



THE ELM LEAF NEWSLETTER

The Parish Church
of St. Peter

March 2009 issue

What's inside...

Central Buganda
Orphan's Fund .3

Holy Week.....4

Women's
Friendship.....5

10 Years Ago in
the Elm Leaf6

Calling all
Gardeners6

Youth Group7

Readers
Wanted8

Creation Care ...9

Faith &
Daily Life9

Vestry Matters 10

Pilgrims in the
Kingdom.....11

Poem12

Sunday School
Notes13

Book & Garage
Sale.....14

Community
Health15

St Peter's in
Pictures.....16

Message from Mary

It has been a little over a year, now, since I came to be your interim priest. In my annual report I shared with you some of my first impressions of the parish. Having done that, I realized that I am at the midpoint of my stay with you. In another year, you will be getting ready to welcome your new rector and I will be looking forward to another interim position.

As I look back from the vantage point of one year with you, I realize how richly God has blessed St. Peter's. You have been blessed with gifts for worship that is emotionally and intellectually and spiritually satisfying, because it strives for truth and beauty. You have been blessed with gifts for community that strives to make everyone feel safe and wanted. You have been blessed with tender hearts that ache for justice for all of God's people. You have been blessed with a faith that has sustained many of you through very difficult and painful times in your lives. You long to share that gift with others, especially your children.

That same faith is the source of a deep sense of integrity, which challenges you to hold all these gifts in balance. Worship that is good and true and beautiful for some looks quite different to worship that is good and true and life-giving for

others. Community that feels safe and "just like home" for some looks very different than community that feels safe and "just like home" to others. Delighting in God's will and walking in God's ways, while, at the same time, loving your neighbour as yourself, is a little like walking a tightrope. Open and honest communication is the balancing bar. God seems to have given St. Peter's a good sense of balance.

When I am asked, "How do you like St. Peter's?" and I tell people about you, I am generally met with amazement. One woman, whom I met this summer, works in the United Church in southern Ontario. She said, "Oh, we have lots of 50 year old parishes. I call them teenagers. They all have the same problems." When I asked her what those problems were, thinking I might get some insight into St. Peter's, she said, "Their buildings are all 50 years old and they haven't done anything to them since they were built. Their programs are still the same as when they started. The people are still the same people." Clearly, St. Peter's is different from the norm!

So, why has God given these gifts to St. Peter's? It's a little bit like Jeopardy, isn't it? The answer is "St. Peter's". But what is the question? What is God doing to redeem the

world that St. Peter's is the answer to? God doesn't give gifts randomly, for no purpose. And God has blessed you richly. With great gifts, comes great responsibility.

The next stage of our interim journey together will be looking at this question. We had a taste of it in the Asset Mapping exercise. You listed as many of St. Peter's assets as you could think of. Then you began to cluster them together into potential actions. It was obvious that there are lots of possibilities for action. The next step is taking a hard look at the world in and around St. Peter's. Who are the neighbours? What are their needs? How does God envision St. Peter's using the gifts of faith, worship, community and compassion that she's been given, in helping to fulfill God's plan for the world?

A corollary to 'How does St. Peter's fit into God's plan for the redemption of the world?' is the question, 'Who does God have in mind to

Upcoming Events for Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast Group meets for breakfast the first Saturday of the month at 8:30 with a speaker following. Breakfast set up starts at about 8:00 if you would like to help.

On April 4, the speaker will be Mr. Zack Gross, the Outreach Coordinator for the fair trade project, who will talk about Fair Trade and what we can do to make it work.

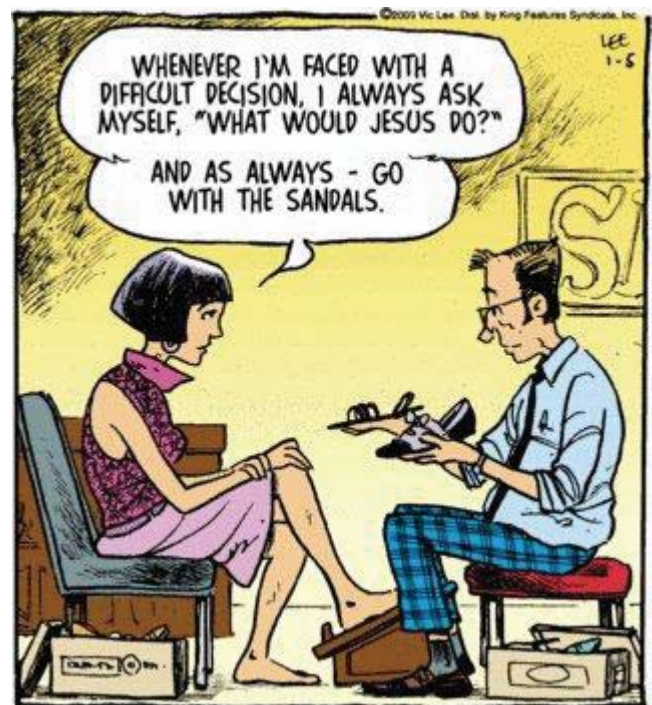
On May 2, the topic will be Hearing Pictures, Seeing Sounds and Composer Gordon Fitzell will play some of his music and discuss recent developments in his compositional approach, including the roles of photography and graphic design in the creation of his musical scores. All are invited to this event.

pastor this parish as you continue to discover how to delight in God's will and walk in God's ways?' This part of the process, searching for and hiring a new priest, is just beginning. In consultation with the bishop and the archdeacon, the wardens and I have come up with a tentative timeline for the appointment process. Bill Harwood has made an elegant chart that shows the events and procedures that will take place over the next year. The chart is on the Vestry bulletin board in the narthex.

To quote St. Paul, "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."



Mary Lysecki



Central Buganda Orphans' Fund

The Diocesan Orphan Fund is a project of the Diocese of Rupert's Land in support of our companion Diocese of Central Buganda. There are many orphans throughout this Ugandan region and we raise funds (for example, through our soup lunch on February 8th) to help fund the children's schooling.



Equatorial View Primary School

At St. Peter's we have had an informal commitment to raising \$1,000 per year for the fund.

The following letter from Bud Oliver outlines some of the work made possible by the fund and the children who benefit from it.

Thank you very much for your contribution to the Central Buganda Orphans' fund. In 2008, Rupert's Land sent \$20,000.00 to the Central Buganda Orphans' Fund, bringing the total contribution to date to \$83,126.00 since the program was started in January 2004. This money is given by individuals, parishes and businesses. It should be noted that the Orphans' Project is supported entirely by voluntary contributions.

The Orphans' Fund assists with school fees for 125 students per year. The guardians of the orphans require this assistance since cash is required to pay the fees. In many cases, the guardians (often a grandmother) are caring for as many as twenty orphaned children of relatives in addition to their own children. While the basic needs of food and shelter are provided within the family, money is always very scarce. In most cases, if the school fees are not paid, the child is not allowed to attend school.

In the past year, the Reverend Jason Muskoke, Rector of St. Phillips, Nabusankr Parish was

appointed by Jackson Matovu, Bishop of Central Buganda Diocese to be the Program Coordinator for the Central Buganda Diocese. Since Jason has become the Co-coordinator, information about the Orphans' Project is more readily available.

Below is a thumbnail sketch provided by Jason for a student supported by the Orphans' Fund from each of the six schools involved. It is hoped that this will give a better understanding of the challenges that are faced by these children while trying to obtain an education.

A girl from Little Flowers Primary School, aged 10 years, in Primary 5, joined the programme when in primary 1. Has been an orphan when 6 months old. Both her parents died of AIDS, lives with her Grand mother. It's the programme which enable/assisting her go to School and meeting her school/home basic requirements.

A boy at Kalwanga Primary School, 15 years, in Primary 6, joined the programme when in Primary 2. His parents died of AIDS when he was one year old, is being looked after by a friend to his late parents. The programme has/is assisting him go to school and catering for school/home basic requirements.

A girl at Kiafampa Primary School, aged 13, in Primary 6, joined the programme when she was in primary 2. Her parents died of AIDS when she was 9 months. Her Aunt looks after her, who had totally failed to raise her school requirements. She would be a school drop-out if it were not for this programme. She now goes to school and being assisted on basic home requirements.

A boy at Lubaale primary school, never saw his parent, is in primary 6, joined the programme when in primary 2. Is being looked after by his Nephew. The programme caters for his school/home basic requirement.

A girl at Equatorial view primary school, aged 13, lost her parents when she was 4 years, is in primary 6, joined the programme

when she was in primary 2. From primary 1, she could not join primary 2 until when the programme picked on her and cater for her school/home basic requirements.

A boy at Brain Trust College (high school) aged 17, lost his parents while 4 years, joined the programme when he was in primary 6, has lost all hope for further learning until when the programme picked him, in now in senior 2, looked after by a Rev.

From Bishop Jackson: "Your commitment to promote the Orphan Program in our Diocese is very much appreciated. May the Lord bless all of your endeavours, now and forever."



Bud Oliver, Chair
December 31, 2008
Companion Diocese Committee

Holy Week Worship Services - The Inside Story

The worship services of Holy Week are for many people the most meaningful events of the church year. The following descriptions are offered for those who have not previously been to them and as an encouragement to everyone to take advantage of the opportunity that these services offer to enter into the experience and significance of the last days of Jesus' life.

Maundy Thursday

The evening begins with the Seder supper, which re-enacts the final meal which Jesus had with his friends. It is based on the traditional Jewish Passover meal with its rituals and symbols. The meaning of the symbols is explained during the course of the meal. The meal itself is a pot-luck supper provided by those who attend, with the addition of several traditional foods including a serving of lamb. At the end of the meal we process into the church for a brief service celebrating the Institution of the Eucharist. The evening ends with the Stripping of the altar and removal of all adornment from the sanctuary in

preparation for Good Friday. The Seder supper is very much a family event. We invite everyone in our Parish family to make this evening part of their preparation for Easter. Please sign the poster on the bulletin board or phone the church to have your name added on the list. If you require a ride, please call the church, arrangements will be made to enable you to attend.

Good Friday

We reflect on the events of the Crucifixion and the significance of Christ's death for us today. The reading of the Passion is done with readers taking the different roles in the story and congregation acting as the crowd who supports the decision to crucify Jesus. Following a meditation, we offer our prayers in the Solemn Intercession. The Meditation on the Cross is perhaps the most moving part of the service, where we are reminded of the many ways in which we, as a church and as individuals, have contributed to Christ's pain.

Holy Saturday

The impact of the symbols of darkness and light makes this one of the most powerful services of the Christian year. The Easter Vigil begins in darkness at the doors of the church. A fire is lit and the Paschal Candle is lit from the new fire. The procession into the church is led by the Paschal Candle, which signifies the presence of the risen Christ. The congregation's candles are lit and an ancient hymn called "The Exultant" is sung. The scripture readings recall God's acts throughout history, culminating in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Everyone then gathers around the font to renew our baptismal vows and the service ends with a joyful celebration of the Eucharist.



From the parish files
submitted by Mary Lysecki & Jim Daun

Holy Week 2009

April 5 **Palm Sunday (Family Service - No Sunday School)**

8:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. - Liturgy of Palms & Holy Eucharist

April 9 **Maundy Thursday**

6:00 p.m. - Seder Supper, Holy Eucharist, Washing of Feet & Stripping of the Altar.

April 10 **Good Friday**

10:30 a.m. - Celebration of the Lord's Passion

April 11 **Holy Saturday**

9:00 p.m. - Easter Vigil

April 12 **Easter Day**

8:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

Women's Friendship Group

The Women's Friendship Group usually meets on the third Saturday of each month. We start breakfast at 9 a.m. and our guest presenters usually speak from 10:00 a.m. for about 45 minutes to an hour.

In January, we didn't have a formal speaker, but we still met to share breakfast and have an opportunity to catch up with each other's news after Christmas. In February, Dorothy Tytgat gave us wonderful presentation on Therapeutic Touch.

Plans for upcoming months are:

- March: Katherine Almeida will present a slide show of her trip to Israel;
- April: Stephanie Giberson will give a talk on 'Adult Education';
- May: To be determined;
- June: Not confirmed at the time of this report, but we are hoping to have a presentation from a young woman,

Noreen Nian, who spent 6 months in Ghana volunteering with Kathy Knowles' organisation 'The Osu Children's Library Fund'.

The committee will be meeting in early April to discuss the plans for the Fall/Winter season breakfasts. We already have several suggestions presented to us, and once confirmed, details will be published in the next Elm Leaf.

Attendees at the breakfast are invited to make a donation towards the cost of preparing the food for breakfast, and the money raised is used towards various in-reach and outreach programs. Recently, the Women's Friendship Group joined with the Men's Breakfast Group to purchase a new microwave for the kitchen. We also invite the ladies to bring personal items that we send to St. Matthew's Maryland.



Frances Tester
Women's Friendship Group Chair

Ten years ago

in **THE ELM LEAF**

In his contribution, Phil Barnett spoke about the role of candles in our services. He focused on a quotation from "in Memoriam" by Edward Seari.

A candle has its allotted span to burn. (So a human life has its allotted span of years to live.) Yet while it burns – for a short span or a long span of time – it radiates light and heat. And flame kindles flame; life begets life. The glow and heat, the passion of life, are passed on; so long after the candle is extinguished or consumed, the fire of life and love still burns. A human life also continues in the lives it has both engendered and influenced.

Stare at the flame, then look away (or even shut your eyes). As the eye remembers the light, so the mind remembers a person who has died".

He also discussed the role of the Paschal Candle, especially in the Easter Vigil Service.

A further article talked about "All you wanted to know about the worship services of Holy Week but were afraid to ask" (reprinted in this Elm Leaf on page 4) and a discussion of the Easter Garden, created in 1981 by Tom Young and Linda Mullins. Four parishioners, May de Wet, Reg and Betty Lawrence and Orie Owen shared their St. Peter's stories with us. We welcomed Sarah Ann Barnett, Britney, Charles and Shelby Evans as members through Holy Baptism. Outreach activities included 10 days for Global Justice theme Fashioning Freedom – looking for a living wage for garment workers. Youth group activities included two youth services and were looking forward to a Folk Mass. In the Seniors group, George Green had talked about rock hunting, Mr. Dan Trochim gave a talk about St. John Ambulance, and a presentation was made on Options on Housing for Seniors.

There were also articles on the 1999 parish questions update and an invitation to the Annual Parish Retreat Weekend at Anglican Island.

Compiled from the March 1999 issue by Jim Daun

Calling All Gardeners

Although spring seems a long time in arriving, we can begin to dream and to think about green grass and flowers. This means that we will need people to help with a yard and garden clean-up and then to be a part of a group to plant, weed and water thro' the summer.

This year we have joined KIDS Inc in applying for Green Team assistance for grass cutting and

yard care. However, if this year is like last year, the requests will not be fully realized.

If you are interested in being a part of a gardening group ministry, please speak to me. We will be bringing this up later in the spring when the snow goes and bulbs start to show. Happy days!



Betty Currie

Youth Group

Members of the youth group have been active with a number of events since Christmas. On January 11, we helped the Sunday School in preparing and serving a hot dog lunch after the morning service. On January 17 the youth met and with the proceeds from the hot dog lunch went shopping for supplies for St. Matthew's - Maryland Community Ministry nutrition bingo. The group divided up the tasks of measuring out the ingredients necessary for the recipe supplied By St. Matt's and placed them into bags to be awarded as prizes.

January 25 was bowling night. This has been the most popular event so far with a total of seventeen youth and adults participating. It was a great evening with lots of fun and laughter (see photo on pg. 16). The scores will not be divulged to prevent embarrassment to the adults!

A movie night of February 7 was also well attended. The movie *Amazing Grace* was shown and treats included popcorn, potato chips and

juice. There was some time remaining after the first movie so part of the *Blues Brothers* movie was also viewed.

The group took advantage of the February 16 Riel Day holiday from school and the mild weather to go skating and sledding at Roblin Park. After the outdoor activities the group walked over to the Kyle's home to warm up with some hot chocolate. Thank you Yvonne. Eleven youth and adults took in this event.

March 1 the group held a 'food box dinner' and a movie night. Everyone who attended was asked to bring two non-perishable food items. One item was for the St. Matthew's Maryland food box, which is kept in the narthex, and the other was used for dinner. Kraft dinner was by far the most popular choice for dinner. There was some discussion that the people who use the items supplied to St. Matthew's don't always have the luxury of choosing what they will eat. They often have to take what is available and that may not be something they particularly care for. After cleaning up the dishes, the group watched the *Blues Brothers* movie. Eleven people took part.

Although there are no specific dates established for future activities, there are plans to hold more events. These may include a visit to Winnipeg Harvest, a visit to St. Matthew's-Maryland Community Ministry during Spring Break, some geocaching, bowling, and movie nights. There has also been discussion about perhaps getting together with youth groups from other churches and learning about other faiths.

Thank you to everyone who supplied baking and other goodies for the hot dog lunch and our movie nights.

Message from the Corporation Regarding Advertising

While we understand that all schools and sports teams etc., expect their students, athletes and members to fundraise, we have a policy at St. Peter's that we do not wish our parishioners to use the Announcement Time after the Sunday Service for this purpose. Nor do we wish parishioners to sell raffle tickets or merchandise in the Parish Hall after the Service or to put up 'for sale' posters or inappropriate jokes on the Bulletin Boards. If you are unsure, please check with a member of the Corporation. Thank you.

St. Peter's Corporation



Bill Harwood

Readers Wanted!

This summer (May through August), we will be trying a new approach to reading the lessons at services. In the past we have assigned individuals to read specific lessons on specific Sunday's. Since many people are away during the summer, often the bulletin would say that "Joe Smith" was reading the first lesson but "Joe Smith" was away and had not found his replacement. This has required some quick thinking by the people conducting the service.

Recognizing that summer is a difficult time for many to be sure they will be at church when assigned, we have decided to let individuals pick their own readings and Sundays. We will post a list of readings for the summer in the Hall and people will be invited to sign up for the Sunday they would like. This posting will stay up all summer so you don't have to decide right away. Worship leaders will also make periodic reminders. We also plan to post the readings for the Easter Vigil Service and for the parts in the Gospel Drama for Good Friday.

If no one has signed up for a particular reading by the Thursday before Sunday, no name will appear beside that reading in the bulletin and the Worship Leader (Officiant) will approach people on Sunday morning to take the reading. (This, of course, will limit the time available to practice) so it is much better to select a reading the week before.

If you do, here are some hints for preparation:

During the week preceding your reading, look over the passage using your own Bible or ask Eleanor to photocopy the reading from the lectionary for you. Or find the readings online at www.biblegateway.com/passage/. Use the NRSV.

Arrange to arrive at the church at least 10 minutes before the service begins and read over the same passage from the lectionary located on the lectern. While the content will be the same as your bible, you will find that some of the

words are changed e.g. 'men' will now be termed 'people' or 'humans'.

If there are difficult words in the reading, check with Mary or with the guide to pronunciation found in the Sacristy.

While reading:

Proclaim, don't just read

Read slowly

Speak clearly and project your voice.

Imagine that you are speaking to a 'hard of hearing' person in the back pew.

Begin every reading with, for example:

a reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

a reading from the book of Exodus

a reading from the Acts of the Apostles

End every reading with:

hear what the spirit is saying to the church

We hope that this new process will make it easier for everyone and also will give some who may wish to try reading a chance to do so. In conjunction with this we will be offering a readers' workshop during May or June.

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

Romans 12 1-21.

and if it is reading lessons, let him or her do it willingly.



Jim and Lynda Daun

Creation Care Quiz

- 1) How many compact florescent light bulbs are there in the sanctuary? How many have you at home?
- 2) Where are these light bulbs disposed? Why dispose of them?
- 3) Where are the composters located? How many?
- 4) If you live in an apartment, why would you not use the church's composters?
- 5) Plastic stir sticks pollute. What does St. Peter's use instead?
- 6) What is hazardous waste?
- 7) Where is the nearest hazardous waste depot to St. Peter's?
- 8) Where is the box for used printer cartridges?
- 9) Where does St. Peter's get its environmentally-friendly recycled paper for the bulletin?
- 10) Approximately how many miles do the flowers travel to St. Peter's?
- 11) What are the 3 different bins in the kitchen used for?
- 12) How many high efficiency furnaces were installed last year?
- 13) Where is the cycle rack being installed?



Maureen Tate

Answers are listed on page 13.

Elm Leaf Editorial Team

Publishing Editor - Marcus LeNabat

Assistant Editors - Yvonne Kyle

Jim Daun

Fenella Temmerman

Please submit articles you wish to see published to one of the editors for consideration.

Next issue is planned for May 2009.

Faith & Daily Life

The second half of the Marcus Borg's "Living The Questions - Saving Jesus" ran for six Wednesdays starting on January 7th. There were between 3 and 12 participants watching a DVD of various contemporary theologians, talking about the Biblical stories of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection.

On February 24th, the Committee met to plan the 2009 Lenten Study Program.

After much discussion, we decided to present a program around the "Faith and the Environment" theme. Suggested speakers were proposed, and at the time of this article, three have been confirmed:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| March 4 | Melanie Ball - a presentation on "A Rocha" the Christian Conservation organization; |
| March 11 | Ray Temmerman - content to be confirmed; |
| March 18 | No program (Vestry meeting); |
| March 25 | Ian Barnett who will give us a presentation on his involvement in the Fort Whyte Farms program; |
| April 1 | Mark Burch who conducts workshops on simple living for retreat centres, community-based environmental organizations, and wellness programs. |

At the February 24th meeting we also discussed the issue of the bi-annual Parish Questionnaire. Due to the fact that we are currently in the Interim Process and this questionnaire will be a very important one, the Committee agreed to invite Corporation to be a part of the process.



Frances Tester
Faith and Daily Life Committee Chair

Vestry Matters

2009 will be a busy and important time for St Peter's. Our new Vestry was commissioned on February 15th and we had our first meeting on Feb. 19th. Information on vestry activities is posted on the Vestry board in the narthex.

Vestry members for 2009 are:

Mary Chalmers	Bill Harwood*
Keith Nociar	Bob Cook
Bob Kellington	Shannon Rusu
Betty Currie*	Mary Lysecki*
Frances Tester*	Ellen Gould
Glenn Morris	

*Corporation

Some areas of interest and concern are:

1. **Treasurer:** Rod Tester has resigned from this position after 8 years. Donna Friesen and Marie Chalmers have volunteered to share the position. We appreciate Rod's years of commitment and Donna's and Marie's generosity in volunteering to take on the task. Rod will work with the new team as they become familiar with their role.
2. **Sunday School Coordinator:** Yvonne Kyle will be resigning from this position at the end of May. We are grateful to Yvonne for her enthusiasm, creativity (think Christmas Pageants!) and obvious joy working with our children. We now must find her replacement.
3. **Interim Process:**
 - A second parish gathering was held on January 31st when those in attendance identified an impressive list of our parish assets
 - The National Church and the Diocese have asked that all parishes identify their views on the blessing of same-sex unions and it will be important for us to do this as we look for a new priest.
 - Mary Lysecki will meet with the Archdeacon to begin creating a parish profile.
4. **Groups:**
 - On the Vestry Board is a graph showing the progress of our interim activities, allowing parishioners to see that the process is evolving as it should.
 - Seniors - This energetic group meets monthly. They have decided to donate the money left over from the previous group to help provide a bike rack this spring.
 - Youth - There have been some very successful, fun youth activities recently, organized by Serene Desmond, Jim Daun and Bill Harwood.
 - Young Families - A meeting in January received input from several young families on what they are looking for from church and the barriers that might be preventing them from regularly attending services. The information gathered will be very helpful in future planning.
5. **Outreach:** The Outreach Committee has identified their priorities as: PWRDF, Diocesan Orphan Fund, St. Matthew's Maryland Community Ministry, LITE and Agape Table. Gifts to these groups will come from the proceeds of special events in the parish.
6. **Standard Operating Manual:** We will be developing a manual defining parish policies, procedures, job descriptions, terms of reference for committees, and outlines of the general operation of the building and the parish.
7. **Purchase Orders/Cheque Requests:** We are refining the processes used for the paying for purchases and parish expenses.

As indicated, this is a busy time and there is much to do. We look forward to working together this year.



Betty Currie
Rector's Warden

Pilgrims in the Kingdom - Book Review

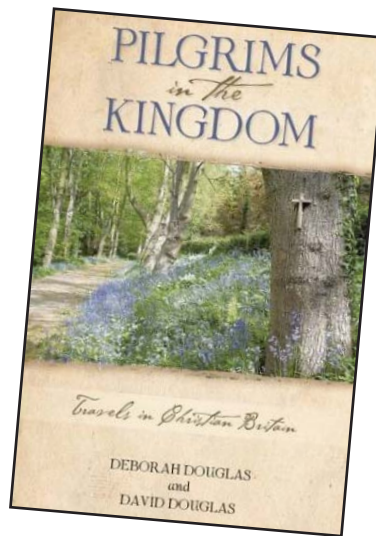
I was drawn to *Pilgrims in the Kingdom: Travels in Christian Britain* for the chance to reflect again or for the first time, on places and lives that touch and deepen our faith journey. As husband and wife authors Deborah & David Douglas point out in their introduction, pilgrimage at its heart must be undertaken alone, and while collaborating on the book go their own way to lend their "own voice" to each chapter. There is much to reflect on in these individual journeys of pilgrimage and discovery, and in their sharing of "holy listening". Three chapters I especially liked were: Deborah's on Iona (Ch.2) and C.S. Lewis (Ch.15); and David's closing chapter at Little Gidding (Ch.16).

Much has been written about Iona, but as Deborah explored that "thin" place settled by Irish monks centuries ago, buffeted by winds off the North Atlantic which left her "breathless and exhilarated" I, too, sensed the "paradox felt so keenly on Iona: the stillness at the heart of the journey into God, the trust and peacefulness in the midst of the tumult". Near Iona's stone crosses, "sentinels in the wind-scoured land", Deborah recalls a line from an ancient prayer: "May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross."

The bustling city of Oxford is in sharp contrast to the tiny island of Iona, but a place of pilgrimage nonetheless for those whose faith has been shaped by C.S. Lewis. Here Deborah recalls Lewis's conversion encounter with that "rush of wind which came so suddenly... we held our breath" (*Surprised by Joy*). Lewis's epiphany catches Deborah's breath again as she walks: "The complicated sensations of that moment under the wind-murmuring trees....Lewis knew well. He called it Joy". I

found Deborah's writing on Joy very moving: "These inconsolable longings are a kind of homing device, placed in our hearts by grace. Joy is sweet, even in its knife-edged sadness, because it is a gift from God, who longs, beyond all our imaginings, to draw us to himself".

In the chapel at Little Gidding, kneeling with Deborah, David turns again to the verse from T.S. Eliot's *Little Gidding* - a verse "consulted like a compass" on their travels, and which they found framed on one of the chapel walls - a reminder that in all of our journeying: You are not here to verify, instruct yourself, or inform curiosity or carry report. You are here to kneel where prayer has been valid.



Whether read before or after roads taken, or by travels of the heart by those who stay close to home, *Pilgrims in the Kingdom* is a fine companion on the journey.

The above review was done some time ago for a friend who was then editor of a Lutheran publication, in exchange for a copy of the book. I recently reread it prior to a trip which would include 5 days on Iona, and I can now attest to the utter peacefulness of the island, and the incredible winds blowing off the North Atlantic! If anyone would like to borrow the book, please call me and I'll be more than happy to get it to you.



Maureen Tate

Jesus Footsteps

To be sung to Das Moorsoldatenlied (Peat Bog Soldiers), a song written by prisoners in Nazi moorland labour camps in Lower Saxony, Germany. The music was composed by Rudi Goguel and was later adapted by Hanns Eisler and Ernst Busch. The original words tell of the daily grind of going out to the moors to cut peat. The song has a slow simple melody, reflecting a soldier's march, and is deliberately repetitive, echoing and telling of the daily grind of hard labour in harsh conditions. It was popular with German refugees in London in the Thirties and was used as a marching song by the German volunteers of the International Brigades during the Spanish Civil War. It seemed appropriate to rewrite the words reflecting Jesus struggles and his compassion for the victims of injustice.

Em C Em C
Can we follow in Jesus footsteps

Am Em B7 Em
As he leads us to the cross?

G C G C
Can we lead our lives as he did

Am Em B7 Em
Counting all our gains as loss?

Chorus (repeat once)

D7G D
O can we follow Jesus

Em Am6 Em D7
Leading on the way to the cross?

Can we learn to love each other
Sharing all that's in our hearts?
Forgiving all that comes against us
Even when the way is hard.

Chorus

O can we follow Jesus
Leading on the way to the cross?

Can we reach out to touch the leper
Healing with our hands and love?
Bringing peace to those without it;
Sharing Grace from God above.

Chorus

O can we follow Jesus
Leading on the way to the cross?

Will we shout our glad Hosannahs
As in triumph on he comes?

Will we turn then and deny him
When to darkness he succumbs,

Chorus

O can we follow Jesus
Leading on the way to the cross?

Can we share his pain and sorrow;
Scourge and whipping crown of thorns?
Dying in a death so cruel
As his mother weeps and mourns.

Chorus

O can we follow Jesus
Leading on the way to the cross?

Do we see that the tomb is empty?
Love has triumphed o'er the grave.
Can we feel the Grace within us.
Knowing in that our lives are saved.

Chorus

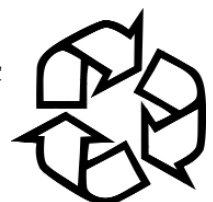
O can we follow Jesus
Leading on the way from the cross?



Jim Daun

Reducing our footprint

This newsletter was printed on Envirographic 100 paper, which is comprised of 100% Post-Consumer Waste. It's also 100% Processed Chlorine Free and acid-free as well.



Sunday School Notes

Because Yvonne is leaving as coordinator at the end of this Sunday School year, vestry is looking for a new coordinator. In case you think the new coordinator might be YOU, here is a brief description of what is involved, keeping in mind that, as is usually the case, the job description doesn't very accurately describe the job. Like most volunteer positions, the work that is done depends largely on the person doing it who will make the role into something they can call their own.

The primary focus of the Sunday School coordinator is to ensure that there are teachers available for all the classes being taught. This includes both recruiting people as regular teachers and also finding replacements as needed when the regular teachers are away. The coordinator also selects and orders the curriculum material that will be used in the Sunday School, and is responsible for the presentation of the Sunday School annual report and for any Elm Leaf articles or other Sunday School communications. Most of the time, the coordinator also teaches, although if there are enough other teachers, this is not always necessary.

At St Peter's, the Sunday School typically gathers as a whole before breaking into classes for age appropriate lessons. If this practice continues with a new coordinator, it will be the coordinator's role to determine how the group time is spent. Currently the Sunday School uses the time to sing, light candles, tell some stories, and pray together. Over the last several years, the Sunday School has tried also to look beyond ourselves and do some "kid-friendly" outreach projects. The coordinator, with input from the teachers and kids chooses the projects and makes sure everything is in place for them to happen.

And, finally, the Sunday School coordinator at St Peter's is responsible for making sure that there

is a Christmas pageant for the kids to present at the early service on Christmas Eve.

The time commitment for Sunday School coordinator will vary throughout the year. In the fall, when recruiting and organizing teachers and materials, and any time there is an outreach project planned, expect to spend 4-6 hours per week plus the time on Sunday mornings. This can increase to 10-12 hours per week around Christmas, depending on how the Christmas pageant is done. When there is nothing special going on, the coordinator will typically need 1-2 hours in a week to keep things going smoothly. If the coordinator is also teaching, class prep time will also be needed.

Like life, the job of Sunday School coordinator is mostly fun with some bumps and bruises along the way. The pay comes in the faces of the kids who appreciate that someone is giving them the opportunities they want and need to grow.

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- Answers to Creation Care Quiz on page 9:**
- 1) 54
 - 2) Any branch of Home Depot or Hazardous Waste Centre as the bulbs contain mercury.
 - 3) Outside kitchen exit door, west side of the church. Total of 2
 - 4) There are several answers. Speak to Fenella or Maureen
 - 5) Real tea spoons
 - 6) Corrosive, explosive, flammable and poisonous materials
 - 7) Call 986-8888, ext. 9811 for location & hours. More info on garbage collection & recycling can be found at the end of the yellow pages.
 - 8) In narthex near the front door
 - 9) Office Depot
 - 10) Approx. miles - Florida 1900, California 1500, Ecuador 3600
 - 11) Composting, recycling, landfill
 - 12) 2
 - 13) Stay tuned, no one really knows yet!

Book Sale Books Wanted (and Unwanted)

This April St. Peter's semiannual book sale will be accompanied by the "All in the Hall" garage sale. We plan to maintain our low price of \$1 per book but we need your help to do this. Please look through your bookshelves and on Thursday April 23 and Friday April 24 bring us all you can spare of your good condition

- Paperback or Hard Cover Fiction (mystery, adventure, romance, science fiction & other)
- Children's Books
- Humour and Comic Books
- Cook Books (good quality and not periodicals or give-aways)
- Non-Fiction (history, biography, self-help, philosophy and religion, do-it yourself, hobbies etc.)
- Musical CD's and Tapes (no dubs please)
- Movie DVD's.

If you are donating anything that might be of interest to a collector, please let us know in advance so we can price it appropriately. This would include early editions or rare books.

Please do not bring books with broken spines, with missing covers, with torn pages, or with writing or scribbling in them (i.e. no used coloring books please). We also cannot sell, or forward to the Children's Hospital Book Sale, the following

- Coffee Table Books - i.e. oversized books on art or travel or geography
- Encyclopedias or similar collections (i.e. Time Life Series gardening series, home handyman series)

- Magazines of any sort
- Reader's Digest Condensed Books
- Text books (grade school or university)
- Teachers Guides

While we recognize that many of the above "cannot sell" books have a great value, we also must be aware that we have only 4 hours to sell as many books as possible. Your assistance in adhering to our requests will keep the extra work required to a minimum.

Lastly, I would like to thank Donna and Glenn Morris for taking over charge of the book sale while we are away on holiday this year.



Jim Daun

Garage Sale

Our annual "All in the Hall" garage sale is scheduled for Saturday April 25th, from 9 a.m. until noon. Please bear it in mind as you spring clean, downsize, etc. We'll be calling for volunteers during April, and we hope that everybody will join in the fun. It is a wonderful community effort for both parishioners and visitors, and the proceeds will all go to the Diocesan Orphan Fund and PWRDF. So come out to help, stay to shop, and let's make this a record-breaking year for participation and profits. Questions? Call me at 488-3845, or see me after any 10:30 Sunday service.



Marie Chalmers

Community Health and Well-Being Program

Compelled by his friend, the Reverend George Neufelt from Misericordia Hospital, the Reverend Art Weldhuis, pastor at Harrow United, invited the neighbouring church communities to meet and explore possibilities

for an ecumenical parish-based health clinic. The first meeting took place on April 24, 1996, at which time a committee was formed to work on specifics and produce a proposal for consideration by the church communities.

Community Health and Well-Being Program (cont.)

The first participating communities were Harrow United, Temple Shalom, St. Peters Anglican Church, St. Ignatius Parish, Holy Family (Ukrainian Catholic) Church, and St. Marks Lutheran Church. The committee met several times and received valuable input from staff at the Misericordia Hospital.

In May 1996, a proposal was sent to all the neighbouring faith communities, which provided the rationale for the program:

Significant changes are taking place in Health Care delivery. Historically and as part of their mission, faith communities have always made efforts and sacrifices for the well-being of their members.

Therefore, it seems timely to look how our faith communities could co-operate in the present environment towards the well-being of their members and the delivery of holistic health care.

Holistic health care promotes the health of body, mind and spirit.

As a start, the proposal itself announced that a health clinic for seniors would be conducted at Temple Shalom every first Wednesday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Blood pressure, weight, and diabetes tests would be done by Misericordia Hospital outreach program. At every meeting there would be an educational presentation on health, healing, and/or safety. Topics would be announced in advance. The social component allowed people from different church communities to get acquainted with each other through sharing and conversation. Each of the faith communities was asked to announce the events and to encourage members from their community to attend. Costs would be kept low. Each of the sponsoring communities provided a fifty dollar cheque to cover incidentals.

Considering possible legal implications with tests and physical examinations, the committee decided to get the program going with a monthly presentation in line with emphasis place on "Holistic Health Care." The first session took place on November 6, 1996, entitled: "Where and How Do We Access Health Care?"

Temple Shalom over the years has provided its facility free of charge. Presentations are announced through the local paper, inserts in church bulletins, and posters. All are welcome and there is no entrance fee. Communities, in turn, provide refreshments. Presenters have mostly given their time free of charge. The committee members meet once a month at Harrow United to plan the sessions and to divide the tasks. Many topics and presenters come from the sponsoring communities. All have contributed greatly to the program. Attendance has been as high as over a hundred and as low as twenty, depending on the topic and such things as the weather.

Presentations always take place at Temple Shalom, located at Wilton and Grant, on the first Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m.

Look for the poster on the church bulletin board for coming presentations. Our next meeting will be April 1. The topic is "Container Gardening" presented by St. Mary's Nursery & Garden Centre. We would love to see you there

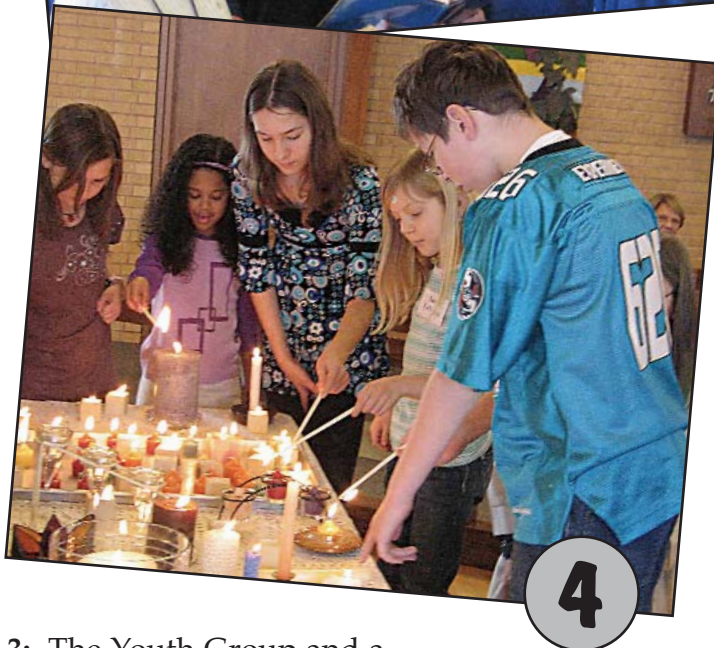


Bev Smith
Dorothy Sinclair

Photos in this issue of the Elm Leaf are provided courtesy of Ian Chalmers and Bill Harwood

St Peter's in Pictures

1 & 2: Our congregation participates in the Amazing Grace project on November 23rd. The national project raised over \$73,000 for the Council of the North



3: The Youth Group and a couple of tagalong adult enjoy a game of bowling

4: St. Peter's celebrates Candlesmas on February 8th.

Calling all Scouting and Guiding Members

On April 18th and 19th, there will be an opportunity for you to earn your Religion in Life Badge. We will be holding a sleepover at the church and working on the badge requirements (for all levels) while we have some fun. We will be meeting together with youth from the Lutheran church and if you know other Anglican or Lutheran Scouting or Guiding youth, invite them to participate as well. Remember that Religion in Life is a badge for adults too.

If you are interested in taking part, talk to Yvonne Kyle.