

# St. Luke's News

July 2021

Vol. 4 #7



## ANGLICAN CHURCH

of

ST. LUKE

4929 54<sup>th</sup> Street

Red Deer, Alberta

T4N 2G7

403-346-3402

email:

[office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:office@oldchurchrd.com)

website

[oldchurchrd.com](http://oldchurchrd.com)

Here we are at the beginning of July and in the midst of a heat wave. We certainly have to remember at this time those who are in situations where they cannot remain cool and be aware of our friends, neighbors and others who may be at risk. We have reached some success in the control of COVID19, although we must still be aware of the risks. Other countries, for instance the UK and Australia, who had initially had good success in control are now having to postpone or reinstate restrictions because of the variant forms of the virus. It remains essential that we not assume that all the risk is passed. It is essential that all who are eligible get vaccinated. It has been shown that full vaccination is protective even against the known variants, perhaps not stopping infection, but certainly making the risk of serious outcomes less likely. We have been waiting now for guidance from the Diocese in terms of church reopening. While the provincial government has released a broad outline of the intentions of "Open for Summer", there has been no specific guidance for places of worship. The government website states "The general indoor mask mandate will be lifted, but masking may still be required in limited and specific settings. More information will be shared prior to the start of Stage 3." So far, June 30<sup>th</sup>, this has not occurred. Watch your email and the website for more information regarding our services.

Submit items for the August Newsletter by July 27<sup>th</sup>.  
[mthain@telusplanet.net](mailto:mthain@telusplanet.net)

Incumbent Priest/Pastor:

The Ven. Noel Wygiera

Incumbent's Warden:

Eric Nyrose

People's Warden:

Deb Mann 403-350-4798

Pianists:

Dorothy Comfort

Judy Miller

Organist:

Jo Wygiera

**Service Schedule**

**Sunday 10:00 am**

**Check website for on line  
Services and other meeting  
opportunities**

[www.oldchurchrd.com](http://www.oldchurchrd.com)

**WEBSITE**  
**www.oldchurchrd.com**

Visit it often to check for news and upcoming events. If anyone has an item they feel might be appropriate for inclusion on the website please send it to [website@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:website@oldchurchrd.com).

**During this time when we are not meeting face to face it is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT if you change contact information, eg. address, phone number or email address, that you notify the office at: [office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:office@oldchurchrd.com)**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SCHEDULE:**

**Sunday Worship:** 10:00 – Watch the Website and emails for further information

**Ladies' Group Meetings:** Watch the Website and emails for further dates

**Men's Group Meetings:** Watch the Website and emails for further dates

**PLEASE NOTE THIS WILL CHANGE DEPENDING ON CIRCUMSTANCES WITH COVID-19 AND 'OPEN FOR SUMMER'. UPDATES WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AND SENT BY EMAIL**

**Finances:**

Heat the Church--updated:

Just as it is important to continue giving our regular donations to the church, those who wish to contribute to this fund can do so under the donate button on the website or by e-transfer as outlined below. To the end of May, we have had 27 days covered. Thank you to all who continue to support this. The suggested donation is \$25 for a day.

Financial Statement:

	Actual May 2021	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance
Income	12892.03	59916.70	70883.33	10966.63
Expenses	15039.80	72803.89	77398.75	4594.86
Net	2147.77	12887.19	6515.42	6371.77

Our Net Variance continues to grow. Please remember your giving as we come in to the summer months. For information on giving go to [www.oldchurchrd.com/news](http://www.oldchurchrd.com/news)

### **Flower Calendar and Memorial Dedications:**

While flowers on the altar are on hold during this time of isolation, the opportunity still exists to remember loved ones and special dates as we do when sponsoring flowers. Please let us know of people and events that you might like remembered as a **Special Dedication** on a particular Sunday. If you so choose, you can make a donation to accompany your memorial and these can be designated to the Memorial Fund, General Fund, or any other Special Fund of your choosing. Special Dedications will appear in the announcements on the designated Sunday. **If you wish to make a donation**, please refer to the giving information noted above. If you are going to send a cheque, please email the office at [office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:office@oldchurchrd.com) to let them know about your dedication and the Sunday you would like it to appear. If doing an e-transfer, put in the message section your dedication, the date you would like it to appear and the fund to which you would like the money designated.

### **St. Vincent Update**

Remembering St. Vincent, By Archdeacon Noel Wygiera

Almighty God, we pray for the people of St. Vincent as they contend with an ongoing humanitarian crisis. Bless them in their brokenness and increase their compassion as they continue to care for each other. Help us to be compassionate as well, and generous as we reach out in love. In Jesus' name, Amen.

In one of our early posts on St. Vincent, we were introduced to Limiske Berkley in a video interview with the Rev. Howard Thornton. Limiske is a young man who lives on the west side of St. Vincent. He actively volunteers in shelters where evacuees are being housed as they await a time to return to their homes on the north end of the island. I asked Limiske for an update on the overall situation on St. Vincent and specifically in the shelters. This was his reply: "... it is said by the professionals here monitoring the volcano that is yet to have gone back to sleep so it's still very active as it is seen throwing a large amount of steam. The shelters are still full with people however, the government is trying to vacate the shelters as they are ready to get back to some sort of normalcy and the recommencement of normal schooling. The remaining persons in the shelters as well as those who would have gone back home or who are in homes are still in need of help but they are managing with what they have. Although things are getting back to some sort of normalcy the people are still in need of help as some of them would have lost their homes, farms and livelihoods." Financial Donations can be made through the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund: <https://pwrdf.org/pwrdf-accepting-donations-for-people-displaced-by-st-vincent-volcano-eruption/> Personal Experiences of St. Vincent

Several people in the Diocese of Calgary have personal connections with St. Vincent.

This week, The **Rev. David Holmes** shares memories from the time that he spent several months ministering there.

“As some of you know I lived in St. Vincent for 6 months after I retired from the parish of St. Giles in Estevan, where I had been for 17 years. I was part of the Ventures in Mission which the Anglican Church of Canada was involved with. I spent 2 weeks in Toronto preparing to go, along with 8 other Canadians who were going to work and minister in various parts of the world. When I was in conversation with Bishop Selon, the former Bishop of the Windwards, he told me I would be working alongside another Anglican priest from Trinidad and the two of us would look after the parish of St. Patrick, Barrouille, which included 5 churches on the Leeward (West) side of the island, including St. David’s located 14 miles south of the volcano. When I arrived in St. Vincent in the summer of 2004, I was met by a priest from the Diocese and driven to the parish. He informed me that the priest from Trinidad decided not to take the job, so I was it. Wow, after retiring from 45 years of ministry in Canada suddenly I was going to be responsible for 5 churches with about a thousand households. After much prayer and conversation, I met with the Wardens and told them what I felt I could do. Several things were really difficult for me such as getting used to the language (they all spoke English but with a very Caribbean accent), and the extreme heat, 35 plus most days. Services on Sunday started at 7 a.m. and I did 2 each week. They were all Eucharists. I did have a very capable group of 6 servers at St. Patrick’s and had 5 lay leaders who would lead do Morning Prayer at services when I wasn't there. I looked after the sick and shut ins with a visit and Eucharist once a month, had several Baptisms and Funerals and had many folks coming to the Rectory to bless various items or look up Baptism records to prove their age. I have many wonderful stories but one that stands out to me is the day I received a phone call from a woman asking me to baptise her husband’s and her baby. Of course, I said yes, and we picked a Sunday and then asked when they could meet with me and go over the baptism service and she asked me if I wanted the God Parents to come as well. I asked her how many God Parents they picked for their child, and she told me 19. Wow, I said, why so many and she replied, “In my community when people knew I was pregnant they asked if they could be a God Parent for the child and I couldn't say no.” I informed her there was only room for 4 names on the baptismal certificate and I suggested she pick Anglicans for that. She said alright and 4 of them came with the parents for my evening of instruction and going through the service. The day of the baptism came and when I asked the parents and God Parents to come forward to the font, all 19 folks came along with the couple and the baby. Wow, what a baptism that was. I have several more stories, but that is one I will never forget.”

## Around the Parish:

### Devotional:

This is the next in our series of devotionals written by members of Parish Council. This month it is written by Carolyn Dixon.



### Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

My personal bible has many cards, bookmarks and notes tucked in between the pages, marking passages that have stood out to me over the years. So when asked to write this reflection, I naturally leafed through my bible, looking for one of those passages to reflect on. Nothing seemed to speak to me...until I came to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. At first I thought to myself, “No, not that hoary old chestnut! There must be something else I can find”.

The green pastures caught my attention at first, as it had been a rainy afternoon, and the sun was peeking out and highlighting the many hues of green in the yard. As I read over the familiar words, I felt them wash over me, and realized that this was what I needed to write about.

Many of you know that I lost my Mom in March, and I certainly feel like I’ve been walking through the valley of the shadow of death. Mom suffered greatly in the last month of her life, and with Covid restrictions, I was the only one who could visit her in hospital. The experience left me drained, empty, a little shattered. After her funeral in April, Bob and I slipped off to the coast for a couple of weeks. The ocean is my place to go to renew and heal – the still waters that restore my soul.

Before we left, I came across a line in a Facebook post a friend had shared. “Be healed. Be well. Be made whole once again.” I wrote it on a slip of paper that I took with me, and as I walked the beach alone, wounded and raw, grieving and crying for my Mom, I had that slip of paper in my pocket, and repeated it like a mantra, praying. “God,

please help me to be healed, to be well, to be made whole once again.” After a while, I added another line – be grateful. For the time I was able to spend with Mom. For her example of bravery and courage. For the support of my husband and family, and special friends. For the fact that I had begun to heal and feel well again. My cup indeed runneth over.

While we were there, I discovered a fridge magnet in a gift shop – a little piece of driftwood with the words “Be Grateful” imprinted on it. Coincidence? Or the Spirit speaking softly in my ear?

When I was with Mom on her last afternoon, I brought my Dad’s picture over and held it up close so she could see it. She was non-verbal at this point, but her eyes riveted on his picture, and I think it was at that moment she decided she was going to go join him. She died that night. My hope is also that when it’s my time, I will go to dwell in the house of the Lord forever with my Mom & Dad, my brother who died when I was 17, my grandparents and uncle, and the rest of my family who go before me.

The Lord is my shepherd, and he comforts me, and heals me, and restores my soul. And I am grateful....

*Carolyn Dixon*

### **Around the Church:**

#### Stone restoration:

Shawn Thibeault, of Ravenstone Masonry and Conservation has arrived and started work in the heat! He has set up a work area, courtesy of Mike and Patti Carley, on their property just out of town. He will do most of his stone cutting at this location.



If you see this man around the church, he is not trespassing!!

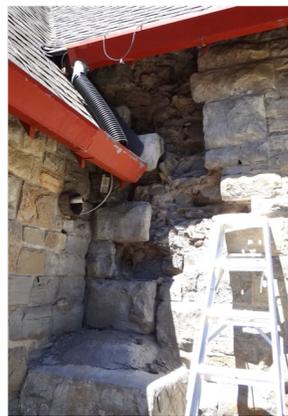
He has done some markings and measurements on the stone around the front door. This is stone that will have to be removed and replaced.



He has started his work on the south side of the church. You may have been out in that area the last time we were able to have a social time after church—summer of 2019—and you will have seen damage to the stone in the corner where the choir room meets the south wall of the nave of the church.



2016



Stone removed



Stone that has been removed

We hope to do a video interview with Shawn to post on our website so that he can explain what he is doing. It is exciting to have this project finally underway. It will mean that when we can, hopefully, resume in person worship that we will have to use the hall door to access the church.

Garden Crew:

If you have some time you could help out please contact Beth Mapletoft at [dbmaps@telus.net](mailto:dbmaps@telus.net) or 403 347 3223.

### **Prayer during a Pandemic**

This is from St. Paul's Church in Lexington, Kentucky and was provided by the Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, to PWRDF, who posted it on their website.

May we who are merely inconvenienced

Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors,

Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home

Remember those who must choose between preserving their own health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close

Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips

Remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market

Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home

Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country

Let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,

Let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbour.

Amen



