

# ◆ Our Adventure ◆

Issue 32

September 2005

## **Church Staff:**

Rector: The Reverend Kenneth Gray; Rector's Warden: Bob Brandle; Peoples Warden: Jim Hamar; Administrator: Elizabeth Garland; Finances: Lesley Desjardins; Property Manager: Ed Robinson; Music Director: David Enns.

## **Fall and Faith Rev. Ken Gray**

I am starting a campaign . . . to change the name of the season called "Fall" to something more positive. I can't use "Rise" because Spring claims such an effect, at least on the environment and human spirit. I would like to use "Summer" but that's already taken. It literally means a period of fruition, fulfillment, happiness, or beauty" which I think can well apply to Fall.

What I don't like about the seasonal name is the connotation which suggests the action of falling which to me implies loss.

Fall is not a time of loss though some elements of creation melt away for a season or two. "Fall" contains the theological hubris of post-Augustinian thought about sin and humanity's so-called "fallen" nature which may explain some of my discomfort. More positive connections however can be found, where fall relates to an entrance into a state—like love or respect. Where fall is considered in the context of Autumn we discover a broader or respect. Where fall is considered in the context of Autumn we discover

a broader truth, that fall is a time where creation can rest or settle.

Technically Fall is "the season of the year between summer and winter, lasting from the autumnal equinox to the winter solstice and from September to December in the Northern Hemisphere; fall." Emotionally and experientially it is "a period of maturity verging on decline."

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**Church of the Advent, 510 Mount View Avenue, Victoria, BC V9B 2B1**

**Phone: 250-474-3031 Fax: 250-474-4097**

**Email: [churchoftheadvent@telus.net](mailto:churchoftheadvent@telus.net)**

**Website: <http://www3.telus.net/advent1/>**

The American Quaker theologian, Parker Palmer says this about Autumn in his short book for men titled Let your life speak:

“Autumn is a season of great beauty, but it is also a season of decline: the days grow shorter, the light is suffused, and summer's abundance decays toward winter's death. Faced with this inevitable winter, what does nature do in autumn? It scatters the seeds that will bring new growth in the spring—and scatters them with amazing abandon.”

Such a spectre of new growth in the face of winter connects well with my own experience of Fall. As the air cools and the sun remains warm my body remembers in a physical way (my gut actually tightens) otherwise forgotten life transitions.

Fall is the time when I attended new schools or adult courses of study. It's the time when I moved to new cities and countries. It is therefore a season where uncertainty and adventure meet.

In the North it was the season where the entire landscape turned bright yellow as a prelude to Thanksgiving's snow.

When I taught music it meant introductions to adult and student learners.

In ministry it is always a time of new relationships and social busyness.

In the Okanagan it meant farewell to the heat of summer; the well-rested

grass turned green once more and the days became noticeably shorter.

In Eastern Canada every Maple turned a different colour and in Northern Ontario, the Cider presses gave us drink and the mills squeezed out Apple Butter.

At the Adams River and here at Goldstream, death dressed up in the red and gold of a funeral pall.

On the prairie it meant harvest, that amazing time of gathering which reminds everyone of our dependence on nature, the cycle of seasons and human ingenuity.

Fall is a season of unlikely combinations of experience and nature, of life and death.

Again, Parker Palmer ...

“This hopeful notion that living is hidden within dying is surely enhanced by the visual glories of autumn. What artist would ever have painted a season of dying with such a vivid palette if nature had not done it first? Does death possess a beauty that we—who fear death, who find it ugly and obscene —cannot see? How shall we understand autumn's testimony that death and elegance go hand in hand?

“Death and elegance go hand in hand!” What an amazing description of a most complex season! What a fine testimony to the experience of living in the midst of God's creation!

While this article must stand alone, I do want to explore such themes

further and will do so in our forthcoming Parish Quiet Day (see below). There is a spirituality associated with the seasons, including Fall which will benefit those of us who wish to pay attention to such things. We are living-we are dying. We look forward to our safety, health and salvation through the assurance of resurrection. Our progress moves ahead through a variety of means, routes and initiatives. God is our constant companion, urging us on through a community which transcends present experience, geography, prejudice, ability, even will.

If you wish to join me in my so far solitary campaign, just let me know. We could plan a meeting, possibly in the new year?!

Remember, Seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God. Ken

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**Around Our Parish**

***Liturgical Fiber Arts Group***

A new group is forming in the parish which will allow you to utilize your creativity! We are starting a "***liturgical fiber arts group***". This group will meet monthly to ***explore*** and ***create*** works of beauty in the way of fabric art for our church. These pieces of art may be in the form of banners for the walls, frontals for the altar, or liturgical garments for the priest, (or other suggestions). Bring your creative ***mind*** and ***hands*** to our first meeting, Wednesday, Sept. 14/05 at 7:00 pm at the church. We have a few ideas to get us

started, but we need ***your creativity and gifts of sewing*** to make them happen. For more information, talk to Margaret Mitchell, 478-4076 or Kathie Gray 391-7546

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**Games**

An afternoon of Bridge, Scrabble & Crib on Thursday - September 22nd!!!!

- Come and join in and make up a table for bridge or play a game.
- The cost is \$15.00 which includes lunch and a \$10.00 tax receipt.
- Lunch is at 12:00 and games to follow. Proceeds to outreach.
- Prizes .....fun.....& friendship!

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**Choir**

Choir under the direction of David Enns is always looking for more members. You must enjoy singing and have Thursday nights available for practice.

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**Compassion Warehouse**

Compassion Warehouse is a collection place for items to be sent to 3rd world countries. They collect bedding (clean and in good shape please), Tupperware containers, baby clothes, blankets, towels, toys (in good working condition), children's books, and at the moment the push is for school supplies. If you have pencils, paper, crayons and chalk that is extra at your house bring it to church and we will see to it

that it goes to the warehouse. They are currently preparing four containers to be shipped to various locations in Africa. They are also in need of more volunteers. If you have some time to help out call Del at 381 4483.

(Submitted by Joan Hoffman)

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**CHURCH SIGNS**

Give God what's right  
Not what's left  
(Oregon roadside sign)

Is there life after death?  
Trespass here and find out!  
(Suggested sign to stop vandals in our Rose Garden)

Staying in bed shouting Oh God!  
Does not constitute going to church  
(RC Diocese of Galveston-Houston)

You give God credit  
Now give God the cash  
(Highland Academy)

What is missing from CH CH  
UR  
(River Falls Baptist Church)

Stop Drop & Roll  
Does not work in Hell.  
(Mount Vernon Baptist Church)

Wal-Mart is not the only saving place  
(Oak Grove Baptist Church)

(Submitted by John MacDowell)

# Pilgrimage

2005



**A**  
**Five-week sharing of**  
**Spiritual Experience**  
**Each Wednesday Evening**  
(Commencing October 12<sup>th</sup> through  
November 9<sup>th</sup>) at  
**7:30 p.m.**

PILGRIMAGE ...Is a theme which ideally unites the experience of our five guest speakers. Each person has traveled to a particular PLACE in pursuit of a particular PASSION. Each has taken a risk, expended energy and money, all in pursuit of a lively faith and significant expression of discipleship.

**WE MEET IN THE CHAPEL**  
**SPREAD THE WORD**



# JAZZ VESPERS

We've talked about it; now it's here.  
JAZZ VESPERS comes to the  
Church of the Advent with a full  
season of the best of Vancouver  
Island's jazz musicians.

**On the Third Sunday of each  
month**  
(commencing in October and  
excluding December)  
**Commencing at 7p.m.**

These Jazz Vespers services will  
include rousing music, candle  
lighting, prayers, a reading with a  
short reflection complete with a  
favourite hymn chosen by the artists.

# Falling in LOVE

## *The Spirituality of Fall*

A One-Day Directed Retreat

Saturday, September the 24<sup>th</sup>  
From 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.  
Royal Roads University  
**CEDAR BUILDING**

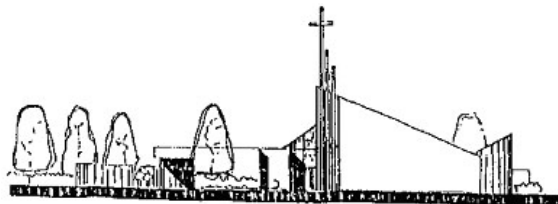
Led by  
The Rev. Ken Gray

Church of the Advent (Anglican)  
510 Mount View Ave.  
Colwood BC  
250 474 3031

[adventpr@telus.net](mailto:adventpr@telus.net)  
<http://www3.telus.net/advent1/index.htm>

**ALL WELCOME**

Bring a bag lunch



YOU ARE INVITED TO  
**COME TOGETHER**

*A special day of celebration and sharing at the*

**CHURCH OF THE ADVENT**

510 Mount View Avenue in Colwood

**WHEN** Sunday September the 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005

**WHY** Because you are invited  
Because you want to  
Because you are curious  
Because you like music  
Because God calls you at this time

**WHAT** **JOIN US IN WORSHIP at**  
8:30 a.m. **a service of Holy Communion**, *which is quiet, traditional, and about 40 minutes long*  
10:00 a.m. **a service of Holy Eucharist**, *which has something for all ages including music, preaching, and prayer.*

**HOW** do I find out more about this amazing Anglican Church?

**COME TO OUR MINISTRY FAIR** follows the 10 a.m. service and will commence at approximately 11:30 a.m. You will be greeted by displays featuring our many projects, groups and people. Come meet those people who make our church a vital and interesting and enjoyable place to worship and serve God together.

**For more information or other assistance call us at 474-3031**

## Looking Back Down the Years

**1940** Sooke Road. Well, it was black topped and a car could overtake, but it was single traffic both ways. In the spring and early summer, Sooke Road was beautiful! The east side was masses of dogwood's from Metchosin Road to Jacklin. There are still some left, but a number were taken down when the road was widened. A trip to Jordan River was quite an adventure in 1935. I don't remember where the black top ended and it became gravel, probably somewhere beyond Sooke.

**1942** Back then I was invited to spend a weekend with a friend at a place called Glen Lake for a swim. I went down Jacklin - in those days it didn't extend as far as Sooke Road. There was a little cut off lane. That was my first encounter with the area.

**1946** Glen Lake was two garages, one very adequate General Store - Peatts. (The Peatt family is still known here). There was a store across Sooke Road, I think it was a hardware type, and attached to it was Glen Lake Post Office - with it's own Post Mistress. She lived in a nice little cottage on Glen Lake Rd. It is still there with a huge lilac bush in front of it. Glen Lake Road had few houses on it at that time - the old Fisher Farm. That house was there until quite recently. On the lake side of the road was the Willways - who could ever forget Fred & Louise Willway!! He was Principal at Happy

Valley School. Louise had all the grades from 1 to 6, or was it 7?? I forget! Eventually they got married and Louise became a housewife. Many a morning I walked across the field from Page Ave. to join her for coffee at Peatts. Walking home, I used to pick mushrooms in the field! Eventually a school was named after Fred.

**1950s** Belmont High School opened. I worked for a few hours a week in the office. I used to walk from the railway trying to remember when a train might come - not wanting to be caught on the bridge with nowhere to get off the track! One day a workman's cart - the kind that traveled by pushing a lever back and forth - assed me and a mans hat blew off. I picked it up, and eventually the cart reversed and came back - They thanked me and offered me a ride to Jacklin. I took it!

## **1946/7 Church**

To begin with, we went to St. Matthew's in Langford, because a gentleman had called to introduce us to the church. For some reason we didn't seem to fit in, and eventually (through a sports day at Happy Valley school), we were invited by neighbours to attend a service at St. John the Baptist Church in Colwood, and we were happy there- always loved the little church, and became very involved in its life. We bought our Glen Lake Cottage in 1946, moved in on a snowy day - mud, slush, trees close to the house, but the lake was there - gloomy and still that day, but giving promise for the

future. Over the years, we have watched the district grow. The "country life" we sought was ours - chickens, goats, rabbits, etc. and growing our own vegetables - picking off a pod of peas and eating them! Simple pleasures! We got involved in various community activities, serving where we could, and always involved with the work in and for the Parish - now the whole area has grown with the move from St. John's little church to the Advent. There has been Parish growth as well as district - one can always find another job to do!, and pleasure in doing it.



They have been good years from 1946, when we arrived - to this modern existence. There are of course pluses and minus - but that is life - to be met with understanding, tolerance and love. (Written by Sybil Parker – August 2005)

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As told by Rev. Andrew Hewlett to the A.C.W. some years ago:

A visiting minister walked into the pulpit to preach. He checked the microphone and noticed that the cord was ragged. He muttered,

“There’s something wrong with this cord.”

The people, thinking he said “The Lord be with you”, answered,

“And also with you”.

(Submitted by E. Hope Stewart)