

Newsletter of the

Church of the Advent

Anglican Parish of Colwood and Langford

OUR ADVENTURE

Easter 2009

Issue Number 41

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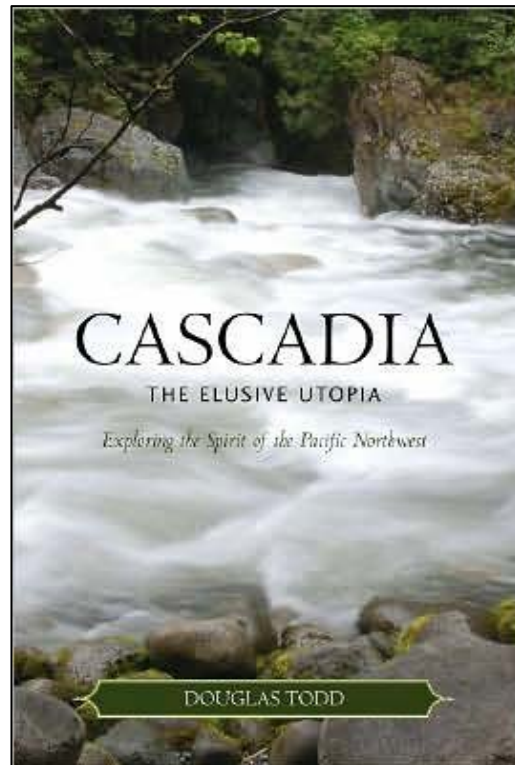
Up Front

Rev. Ken Gray

Bishop Michael Ingham described the Vancouver Sun's religion editor, Douglas Todd as one of our best writers on religion and popular culture, and I agree. Todd's columns must be read online here in Victoria but his book *Cascadia: The Elusive Utopia: Exploring the Spirit of the Pacific Northwest* (Vancouver BC. Ronsdale Press, October 2008. ISBN-13: 9781553800606 - currently discounted at Amazon and Chapters/Indigo) is a delightful, insightful and well informed précis of Westcoast religious culture.

I cannot count the number of times I look out into the Sunday congregation, delighted with those who have come to church, wondering about the thousands who never encounter church. Admittedly, I tend to blame myself, despite my efforts to pay attention to popular culture, its myths, demands, prejudices (which include organized religion) and insights. I berate myself as I try to figure out "what's going on here . . . or *not* going on here."

Todd serves up a wonderful variety of analyses, from bioregional analysis, literary influences, geographical realities, social and political commentaries and



Contents

Our Adventure magazine is shared with all those found on our parish list, with our “affiliate” members who may have moved away or who retain a special interest in our activity and ministry, with newcomers, with guests, and with anyone you suggest would like a copy. Thanks for taking the time to read and enjoy this snapshot of our parish life.

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theological assumptions and insights which collectively conjure a more complex social mosaic of this region called by many “Cascadia” which represents the pacific northwest of the United States and British Columbia. These explanations go some way to meeting my discouragement. The culture in which the Christian Church, and Anglicanism in particular move in this region is more unique than I once thought. Remember, I was born and raised here and have spent most of my life and ministry here. Still, I am a

stranger to many people, ideas and situations.

A former Bishop once said that North Americans got it wrong, that we should never have established borders from east to west but from north to south. Cascadia as a region has more in common with its southern neighbours than its eastern friends. Years ago, I applied for a music post at a large Toronto Church. A colleague took me out for breakfast and said “Ken, why would you want to come here ... you’re a westerner.” I guess he was right because I never got the job!

We Cascadians are unique, complex, stuck-up, individualistic, and to some extent rootless though this should not be the case. Todd’s authors encourage us to get intouch with our roots--in creation, and through our aboriginal neighbours who have cared for this part of creation for millennia. We ought to encourage and celebrate our creativity, and as we are blessed by the land we savour, we can and should bless each other.

Sallie McFague reminds us that it is through food, which we take into our bodies that we connect with the land, daily. She goes on to describe a new kind of Cascadian civil religion:

A new Cascadian civil religion would include a way of thinking and acting that underscores the beauty and intrinsic

value of nature as well as our inexorable dependence on it. It would situate human beings in an appropriate stance toward the world: gratitude for the wonder of living on this beautiful planet, and care for its fragile, deteriorating creatures and systems. Sallie McFague, Vancouver School of Theology

Vancouver bioregionalist Mike Carr reminds me of our connection with water and that our region is infused with water, its movement, its multi-directional, to and from the ocean.

Cascadia is a land of cedars, firs, hemlocks, spruce and pine; sage and bunchgrass; eagles and ravens; bears, coyotes and cougars; orcas, seals, sea lions, dolphins and humpback whales.... Most of all perhaps, Cascadia is a land of falling waters, of huge rivers emptying into the Pacific. These 'cascading' waters gave Cascadia its name. Mike Carr, SFU/UBC bioregionalist

Alan Durning re-tells what some of us know well, that we are wealthy beyond our wildest imagination, and with this comes a great responsibility, which many cloak, but the wise consider well.

Cascadia is the greenest part of the wealthiest civilization ever to inhabit the Earth. If we cannot reconcile our way of life with this bountiful place, it probably

can't be done. But if we can, we may set an example for the world. Alan Durning, Seattle's Sightline Institute

Finally, it is in Todd's title word *Utopia* that the more religious overtones emerge. For why do we, did we, come here? For what or whom do we search? Is it God? Is it self-fulfillment? Is it wealth or status? Is it beauty? At the end of the striving, or the chase, or the yearning, there is a goal. Christians call this salvation. Todd's authors connect in different ways with the image of *utopia*, not as Jack Hodgins describes as in sectarian communities (many located at one time here on Vancouver Island, even in Sooke), but in a current lived experience of life/spirit integration. UBC political scientist, Philip Resnick writes:

In some ways, the Pacific Northwest/Cascadia is the most utopian of North America's regions, the one where a belief in new beginnings and remaking the world afresh is most firmly embedded.

The appeals to tradition, to innovation, to creation, to spiritual responsibility, to authenticity and costly and courageous politics, to faith, to all my relations, these each resonate with me and encourage me to keep the faith in a most unique and

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Cascadian way. And I doubt I am alone.

A little tongue-in-cheek maybe????

Submitted by Barney Pratt

- ☺ I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.
- ☺ Police were called to a day care where a 3-year-old was resisting a rest.
- ☺ Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.
- ☺ The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Conference.
- ☺ To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
- ☺ When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.
- ☺ The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
- ☺ A thief who stole a calendar got 12 months.
- ☺ A thief fell and broke his leg in wet cement. He became a hardened criminal.
- ☺ When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
- ☺ The dead batteries were given out free of charge.
- ☺ A dentist and a manicurist fought tooth and nail.
- ☺ A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.
- ☺ A will is a dead giveaway.
- ☺ Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.

Church of the Advent's 2009-2010 Parish Council

We asked PC members to tell us know why they joined Parish Council (or opted to stay a 2nd or 3rd year) and what they hope to see happen in the next year or so. Here are their responses:

Gowan Armstrong: I joined parish council four years ago when I became the treasurer for the church. Over the next year I want to see the church financially healthy and a continued focus on our programs. I would also like to have a plan in place to complete the repairs/maintenance to the exterior of our building.



Marita Atwood: PC membership is a tangible way I can contribute to the COTA community. I would like to see us identify and prioritise our goals so that as a council, we can work toward reaching these over the next year.

Nancy Baal: I continue to work through COTA council to help the church grow; to learn about people and about myself; to serve in new and exciting ways.



Kerry Blain: Starting my third term with lots still to accomplish. My hope is to see continuing improvement in the church's financial position and a willing commitment and support from all members for the best place of worship.

Carol Denton: I have been very blessed in my life and this is one way of giving back and being the hands and feet of God.

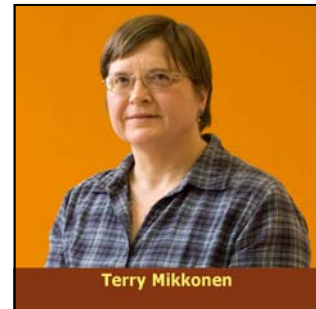


Vincent Eisenhauer: I have joined the Parish Council to offer any assistance feeding off my acquired knowledge as an engineer in the navy and my experience in woodworking.



Carolyn Hamar: I have been a member of this Advent Family for 17 years. My Advent Family has helped me through a lot of life challenges. Being on council is a way for me to give back. I'm not sure what the future holds but I do know that it's in God's hands.

Terry Mikkonen: I've been off parish council for a few years, and while off, I haven't kept up with the monthly minutes. Possibly because of this, I keep being surprised by things happening around the parish. I have had some concerns about the way things have been done or are being done, and decided I want to be more aware of how and why they are happening. For me this is easiest by being on council. I am hoping that in the next year, we can make sure that all the important issues are clearly disseminated to the members of the parish.



José Perêna Pratt: During my first year on Parish Council I learned a lot about how our church operates. Still, I feel there's lots more to learn and plenty more to do. Involvement is the name of the game for me so I'm happy I've been given the chance to continue as a representative for my faith family.

Graham Terlson: This parish has been my place of worship for the last 30 years. I've served 2 terms on parish council and now I feel honoured to join council as a warden. I believe with a strong council and a healthy



congregation we can work with our rector to make our church grow in numbers and in spirit.



Scott Weatherell: I have decided to remain with COTA parish council for another year because I enjoy being involved with the parish and I have more to contribute.

James Wilson: I have been impressed with COTA's green stance and its global outreach. I would like to contribute to these causes and I feel that Parish Council will allow me to do that.



A LOVE THAT WAS MEANT TO BE: The Story Of Barney Pratt And José Pereña Pratt

Submitted by Lorne and Sheila Dearsley

José Pereña Pratt and Barney Pratt are members of the 10:00 congregation at Church of the Advent. Do not compare their story to the proverbial two ships passing in the night but to a tale of two ships leaving the same harbour to sail on the seas in different directions returning years later to anchor again in the original harbour.

Barney was born and raised in Sarnia, Ontario and came to Victoria in 1963 as a member of the Canadian Navy. He served with the Navy for three years, and was a member of the Naden band as a trumpet player. It was here that he first met José.

José was born on the island of Jersey in the Channel Islands and immigrated to Canada with her family when she was nine years old. After a week, long boat ride from England, a visit to Boston, and a train trip from Montreal, the family arrived in Victoria on January 3rd, 1954. Although born a Methodist, she, with her family were active members of Douglas St. Baptist which became Royal Oak Baptist and then, Gateway Baptist. After high school José trained as a nurse at the Royal Jubilee Hospital. After José and Barney met in 1964, Barney, who was

raised Anglican, was re-baptized in the Baptist Church. They dated, became engaged, then parted ways in 1966.

Barney returned to his roots in the east for a time but felt the call to 'go west' again. He married a Nanaimo girl, and moved to Edmonton where he worked in sales. After their two sons were born, and because they missed the water and fishing, they moved back to the coast where he pursued a career in the workplace safety field. He worked in mine safety and for the WCB for a number of years and then for BC Ambulance. Currently as a member of management, he helps design and order ambulances for the BC fleet.

Barney has two sons, Brad, a helicopter pilot, and Greg, a cabinetmaker and one grandson, 7 yr. old Karsten. They all live in the greater Victoria area.

After nursing at Jubilee Hospital from 1963-66, José spent a year in Calgary at the Baptist Leadership Training School. She tried nursing briefly in Ontario but soon returned to Victoria to work in the ICU of the Veterans' Hospital. After three years she took a postgraduate course in ICU/CCU nursing at the Winnipeg General and then returned again to

Victoria to work at the Jubilee, first in ICU and then as an instructor in the School of Nursing.

In Dec. 1973 she decided to fulfill her dream to travel the world and she left on a two year extended visit to Asia and the

South Pacific, returning to London by bus from Nepal.

She returned to Victoria in the fall of 1975 as she had promised her parents. José met her first husband in 1968 but didn't marry him until 1976. They lived briefly in Portland, OR and then for 29 years on Vashon Island, WA. During those years José and her family were active members



of St. John Vianney Catholic Church. José's youngest daughter Jemma still lives and works at a natural food store on Vashon Island while the eldest, Jochelle, is married and living and working as a teacher of dance and theatre in Oakland, CA.

José and Barney reconnected in 2004 but it wasn't until 2006 that José returned to live in Victoria. They were married in 2007 in the chapel at COTA, and they live in the house with the yellow doors on Burnett Rd. in View Royal.

Barney enjoys the outdoors, especially fishing and hunting. He does some woodcarving and he likes to read. Music has always been a part of his life, and he currently sings with the Greater Victoria Police Chorus and is in their quartet. This popular group gave a wonderful performance at COTA last month.

José likes beachcombing, traveling, gardening, reading, and sewing and

was instrumental in bringing the beautiful fabric designs to the cross at COTA.

They are both active members of COTA, as sidespeople and coffee hosts on Sundays. José is a member of the Parish Council and the Ladies Guild. Barney is a communion distributor and on the garage committee.



Barney and Jose agree that each other and their combined families are most important in their lives. They are grateful for

their faith family at COTA and they enjoy their church involvement and the satisfaction that comes with helping in the community.



The Wisdom in Hot Chocolate

Source Unknown

A group of graduates, well established in their careers, were at a reunion and decided to go visit their old university professor, now retired. During their visit the conversation turned to complaints about stress in their work and lives.

Offering his guests hot chocolate, the professor went into the kitchen and returned with a large pot of hot chocolate and an assortment of cups – porcelain, glass, crystal, some plain looking, some expensive, some exquisite – telling them to help themselves to hot chocolate. When they all had a cup in hand, the professor said, “I notice that all the nice looking, expensive cups were taken, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. The cup that you’re drinking from adds nothing to the quality of the hot chocolate. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was the hot chocolate, not the cup; but you consciously went for the best cups. And you began eyeing each other’s cup.

Now consider this: Life is the hot chocolate; your job, money and position in society are the cups. They are just the tools to hold and contain life. The cup you have does not define, nor change the quality of life you have. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the hot chocolate God has provided us. God makes the hot chocolate, man chooses the cups. The happiest people don’t have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything they have.”

THEREFORE . . . Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. And enjoy your hot chocolate!

PROFILE: The Tenacious Armstrongs

Submitted by Bob and Donna Brandle

Talk about commitment and consistency!! Traveling 50 kilometers, each way to church! Getting three children up, fed, dressed and to church by 10:00 am in

Colwood! How's that for a weekly challenge! That is what Gowan and Karla do each week to attend our Church of the Advent. You see, they live in Duncan!

Both Gowan and Karla were born in Victoria. Gowan spent his early days growing up in North Saanich and Karla graduated from Belmont high school, in the western communities, in 1992.

They met through the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets and were married at St. Paul's Esquimalt in 1994. Walter Donald, a long time family friend, officiated at the wedding. Gowan and Karla now have three very lovely girls; Kailen (10), Makenna (3.5), and Anika (5.5 months).



Karla and Gowan, as youngsters, attended church occasionally and knew that someday, when they had children of their own, they would get involved with a church community. And that they did! They started to worship at St. Paul's Esquimalt and then moved to the Church of the Advent where they have been active members since 1998. Gowan has been our Treasurer for the past three years and Karla has been our Financial Gifts Secretary for the past two years.

They are also very involved supporting our Sunday school program and attending various social events at the church. A busy family, to say the least.

When asked, “What attracted you to the Church of the Advent”, their reply was quick and clear; friendly; great cross section of ages; more and more young parishioners with children; a Sunday school program and a Nursery. There is also another interesting connection; Karla’s Dad sailed, in the armed forces, with Gary Olmstead.

Karla took a post secondary program at Camosun College (Interurban) in Adult Mental Health. Karla is a Community Support Worker at a local Duncan group home and is currently on maternity leave until September. Gowan works in Chemainus for Western Forest Products and graduated, in 2005, with his CMA (Certified Management Accountant) designation. Duncan is a good central location for their diverse family, social and employment activities. They have been in their current home for the past two years.

Spare time? Gardening and working around the house are a couple of their hobbies, however finding the time to work on their secluded half-acre lot, located just east of Somenos Lake, is a challenge right now! Someday!

As they grow, as a family, they are putting down more and more roots in Duncan and enjoying the rural nature of places like Maple Bay, Genoa Bay, the Forest Museum, and various lakes and mountains that surround the Duncan area. Sunday afternoon, following church, often includes lunch at Karla’s Mom and Dad’s place or visiting family in the western communities. We are lucky to share part of the journey with this wonderful family.



UPDATE from Canada Comforts Society

Submitted by Marguerite Swallow

Great News!! You may have noticed the addition to our name. We are so excited to tell you that we have become an official charitable organization. This means that we can now issue income tax receipts. We also have a new email address: cancoms@telus.net. This will reach the secretary/treasurer of Canada Comforts Society, Marguerite Swallow.

We celebrated another 90th birthday in Jan. (We only celebrate the magic number 90 and up). The response to our SOS for Madagascar was overwhelming. Thanks to everyone who helped out.



Teams are taking supplies to Madagascar and to Cuba. Teddy bears were sent through Precious Jewels to the Philippines. We also sent dresses, shorts, teddies and washcloths through individuals to the Mengo Hospital in Kampala, Uganda. The Compassionate Warehouse is still waiting for paperwork to be completed for containers to be sent to Zimbabwe and Liberia.

Our thanks to Marjorie Nixon for looking after the donations left on the table in the Narthex for Canada Comforts and the Warehouse.

Book Review: CHRISTIANITY'S DANGEROUS IDEA: The Protestant Revolution

A book Review by Garry Olmstead

About the Author:

Alister E. McGrath

Born - January 23, 1953

Residence - U.K.

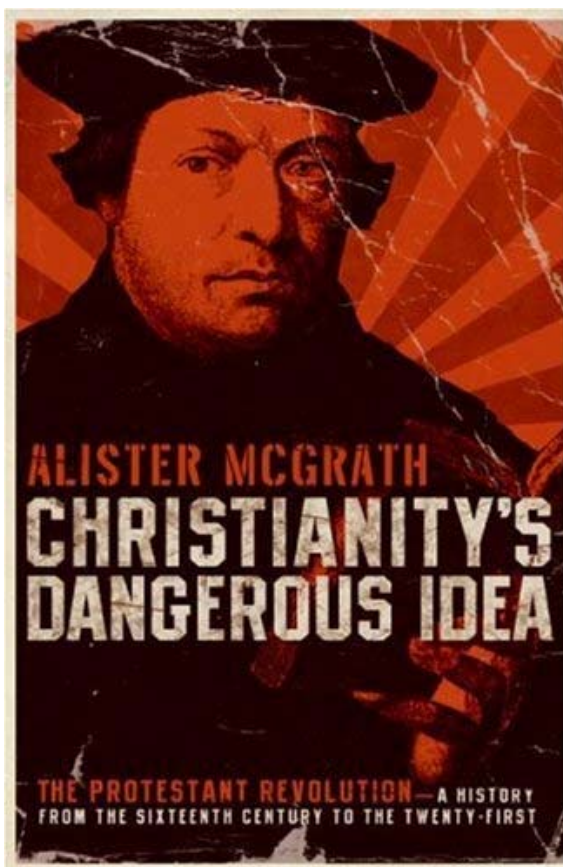
Nationality - British/Irish

Fields- Historical Theology

Institutions - Oxford University

Notable Awards - Royal Society of Arts

Alister E. McGrath is a Christian theologian, with a background in molecular biophysics, noted for his work on historical, systematic and scientific theology. In his writing and public speaking, he promotes "scientific theology" and opposes atheism. McGrath is currently Professor of Historical Theology at the University of Oxford. Until 2005, he was principal of Wycliffe Hall. A complete history of his considerable academic and theological back ground is available on the internet. @www.alistermcgrath.com. Included are a wikipedia section and a YouTube streamed video of his debates with Richard Dawkins, a well known atheist. He was ordained as a deacon in the Church of England in September 1980.



I was loaned this book as an interesting read however it turned out to be much more. The book provides a detailed history of the Protestant Reformation with helpful modern day examples that explained the past. At the heart of Protestantism is "The Dangerous Idea" which is that the interpretation of the Bible is each person's responsibility and right. Martin Luther claimed that individual believers could and should read the Bible for themselves. The book defines the core elements of Protestantism and the religious and cultural

dynamics that the dangerous idea unleashed. The result was occasionally violent as in civil war, occasionally brilliant providing outstanding music, theology and poetry;- and history altering as in the Calvinist reformation, which helped create the conditions that allowed for the rise of secular science and capitalism. There is no authority apart from the Bible - yet the Bible is open to many interpretations.

The story is told chronologically in three sections: Origination, Manifestation, and Transformation. The major role played by Luther, Zwingli, Calvin and many other protestant leaders are given a detailed accounting based on cause and effect. The Anglican Church's (Church of England) history and potential future are positively analyzed, showing how we arrived at our present structure, what our perceived problems are and potential realistic solutions.

McGrath concludes not with the faith practices of the English speaking world but with a short history of the fastest growing and largest protestant denomination--Pentecostalism, especially the growth in the southern globe . The author gives us the where's, why's and how's of this amazing transformation.

Many of the questions that I had about Protestantism and how it came to be the multi-denominational religion it is today were answered clearly and concisely with great detail and continuity. This is a most readable and engaging introduction to the history, theology and present day practices of modern Protestantism. A thoroughly enjoyable book.

How we Love our Dogs

Submitted by John McDowell

For those of you who have ever owned a dog.....

I pulled into the crowded parking lot at the Super Wal-Mart Shopping Center and rolled down the car windows to make sure my little Wooly had fresh air. She was stretched full-out on the back seat and I wanted to impress upon her that she must remain there. I walked to the curb backward, pointing my finger at the car and saying emphatically,

“Now you stay. Do you hear me? Stay! Stay!”

The driver of a nearby car, a pretty blonde young lady, gave me a strange look and said,

“Why don't you just put it in park?”

The Heartbreaking Story of Fistula

Submitted by Patricia McKenzie

Colleen was born in Victoria and has lived and worked in the West Shore communities for more than 40 years. She has owned a real estate company in the West Shore since 1989 and is mother to 4 boys ranging in age from 21 to 37 years and enjoys 5 grandchildren ranging in age from 1 to 16 years.

Colleen's interest in Africa and women's issues in particular were born as a result of her involvement with Rotary International. Rotary is a Service Club with a commitment to “service above self” and commitment to ensuring that 100% of the funds raised through the Rotary Foundation actually get to the project that is in need. Colleen initiated the Chartering of the Rotary Club of West Shore in September 2003 and has since served as its Centennial President in 2004-2005 and served as Assistant Governor in Rotary District 5020 from 2005 – 2007.

In the fall of 2006, Colleen joined a group of Rotarians from Vancouver Island and Washington State to travel to Ethiopia to provide oral polio vaccine to young children. During that experience, Colleen became aware of the Fistula problem in Africa and the need for the education and support of women.

During our evening at COTA we watched a DVD “A Walk to Beautiful” that displayed the hardship and isolation women who have untreated obstetric fistula endure. Families disintegrated when children and partners abandoned these poor, suffering women. And communities of outcast women appeared. I felt devastated watching the painful existence of women live a purposeless life of suffering for many, many years. I was wondering where was Christ in this hellish existence?

Obstetric fistula is the result of an obstructed labor that is left unrelieved and untreated. A fistula is a hole between a woman's birth passage and one or more of her internal organs. It can cause permanent incontinence. As we learned in the DVD, the Hamlin Fistula Hospital provides medical treatment in Addis Ababa and recently has begun building a rural focused program with mini-fistula hospitals. Women's lives and dignity are restored so they may rejoin their family and rebuild their lives.

Obstetric fistula is preventable and treatable; however, servicing uneducated Ethiopian women seeking emergency medical care for their complicated labour is a slow developmental process. Poverty and malnutrition, distant rural communities and cultural differences are problematic. Colleen's ambition is to continue to support the work that is in place and possibly initiate a Canadian foundation in aid of this cause.

For further information, please contact Colleen Milne (email: colleenmilne@gmail.com or phone: 250-920-9378). More information on the Fistula Foundation can be located at <http://www.fistulafoundation.org/index.html>

10 USES FOR A PLAIN OLE COFFEE FILTER

Submitted by John McDowell



Coffee filters ..who knew! And you can buy 1,000 at the Dollar Store for almost nothing.

Cover bowls or dishes when cooking in the microwave. Coffee filters make excellent covers.

Clean windows and mirrors. Coffee filters are lint-free so they'll leave windows sparkling.

Protect china. Separate your good dishes by putting a coffee filter between each dish.

Filter broken cork from wine. If you break the cork when opening a wine bottle, filter the wine through a coffee filter.

Protect a cast-iron skillet. Place a coffee filter in the skillet to absorb moisture and prevent rust.

Apply shoe polish. Ball up a lint-free coffee filter.

Recycle frying oil. After frying, strain oil through a sieve lined with a coffee filter.



Make convenient wrappers for messy foods like tacos.

Stop the soil from leaking out of a plant pot. Line a plant pot with a coffee filter to prevent the soil from going through the drainage holes.

Prevent a Popsicle from dripping. Poke one or two holes as needed in a coffee filter.

Youth Report

Submitted by Carol Denton

What a busy few months the Youth have had here at COTA. We have been trying to mix activities from 3 categories to have a well balanced and FUN program.

1. **Service** The youth have been assisting Victoria Garry and Cameron Gray in their fundraising efforts for a girl's school in Malawi (APU) and for **Solidarite Jeunesse**. We have collected bottles, served a Pasta Lunch after the 10 a.m. service and helped at the Ladies Valentines Breakfast.
2. **Worship** Many of the young ladies of the Youth program joined with the Choir and the Sunday School as narrators and singers at the Epiphany Service in January. I think this is an excellent opportunity to start a new tradition.
3. **Fun** Can anyone say fun and mud? I hear that is what occurred at the first ever Mountain bike outing with Rohan Rupf. The boys of all ages had a great time and next time, we will get some gals out there.

There are many exciting plans for our group and we always like to see new faces. We meet Sunday mornings for breakfast and have an empty seat just waiting to be filled.

Rosary Quiet Day

Submitted by Bonnie Anderson

The Rosary Quiet Day, held on Saturday, March 14, 2009 at Church of the Advent, and organized by our own Pat McKenzie as a Ladies Evening Group workshop offering to our congregation, was a wonderful day. A group of about 15 women enjoyed each other's company, learned about prayer beads, and made two types of Anglican Rosaries. All the while, we enjoyed the delightful and engaging company of Sister Louise and Sister Elizabeth Ann – our instructors*.

We started the day hearing about the various types of prayer beads of many religions around the world. The newest is the Anglican Rosary – developed by Rev. Lynn Baumann in the mid-1980s. This rosary is made up of a cross and

thirty-three beads representing the years of Jesus' earthly life. Of these, one is an Invitatory bead (inviting you into the circle of prayer with the first prayer or contemplation), four are Cruciform beads (that form a cross in the circular rosary), and twenty-eight beads divided into four sets of seven and spaced between each of the Cruciform beads (seven represents spiritual perfection and completion).

The Sisters had a number of rosaries for us to see and use. As we sat in a circle we each held a rosary and recited, together and out loud, a prayer made up of four parts. In order, we prayed one phrase for the cross, another for the invitatory bead, another for each cruciform bead, another for each weekly bead, and the ending prayer phrase on the cross. We went around the rosary three times – for the Trinity. We all found the repetitious and rhythmic exercise drew us into a peaceful and meditative state and we remarked how the touching of the beads had aided us in our prayers. Before this workshop, several women had already used rosaries although not the Anglican type and some women were intimidated by the rosary. We learned a couple of prayers at the workshop and were given about eight contemplative prayers.

We then began the activity of creating our own beaded rosary – choosing and counting out our four special Cruciform beads and one Invitatory bead as well as



our 28 smaller week beads. Those of us who had done bead work as little girls went back in time; those of us who never had, tasted this wonderful craft for the first time.

The fun really came after lunch when we tackled the knotted Anglican Rosary. This involved nylon twine, scissors, a cigarette lighter (I kid ye not – pardon the pun), and lots of patience. In this exercise, we had to wrap the twine around the end of our first finger and loop the end of the twine under and through to create a knot. It sounds so easy! But of course, it was anything but for all of us beginners. Consequently, many of the knotted rosaries were taken home to be finished. *(con't on page 22)*





JAZZ VESPERS

Anglican Church of the
Advent in Colwood

*Where Music
and Spirit
Meet . . .*

on the 3rd Sunday of
each month @ 7 p.m.

Freewill offering

March 15 – ALL THAT HOLY JAZZ
Tom Vickery Quartet

April 19th – JUST FRIENDS
Hugh Fraser and Campbell Ryga

May 17th – SEASON FINALE
Emily Braden and Friends

510 Mount View Avenue, Victoria BC V9B 2B1
Telephone 250-474-3031 www.colwoodanglican.ca

David Enns – Jazz Coordinator
Ken Gray – Priest

We ended our day with a short and lovely Eucharist service presided over by Rev. Gray. We placed our finished, and unfinished, rosaries on a tray on the altar for a blessing. For the Homily, we went around the circle of women and gave our individual thoughts on the day. We all commented on the meaningful time we had enjoyed – the fellowship, the peace, the non-threatening atmosphere, the laughter, and our newfound understanding of the Rosary and its benefits to aid in focusing on prayer.

There are many interesting web sites for you to peruse if you so choose – just Google “Anglican Rosary” or “Prayer Beads”. One such site, particularly interesting for you history buffs, is http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prayer_beads.

**Sister Louise is from St. John’s House, BC in Victoria and Sister Elizabeth Ann, the elected reverend mother of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine (SSJD), is from St. John’s Convent and Guest House in Toronto. SSJD was founded in Toronto in 1884 as a prayer and gospel-centered monastic community and is a contemporary expression of the religious life in the Anglican Church. The Sisterhood is bound together by the call to live out our baptismal covenant through the traditional monastic vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.*

Around the Church—the Sale May Now Proceed as We have a Garage to Sell



Marketing Y(our) Church

Notes submitted by Carol Denton

Editor's note: These notes give an indication of what we face every day. Those "inside" the ministry are comfortable and familiar; the challenge is relevance and the desire is to go deeper in faith. Those "outside" the ministry are unknowing and curious; the challenge is accessibility and the desire is to compare what is known with what is unknown. See what you think!

During March, the Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi gave a fantastic workshop entitled "Leading Your Church to Growth". If ever you have the chance to attend one of his workshops, I highly recommend it.

One of the aspects of this particular workshop was "Marketing your Church". The question "Why is marketing needed in the Church today?" can be answered in the following way: Many people outside the Church have our story wrong or do not even know what the Christian story is. Christians are statistically and culturally losing the hearts and minds of people in Canada today. Part of our problem is that we are not communicating our message well.

Here are ***Gary Nicolosi's Seven Key Characteristics of Marketing for Churches.***

Our audience is Authority Indifferent

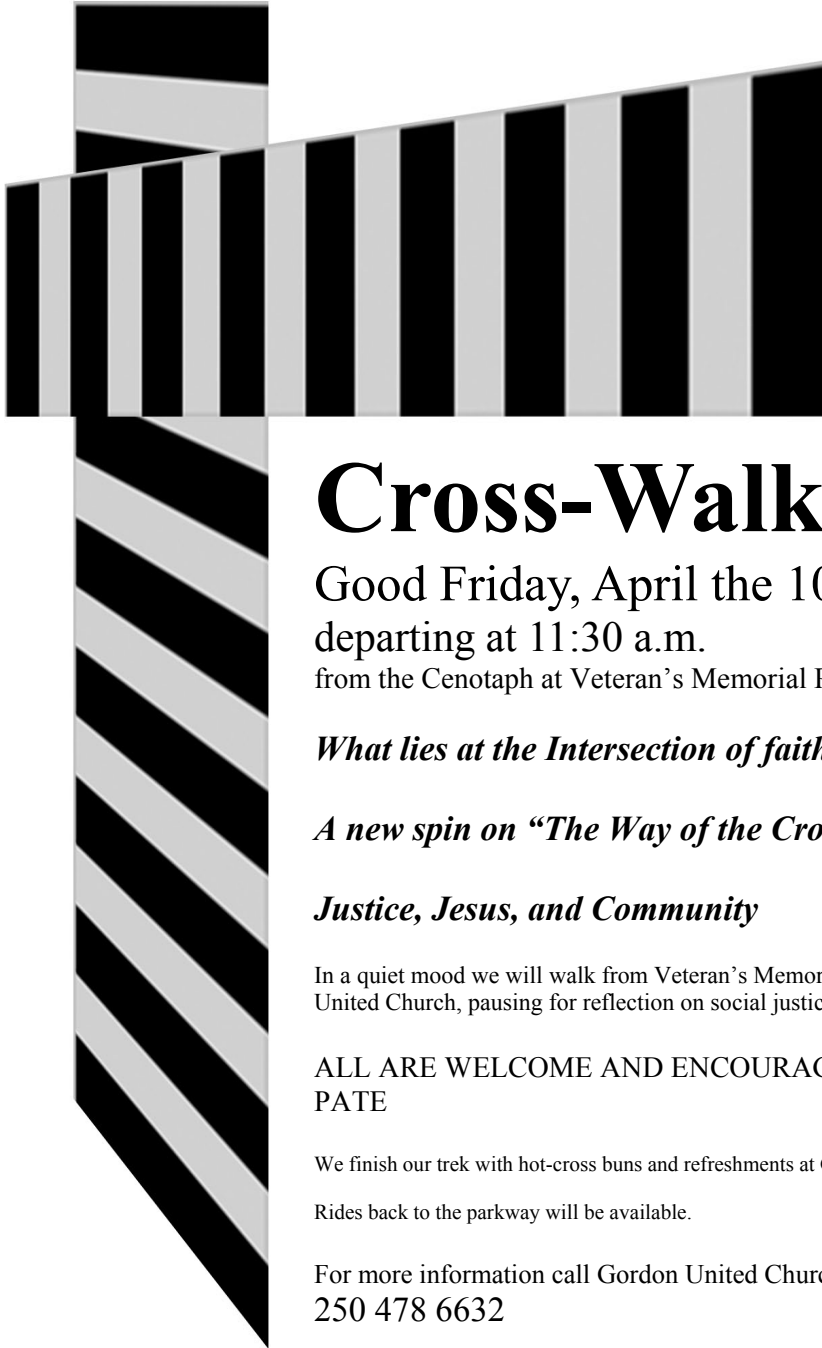
- * People no longer defer to the church or even respect the church any more than any other institution. The internet now gives everyone in society an equal voice to the most respected institutions.
- * Communication is all about relationship building: think in terms of "we are offering this to you because we care".

Our audience is time starved

- * Part of the reason fewer people bother with Church today is because they are too busy, and people are forced to make judgments about where to allocate their time.
- * Communicate in ways that don't require opening an envelope, including the use of email, door-hangers and postcards.

Our audience lives a post-Christian world

- * Sunday is no longer a sacred day. Society no longer has a collective church consciousness.
- * The great theological task today is to rethink the message – to contextualize



Cross-Walk

Good Friday, April the 10th
departing at 11:30 a.m.

from the Cenotaph at Veteran's Memorial Parkway

What lies at the Intersection of faith and urban life?

A new spin on "The Way of the Cross"

Justice, Jesus, and Community

In a quiet mood we will walk from Veteran's Memorial Parkway to Gordon United Church, pausing for reflection on social justice themes and challenges.

ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE

We finish our trek with hot-cross buns and refreshments at Gordon United Church

Rides back to the parkway will be available.

For more information call Gordon United Church at
250 478 6632

the gospel for the post modern world

Our audience has no collective church consciousness

- * Christian researcher George Barna claims that 70% of adults have no idea what John 3:16 means and most people don't even know it comes from the Bible.
- * When non-Christians were asked why Christians celebrate Easter, 46% could not give an accurate answer

Our audience is very spiritual

- * We live in a very spiritual world, where people believe anything and everything (horoscopes, Taro cards, Criss Angel)
- * People may be interested in spirituality, but not Christian spirituality

Our audience is Post-Modern, at least in part

- * For people with post-modern mindsets, there are no absolutes, no ultimate truths and no infallible authorities. Apologetics does not work on post-moderns. You cannot argue and debate a post-modern into the Kingdom



Our audience is diverse

- * You must do church differently for different cultures and generations
- * Find out the mindset of people before you try to market your church to them; be sensitive, humble and try to see through eyes other than those of your culture or your birth

March 18 and 25
April 1, 8, 15 and 22

**An Inquirers Class
in 6 sessions**

**Straight Forward
Faith Experience**

Explained, Discussed, and Celebrated
This course is designed for seekers and their supporters
This course could lead to confirmation or re-affirmation of vows

**We share a light supper together at 6 p.m.
We have a teaching session at 6:45 p.m.
Discussion follows at 7:30 p.m.
We finish no later than 8:30 p.m.**

<i>Saved, Savings and Salvation</i>	Salvation	March 18
<i>Do You Hear What I Hear?</i>	Prayer	March 25
<i>A 4-Letter Word</i>	Love	April 1
<i>A Visit To The Library</i>	Scripture	April 15
<i>Shall We Gather by the River</i>	Eucharist and Community	April 22
<i>Jesus Is Coming—Plant A Tree</i>	Justice and the End Times	April 29

A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY Begun, And Continuing in God: MAC RICHARDSON (1922-2008)

A large crowd gathered to bid farewell to Mac Richardson on Saturday, December the 13th at 1 p.m. In a service which included the piping of *Amazing Grace*, the Rector's version of *Gonna Take a Sentimental* journey, a wonderful photo montage of Mac's life and loves, accompanied by the music of



Artie Shaw, we sang together, and we remembered Mac and commended him to God. Mac is not only a longtime parishioner but also our former treasurer, a position he held with dignity and professionalism. He loved a party, especially



the New Years Eve dinner where he and Agnes danced all night. Together he and Agnes were proud supporters and volunteers at the Priory and Heritage Woods seniors care facilities where he spent his last days. Ken Gray mentioned Mac's lifelong

association with the Anglican church in his comments, especially how Mac embodied the living of a "devout, religious and holy life." Following the service the piper led a procession to old St. John's where, as the first snow flakes fell, we laid Mac to rest. Rest eternal, faithful Christian and friend to us all.

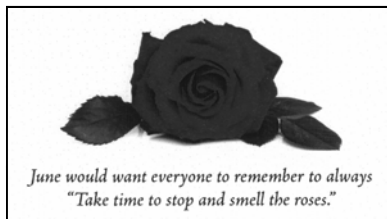
Take Time To Smell The Roses: JUNE SPURLING (1927-2009)

Submitted by Don and Sylvia Hatfield

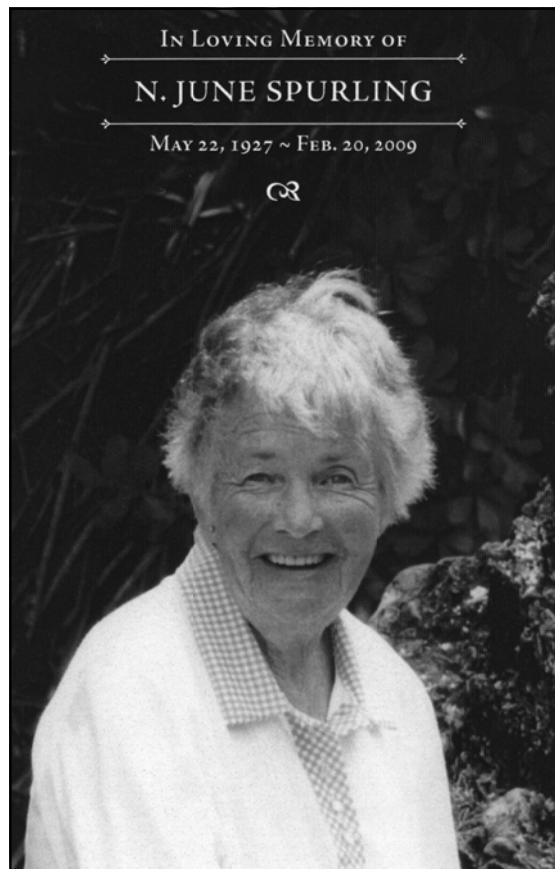
On Friday, February the 7th 2009 we bade farewell to June Spurling a longtime faithful parishioner who had been ill for many years and thus "out of sight and mind" for many.

Don and Sylvia Hatfield remember June and husband Roger well. They came to Colwood in the early 50's and quickly established themselves as vital members of St. John the Baptist's Church Family. Roger opened a Pharmacy at Colwood corner and he and June always worked together as a team.

June was a member of the Altar Guild for many years and if she said she



would do something you knew it would be done. She was always a wonderfully gracious lady and a joy to be with. She had a deep and abiding faith which enabled her to live one day at a time and know that whatever tomorrow brought there would be strength to meet it. She loved to garden and walk the Lagoon. Roses were her favourite flower, and the well known phrase "Take time to smell the roses" was lived out in her life. Certainly we all knew she was a faithful follower of The Master.



OUR ADVENTURE NEWSLETTER is published several times each year and is edited and compiled by Monica Gurzinski and Ken Gray with contributions from many, many people. It is printed on paper with a substantial amount of re-cycled material and is designed to be shared.
