for the Week

We need silence. We need to learn what silence is. We need the time and space which silence alone can provide to get the measure of our secret ladder. To face and not be outfaced by the multitudinous demands of life in the world today. We need to know the kind of silence that makes possible the kind of communication that Pascal hungered for which is communion, a thing not to be gained by dodging unpleasant things like Harold Skimpole nor by denouncing them as a pack of cards like Alice. The spirituality we seek must reckon with the mire and clay, the shouting and the torches, the accusations and the mockery. It needs silence to enable it to grapple with that task.

Alan Ecclestone

DATES TO NOTE

Mon. Aug 28	Summer Choir, 7:00 pm, Church
Tues. Aug 29	Summer Choir, 7:00 pm, Church
Sun. Sept. 3	Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am, Fireside Room
Mon. Sept. 4	Labour Day, Church Closed
Tues. Sept. 5	Summer Choir, 7:00 pm, Church
Tues. Sept. 5	Trustees Meeting, 7:30 pm, Upstairs Meeting Room
Fri. Sept. 8	BCYAYM Sleepover and Meeting, 5:00 pm, Fireside Room
Sat. Sept. 9	Summer Choir Concert, 3:00 pm, Church
Mon. Sept. 11	Outreach Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, Upstairs Meeting Room
Tues. Sept. 12	Altar Guild Meeting, 2:30 pm, Fireside Room

CHILDREN AT THE 10.00am SERVICE DURING THE SUMMER

There are no church school classes so parental supervision is required for younger children.



For school-age children, we provide informal activities that can be done at the tables and chairs at the front of the church (near the door to the Memorial Garden) or in the pews. Worksheets for various ability levels, pencils and crayons can be found in a box in the Narthex (to the left as you enter the church) or may be on the tables. Please ask a sidesperson, if you cannot see it.

Families with Newborns to two years old : please use our "Noah's Ark" room. Parental supervision is necessary. Entry door is on the far left (or Gospel side) of the church as you walk down the aisle. Regular church school classes resume after Labour Day.

DUNBAR HARVEST FESTIVAL SATURDAY, SEPT. 9 FROM 11:00 - 3:00

Diana Bragg and Debbie Matheson are asking for volunteers to help them set up by 10 am, and to greet the Dunbar public for an hour or two from 11:00 to 3:00. Our focus is on offering a family-friendly welcome, children's face painting, and news of what's on at St. Philip's. Friendly, silent, patable dogs are welcome to come with you. Contact dasbragg@gmail.com or debbiematheson53@gmail.com

UPDATE ON THE OFFICE WALL

The work has begun! After pulling back the damaged stucco, the damage was more extensive than expected. The costs for the repair are now anticipated to be above \$30,000, so any help with this necessary work would be greatly appreciated. Please designate donations for this work to the Building Fund.

REFUGEE NEWS

As you know, the application to sponsor Lama and her four children, refugees from Syria now in a camp in Lebanon, is now being processed at the Canadian Visa Office in Beirut. This may take several more months. The applications to sponsor Lama's parents, Nasriddin and Fatmeh, and her younger brother, Ward, have now been submitted to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. St. Philip's is sponsoring them in partnership with Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. The applications were submitted by Canadian Lutheran World Relief which handles refugee sponsorship for the Lutheran Church. We are grateful for the help of the Lutherans, as our diocese did not receive sufficient allocations, i.e. sponsorship application spaces, for them. 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

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

Thank you to everyone who has updated or completed their policy training, in compliance to Diocesan requirements. Any individuals who have not yet completed or updated their training, please note that Beth will be putting on another session on Sunday, September 17th at 1 pm. Please let Beth know if you will be attending.

MARILYN'S EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY

Marilyn begins a *soft sabbatical* on 1st September to resume her MA in *Celtic Studies* at the University of Wales after having taken a year out from the course to help with the transition between rectors. She will still preach and celebrate on Sundays at least once a month and be involved during the great Feasts and Fasts, but not be available at other times.

Having already completed a module on *Celtic Otherworlds*, Marilyn will be researching Welsh women saints, continuing her Welsh language studies, and hiking with Andrew in Patagonia (where a Welsh colony was set up in the latter half of 19th Century). She hopes this will feed into the creation of a number of resources for those interested in *Celtic Christianity*: prayers, devotional materials and liturgies for small groups, retreat resources and mini-pilgrimage guides.

Seen as a model in retaining and reclaiming an indigenous culture, some First Nations people from eastern Canada are now turning to Wales to learn how the Welsh are managing to do this. When Marilyn was studying for her doctorate in *Spirituality* her First Nations colleagues regarded her as a *sister* from one of the European First Nations. Maybe we could enlarge on that concept to help in the work of mutual understanding and reconciliation by learning how much we all have in common in trying to discover and honour our roots.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

August 5, 2017:

Dale and I set out from St. Phillip's church this morning with packets, water, hard-boiled eggs, peanut butter and jam sandwiches, bananas, and some extra goodies (chocolates) and a few toothbrushes. Many thanks to Penni, at St. Phillip's, who met us there with these abundant supplies.

We first drove by the Shopper's on Dunbar, but no one was there, so we headed to West Fourth and Highbury, where we found R, D, B, M and T. All gratefully accepted packets and all of the extras. We didn't recognize D as he has had a major hair cut and also shaved off his beard.

He asked us to thank everyone who had contributed so generously towards kitting him out for his move into the 7th and Fir building. He said he has all he needs except possibly a mop. His friend R was happy that with Benita's help at the Shower Program, he has his application in for housing.

T was off to the beach to watch the international women's beach volleyball.

Next we went to Locarno Park, and met M on his bike looking for bottles. He very gratefully took a packet and all of the extras as well. Dale mentioned that whenever we see him he is always joyous, and although he speaks Spanish (neither Dale or I do), we could understand that he was continually praising God for all he has. We were both humbled and uplifted by our encounter with him.

We checked the Jericho Hostel, but no sign of anyone living there, and at the Pump Station where A previously camped there is now a big locked gate, prohibiting entry into this area.

Outside the Shoppers at West Fourth and Vine we saw a fellow sleeping on the sidewalk with his belongings, and another fellow named J panhandling. We gave packets and the extras to both. J was very grateful; he was obviously hungry as he started eating the food right away.

On West Fourth just east of Vine, another fellow was sleeping on the sidewalk with his belongings; we left him a packet and extras as well.

On South Granville at 10th we saw S - we also didn't recognize him, as he also shaved off his beard. We gave him a packet and one for his brother G, who was across the street in front of the Stanley. We gave all of our leftover packets, sandwiches, fruit and eggs to a group of four fellows that were sitting on benches just outside of the old Vj's on West 11th. They were D, D, R and P. D in particular was aware of the Neighbourhood Ministry/ Kits showers program, and asked us to say hello to Vicki for us. It was a good morning.

Sue and Dale

Saturday, August 12:

Team 4, Mary and Heather Friesen, one of our substitutes, set off from St. Anselm's. Jill Hamm had organized packets and fruit from St. Anselm's, and a large box of additional packets was brought over from St. John's Shaughnessy by Ken Pepin. We had brought hard boiled eggs and sandwiches as well.

As we approached the usual group at the 4th and Highbury spot we met D, pushing a cart of bottles. He lives in a shelter in Surrey, said he was getting some extra money to go fishing the next day. He accepted a packet only.

At 4th and Highbury we found R and D, looking different with haircuts. D has recently moved into 7th and Fir and is very pleased with that. His friend R has also applied for housing and hopes something comes up before winter. Also there were T, B, and A. All have housing. A is one of the original residents of 17th and Dunbar. All were happy to take food. A took some extra for his brother, T, who is not well enough to get out much.

At 4th and Vine on the SW corner we met T who has an apartment nearby. He often panhandles there. There was a bedroll nearby, but not his. On the NE corner P was at his usual spot selling Megaphones. A bit further along in front of Whole Foods we met R panhandling. A pleasant young man who looks quite well. He accepted some food. He says he has a place to stay but sometimes sleeps outside. He said the bedding across the road was his and his friends, and asked if we could leave some food there for his friend, which we did.

We continued on to Granville. On the west side of Granville between 10th and 11th we met R. He looked poorly, very thin with scratches on his face. He seemed very happy for food. He is homeless, said someone is helping him apply for housing.

On the east side of Granville at 11th there were two adjacent piles of bedding and a sign requesting help/donations. Assuming this camp belonged to S and G we left some food including their favorite peanut butter and jam sandwiches.



On our way back to the car we passed the park at 10th and Fir by the VSB offices. There was a man dozing there. He was J whom I had met on our team's last outing. He has housing, but was glad of food. While we were speaking with J, T came up- a pleasant woman of 50 or so. She has been camping for a week or so in the park, but has housing elsewhere. She took some food and asked for some extra for an elderly man she has recently met who has just become homeless. So we gave her a packet and food for him.

On Broadway in front of London Drugs and IGA we met J. She has a pet rat. She would like to find housing. She knew about Kits Showers, and we suggested she go there on a Saturday morning to start paper work for housing. She is concerned that they would not let her rat inside.

In the same block we met R in his wheelchair. I had met him a few times at 4th and Vine, worried about having to move. He says he is now in a facility like a nursing home where he gets 3 meals a day and is well looked after. He seems happy with this arrangement, and declined any food as he is not in need.

In front of the Safeway at Broadway and Macdonald we met S, looking quite strong and cheerful for him. As usual he took a selection from the packet. He says he has been in conversation with Vicki about housing.

We left a packet on the porch at West Point Grey United Church for B.

We left the remaining packets from St. John's back at St. Anselm's for their next outing.

It was a good outing. It was great to have the extra St. John's packets which made us feel free to be a bit more generous.

Thank you to Heather for coming with me.

Mary for Team 4

Saturday, August 19:

Hyok and I met at St. Helens and were greeted by Irene with lots of packages, sandwiches, bananas and a pair of runners. Thanks to Irene and all those who prepared the packages.

We then headed up to Safeway and picked up Jieun and Jun (Nancy also dropped by to send us off with extra Boost - our Team will miss Nancy as she is joining Team 4) and then we were on our way. We did not see anyone on our way down to No Frills, but everyone was at the corner: D (looking very spiffy with his new shorter hair - he advised he now has a mop!), R (also with a shorter beard!) M (his left leg has a nasty looking sore on it, but he says that is not bad, but his hip is still bothering him. However, he seemed in good spirits and happy to take everything), T and J (seemed like a happy couple again), B (always cheerful and we always try to give him some extra ensure/boost) and there was another woman named C. Jieun spoke with her, but I did not meet her. I think she may have a place. We talked for quite a while with this group. All were in good spirits and took everything. We were generous with sandwiches and Boost as we had lots!

We then headed up Fourth Avenue (we forgot about the beach at this point but decided if we had packages left over we would go there at the end). Outside Whole Foods we found P (our Megaphone fella), T who stands outside the doors asking for change and R who was also nearby asking for money. We chatted with each one... R also asked that we drop some provisions off with his friend who sleeps outside Shoppers these days. We did not get his name but we left some provisions on his bedding.

At around Granville and 10th we found S and G's bedding and left packages and sandwiches for them. We also found B and J both sleeping in the park on 10th behind the Vancouver School Board offices. Both were happy to take packages and food. We did not find out much about them. I think B is homeless, but I am not sure about J. Jieun says she quite often sees him at Showers on Saturday!

We did not see anyone outside the Liquor Store at Broadway and Arbutus... we would not really have stopped because except for a few sandwiches we did not have much left.

We found S outside the Safeway and had made up a special package for him. Thanks to Nancy we had lots of extra Boost.

We dropped a small bit of food off for B at the United Church (we made up a package for him with some sandwiches and banana).

We had a good day... and everyone appeared in good spirits.. The good weather keeps everyone smiling!

On my way to work on Monday, I handed out the few extra sandwiches we had left from our walk.

Thanks from Team 2

Jane