

St. Luke's News

June 2022

Vol. 5 #6



ANGLICAN CHURCH

of

ST. LUKE

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It has been a difficult week. I suspect that everyone has been thinking about the shooting in Uvalde, Texas. This following so closely on the killing of shoppers in Buffalo. Following these there have been 11 reported mass shootings in the US over their Memorial Day long weekend. It always seems that the killing of children is so much worse. There are always questions about why a loving God lets this happen. This has brought me back to a book I had not looked at in some time, ***When Bad Things Happen to Good People*** by Rabbi Harold Kushner. It is well worth getting a copy and reading or re-reading it. The bottom line is that God does not cause these things to happen, but that God is grieving with us and helps us respond. Rabbi Kushner says "...the ability to forgive and the ability to love are the weapons God has given us to enable us to live fully, bravely, and meaningfully in this less-than-perfect world."

Monday morning, I listened to *The Current* on CBC radio. They had a reporter in Uvalde who very respectfully interviewed people in that city. She interviewed the Roman Catholic priest who also said that he had no answers for the grieving but could only grieve with them and support them. The programme ended with at least a 3 minute clip of the congregation of the Episcopal church in Uvalde the Taizé hymn 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace' (402 in our hymn book), at a memorial service in their church last Thursday. For the bulletin for their service, which has some lovely prayers, including one we use in our on-line service of Compline, you can go to:

<https://marshmk.files.wordpress.com/2022/05/uvalde-lament-and-hope-light-in-the-darkenss.pdf>

Submit items for the July Newsletter by Jun27th to mthain@telusplanet.net

Clergy

Incumbent Priest/Pastor:

The Ven. Noel Wygiera

Vocational Deacon:

The Rev. Deacon Tracey Stagg

Incumbent's Warden:

Eric Nyrose

People's Warden:

Deb Mann 403-350-4798

Pianist:

Judy Miller

Organist:

Jo Wygiera

Service Schedule

Sunday

08:00 am Said Eucharist
(Recommencing in September)

10:00 am Eucharist

Sunday On line

1:00 pm Sunday Service

7:00 pm Evening Service

Thursday

2:00 pm Said Eucharist

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.

if you change contact information, eg. address, phone number or email address, make sure that you notify the office at: office@oldchurchrd.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

SCHEDULE: (May be subject to change-watch the Website and emails)

Sunday Worship: 8:00 am Said Eucharist (Recommencing September 11th)

10:00 am Choral Eucharist

1:00 pm and 7:00 pm (on line) For information regarding these services and access go to the website under Events.

Midweek Eucharist: Thursday 2:00 pm

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

Men's Group Meeting: Saturday, June 11th 9:00 am

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: 10:00 am: See the website under 'Events' for further information.

Information regarding in person worship:

With the changes in the Provincial guidelines, all restrictions are now lifted for places of worship. **Please note:** If you are uncomfortable meeting in person, the on line services are still available. If you are uncomfortable with the 'coffee hour' do not feel that you need to attend. If you prefer to continue to wear a mask in church, that is also fine. If you wish to attend one of the on line services and do not receive an email invitation, contact vicar@oldchurchrd.com.

Forward Day by Day:

The May, June, July edition of Forward Day by Day is now available at the back of the church. The suggested donation is \$2.00. If you need one delivered, please contact the office at office@oldchurchrd.com

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. Thank you to all who continue to support this. The suggested donation is \$25 for a day.

Secret Prayer Sisters:

If you would like to participate in the Secret Prayer Sisters Programme at St. Luke's, please fill in the form (with only the information you feel comfortable sharing), available at the back of the church and give the completed form to Elizabeth Thain, either directly or in her mailbox at the back of the church. **Please return by June 12th. You will then be notified of your match. This cycle is anticipated to run until the fall of 2023.** If you have questions contact Elizabeth at ethain@telus.net.

Financial Statement:

	April 2022 Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Income	12,935.13	45,396.47	54,233.33	8,836.86
Expenses	16,468.74	64,393.31	64,265.67	127.64
Net	3,533.61	18,996.84	10,032.34	8,964.50

Have you considered being set up for your donations to be made by automatic Monthly Bank Withdrawals? If you are in a position to do so, please give some thought to this method of giving as it would provide St. Luke's with a more consistent and predictable monthly income to offset our expenses. If you are interested in changing to pre-authorized giving, please contact Barb at the church office and she will provide you with the necessary form. We are also continuing to pick up donations weekly from our mailbox at the church and a number of parishioners are making donations via Interac e-transfer. If you would like to use this method, you can do so by using your online banking; please enter offerings@oldchurchrd.com as the recipient email address. If you are usually an envelope user, you can enter your envelope number in the comments section.

Once again, however, we give thanks for all who, in whatever way possible, contribute to the help cover the expenses of keeping the church building and all its programmes meet expenses.

Flower Calendar and Memorial Dedications:

There is a 'Flower Calendar' up at the back of the church where you can sign up for donations for flowers. The suggested donation is \$50.00. These donations can be accompanied by a specific dedication if you wish. Arrangements can be made by contacting the church office at office@oldchurchrd.com.

Apart from flower donations you can remember people and events as a **Special Dedication** on any 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. If you wish to make a donation,

either for flowers or as a special dedication, e-transfers can be sent to offerings@oldchurchrd.com. If you are going to send a cheque, please email the office at 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 if it is a Special Dedication, apart from a flower donation, the fund to which you would like the money designated. Special Dedications, for flowers or otherwise will appear in the announcements on the designated Sunday.

Reflections on Provincial Synod:

The Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land Synod 50th Session of Synod
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
April 28 to May 1, 2022

Noel's Reflection:

I am grateful to have attended Provincial Synod in Prince Albert as a Clergy Delegate for the Diocese of Calgary. I am doubly grateful in that I was able to attend this event with my daughter, Hannah, who attended as the Youth Delegate for our diocese. The theme for the gathering was Truth and Reconciliation: Our Journey Toward Freedom in Christ. This theme lay at the heart of most of the work we engaged in together. While some of the work such as canon revision was tedious, many things that we did were inspiring in that they spoke of our collective desire for healing for Indigenous Anglicans and the healing of their relationship with the non-indigenous parts of the Anglican Church. We had many opportunities to hear from First Nation, Inuit, and Metis Anglicans from across the Province. While their pain and grief was evident, what really stood out was their grace and their desire to journey together with us as equals in the work of the Church. It was humbling, to say the least.

One work which we started at this synod was to start the process of renaming the Ecclesiastical Province. The current name, Rupert's Land, refers to Prince Rupert of the Rhine, one-time Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company. This name has come to represent the one-sidedness of the historic relationship between Indigenous peoples and Europeans, both at the time of the founding of the HBC and in the time since. We agreed that a new name should be one that acknowledges our connections with each other and our equality as Children of God. We did not settle on the exact wording of the new name but we know it will have something to do with us all inhabiting lands that are touched by the Northern Lights.

One of the highlights of this gathering was the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Reverend Justin Welby. The Archbishop's life work has been in the area of reconciliation and his particular gifts were evident both in his address to the Synod and in his powerful sermon during the closing worship at St. Alban's Cathedral. His presence and his humility served as powerful symbols of the reconciliation that was at work in our time together. The Indigenous delegates, and other Indigenous community

leaders responded to his graciousness with a powerful graciousness of their own. It was moving and inspiring. The thought of what I witnessed there still causes me to get tears in my eyes. This work continues and I am honoured and humbled to be a part of it. In closing, just a few notes of interest: Our bishop, Archbishop Greg Kerr-Wilson, was re-elected Metropolitan for another six-year term. Hannah was appointed to the Executive Council of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, and I was elected to the Provincial Court.**

Noel+

**In the next Newsletter Noel will give us information about the Provincial Court and what his role will be.

Hannah's Reflection:

Provincial Synod Reflection – The Youth Perspective

Getting to represent the youth of the diocese at Provincial Synod is a privilege that is sadly underutilized. Even out of the ten dioceses represented at Synod, only five had youth delegates. After talking with the other youth delegates, we recognized that the absence of half the potential youth delegates reflects the current youth situation in all our dioceses. That led us to ask: how do we make the Anglican Church attractive to young people?

Fortunately, the answer was given to us in the theme of this year's Synod: "Truth and Reconciliation: Our Journey Toward Freedom in Christ." The youth of today are some of the most active in demanding change. They want to see a better world and a future where peace, hope, and love are at the centre of every action and conversation. They want to see healing. They want to see the earth healed. They want to see generations of pain healed. Doesn't the Church share that passion and desire?

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, spoke of what reconciliation means. As Christians, we are reconciled to God through the death of Jesus Christ. The love that God has for us is overabundant. There is so much love that it overflows from us into the world. To be like Jesus in our world today means we are reconciled reconcilers. This is the same cry that so many young people have today. Recognizing that the Church shares their concerns and has a way forward is the first step in engaging with youth. That is why I am running the Difference Course, which Archbishop Welby created. I plan to open it up and offer it to all generations later this year so we can all connect and reimagine a world where reconciliation is our focus. When the youth see that they are not alone in their hopes and dreams of the future, I believe they will be more active in our churches than ever before.

Hannah Vander Roest

Around the Parish:

Servers: We are in need of more volunteers to be Servers. If you are interested, contact mthain@telusplanet.net. Training is provided!

Choir: Anyone interested in joining the choir please contact joanwilliams474@gmail.com.

Special Poppy Project: The Poppy Project is now underway. For information and the patterns go to www.oldchurchrd.com/news/poppy-project. There are samples on the wall in the hall.

If you have any questions, please contact the coordinators:

Sandra Ballum 403-346-3045 or grandma-al@live.ca or

Debb Mann 403-350-4798

St. Luke's canoe trip:

Our intrepid St. Luke's adventurers had hoped to have a canoe trip on the Red Deer river over the long weekend. They decided, given the depth of the river, that they would have been portaging their canoes on the river most of the way and will set another date when hopefully there is more water in the river!

Around the Church:

Tower Conservation:

Starting in about a week you will see some changes around the exterior of the church. We will be having Shawn Thibault of Ravenstone Conservation start the second phase of our tower conservation project. This will involve scaffolding and covering of the tower for part of the time. This will impact our access to the church. Access will be through the hall doors. We appreciate that this may create problems for those with mobility issues and we hope to be able to provide help entering the church for those needing it.

Front Doors:

You may have notice that the front doors of the church are showing signs of wear and tear. We are looking at options for replacement on these doors. Part of this process will be the removing of the veneer in the archway over the doors, which will expose the original wood. It may be possible to refinish this to its original state.

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