



PARISH OF
ST. TIMOTHY, BURNABY

DIOCESE OF NEW WESTMINSTER,
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

"TO BE EQUIPPED
FOR EVERY GOOD
WORK"

2 Timothy 3.17

4550 Kitchener Street
Burnaby, BC
V5C 3M7

Phone 604-299-6816
Fax 604-299-6136
Web www.sainttimothy.ca

Advent 2011 Parish Newsletter



Advent Greeting

*O God of blessings, all praise to you!
Your love surrounds us our whole life
through.*

*You are the freedom of those oppressed;
You are the comfort of all distressed.*

*Come now, O holy and welcome guest:
Soli Deo Gloria! Soli Deo Gloria!*

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #878

Our joyful song to light the advent candles helps prepare us for the coming of Jesus. This is a busy season for Christians, as we ready our homes and our hearts to celebrate Christmas. But the gospel reminds us that the coming of Emmanuel, "God-with-us", isn't just an event that happened over two thousand years ago. Every time we turn to the light of Christ, the opportunity is created for God to re-enter the world.

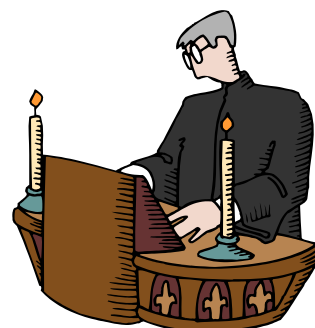
In this issue of the parish newsletter, you will read about how Jesus is living and working through our faith community. His spirit has opened us to work with our Lutheran brothers and sisters from Faith, including Pastor Timothy Dutcher-Walls. His hands are discernible in the outreach ministry of the Food Bank and the campus chaplaincy. His Spirit is beckoning us forward through the Screening in Faith policy and the Ministry Assessment Process. Welcoming Christ in has sometimes been uncomfortable; He calls us to question, to risk, and to change. And just when we think we have got our house in order, our house-guest upsets all our plans again!

It is amazing how much chaos a baby can cause. That is especially true of the One born in Bethlehem. Jesus came to radically re-orient our lives, and he continues to this day.

Yet all we have achieved together has been by the grace of God and for the glory of God. His love surrounds us as we move forward in

faith. Now and for the future we gather to sing our praise: to God alone be the glory!

Yours in Christ,
Stephanie



Guest Column

A Lutheran at St. Timothy's (Not the First!)

by Pastor Tim Dutcher-Walls

I'm a Lutheran pastor, now working in chaplaincy. Recently I finished a five-year pastorate at Faith Lutheran Church in north Burnaby. Having some familiarity already with St. Timothy's Parish and knowing Rev. Stephanie, who was a colleague in the north Burnaby ministerium, I began in January attending periodically the Sunday Eucharist.

This year we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Waterloo Declaration. It encourages Lutherans and Anglicans in Canada to share our resources and do more together. It is in this spirit that I happily attend St. Timothy's. I enjoy the folks and spirit of the multigenerational congregation. The services are familiar, since our two denominations share a similar liturgical tradition. I appreciate Stephanie's well-prepared and spoken sermons. Also, the combination of liturgy along with a personal style, in evidence at St. Timothy's, is one I myself have always valued and practiced.

I believe together these elements bring us by God's grace and Spirit the reality of God-among-us in our worship and time together. I was grateful for the opportunity to lead the Sunday Eucharist twice in July while Stephanie was away, and look forward to doing so again from time-to-time. It felt familiar from my presiding at Lutheran Holy Communion services. And Gordon guided me through the few different parts!

Stewardship Update

Our theme this year is the Three Faces of Stewardship: Ordinary Stewardship, Extraordinary Stewardship, and Legacy Giving.

Ordinary Stewardship involves the oversight of resources that God has entrusted to us. We return to God a portion of what has been given to us, we each have time, talents, and treasure, and we are all called to give a portion of each to the church. This is not optional: stewardship is a part of who we are and what we do. The details may be different for each person, but each is called to exercise stewardship. It should be ongoing and proportional, and it is a good habit to get into.

Extraordinary Stewardship comes into play when there are special occasions in the life of our community that call us to give above and beyond our ordinary habit. They may be needs within community, or needs beyond our community. In these circumstances, our hearts impel us to give, and we rise to the challenges set before us

Legacy Giving takes place at the end of our earthly lives: we can't take anything with us to

the next. We need to consider how to disperse the assets with which we have been entrusted. Thinking ahead to leave gifts to those you cherish is planned giving. There is help available to assist people to choose amongst the options both to maximize the gift and to minimize the tax implications (so we are often able to give more than we think!). Legacies are letters of love to those who are left behind: where our treasure is, so our hearts.

Together, the three help us to administer the assets with which we are blessed. Each day we are faced with requests for help. We tend to give where our passions lie. If we can see our offering makes a difference for good, we are more willing to commit. If we see God's hands at work in the church, we are motivated to support the ministries. Our parish budget illustrates what is important in the life of this community. Our commitment is necessary for God's work to go forward. Accordingly, we are all asked to pledge our financial commitment for the coming year, trusting in God that there will be abundance and not scarcity

Dom Parlongo and Gordon Arthur.

Finance Update

Parish of St. Timothy – Financial News Jan 1 – Oct 31, 2011

	Actual	Budget	Same Period 2010
Revenue			
Offerings	\$ 62,572	\$ 66,591	\$ 55,099
Space Donations	\$ 14,538	\$ 14,167	\$ 14,881
Fundraising	\$ 4,164	\$ 2,916	\$ 6,580
Memorial Gifts	\$ 500		\$ 1,200
Other	\$ 693	\$ 833	\$ 1,103
Total	\$ 82,467	\$ 84,508	78,863
Expenses			
Diocese Apportionment	\$ 20,640	\$ 20,636	\$ 22,630
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 78,450	\$ 78,719	\$ 76,793
Property/Maintenance	\$ 21,465	\$ 21,653	\$ 20,194
Operating Expenses	\$ 9,103	\$ 8,908	\$ 8,959
Total	\$129,658	\$129,917	\$128,577
YTD/Deficit	-\$ 47,191	-\$ 45,409	-\$ 49,714



Auroras Group Report

The St. Timothy Women's Group, known as the Auroras, welcomes all Church ladies to join us on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 3 to 5 PM in the lower hall. In 2011, we have been enjoying our time of fellowship while working on our handcrafts. We have mainly been

focused on catching-up with our family photos and other scrap booking projects, although everyone is free to bring any other works-in-progress, or just share a cup of tea.

We are currently exploring extending some of our gatherings to a full day – some of us are very behind! Other ideas include bringing our mending and a few sewing machines together, to power through our piles of split seams and worn-out knees. If you have any questions or suggestions, please talk to Kate or Angela... or Brenna or Angeline... or Stacey... ☺

Kate Turcotte



Bible Study

The Bible Study Group is currently working its way through the Acts of the Apostles. Acts provides a detailed, orderly, eyewitness account of the birth and early growth of the Church and the spread of the Gospel in the aftermath of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, with a particular emphasis on the work of the Holy Spirit. It forms a bridge connecting the life and ministry of Jesus to the life of the Church and the witness of the earliest believers. It also provides a link between the Gospels and the Letters.

Written by Luke, Acts is the sequel to Luke's Gospel, continuing his story of Jesus, and how He built His Church. The book ends quite abruptly, which may suggest that Luke planned to write a third book to continue the story.

In Acts, as Luke describes the spread of the gospel and the ministry of the apostles, he focuses primarily on two, Peter and Paul. As such, Acts is among the most vivid books of the New Testament, showing us the earliest Christians reaching out to those around them.

Gordon Arthur



Screening in Faith

Over the last year, every Anglican Church in the Diocese of New Westminster has been working towards a policy for screening and training all the volunteers and paid staff who work for God's mission in the world. As part of this process, your parish leadership has been developing job descriptions for all positions in the faith community, from the person who folds the leaflets to the one who visits the sick in hospital.

We have done this as a Church because we work with vulnerable groups: with children, the elderly, the sick, and the marginalized. We want to show to our wider secular society that we are an agency that takes the trust that people place in us seriously. We are committed to providing a safe environment for those who come to us, and we will not abuse the responsibility we hold for the physical, emotional and spiritual health of our people.

Some ministries require more responsibility and trust than others. Those persons who come into contact with vulnerable groups through their work may be perceived as carrying a higher risk in their work than those who carry out their callings without such interactions. To protect both those in ministry and those who are being ministered to, some people will be asked to obtain a Criminal Records Check from their local Community Policing Office. This is a free service for those who volunteer, and the church will supply the letter of reference.

The advantage of this process, which has involved a lot of work for your parish leaders, is that everyone will have a clear understanding of the ministry that he or she is agreeing to do. Further, the protocols that are being put in place for every job means that risk for both the volunteer and the recipients will be minimized. Finally, any outsider can look at what we are doing as a church and feel assured that we are safeguarding both our volunteers and those who receive God's love through us.

Here are some of the positions which are covered under the Screening in Faith policy. Where do you feel called to serve?

Paid staff: clergy, office assistant, musician, janitor, accountant.

Parish Council: wardens, treasurer, secretary, delegates to Synod, members at large.

Members of parish teams: pastoral, worship, resource, stewardship, social, finance.

Outreach ministries: campus ministry, parish hosts at the Food Bank, home and hospital visitors.

Sunday morning: server, crucifer, reader, intercessor, communion assistants, sidespeople.

Rev. Stephanie Shepard



Calendar of Events

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Tue. Dec. 6 | 5:30-7:30 pm | St. Nicolas Party |
| Sun. Dec. 18 | 10 am | Christmas Pageant |
| Sat. Dec. 24 | 7 pm | Bethlehem Mass |
| | 11 pm | Midnight Mass |
| Sun. Dec. 25 | 10 am | Christ Mass |

See our website, www.sainttimothy.ca, for further details of these and other upcoming events.



Update on MAP

Since the fall of 2010, the six Anglican parishes in the Burnaby and Tri-Cities region have been discussing possibilities for a viable and sustainable Anglican presence in the region under the auspices of the Diocese of New Westminster's Ministry Assessment Process. The six parishes are: St. Catherine, Port Coquitlam; St. Laurence, Coquitlam; St. Stephen, Burquitlam; St. Margaret, Burnaby; St. Timothy, Burnaby; and St. John, Port Moody.

At a regional visioning event on October 1, 2011, and a subsequent meeting on October 6, participants from the six parishes began to imagine what the future might look like. For some, the preferred future lay with the cooperation of all six churches. Others felt that there were demographic and economic similarities that might bring a sub-grouping of the six together. Several options emerged for discussion back in our parish.

The local MAP team from St. Timothy's has outlined four possible outcomes. The first is to remain at our current site as we are, with reduced clergy support. We currently can only support maintaining the building with a half-time priest. The possible decision of another group or congregation to join us here might bolster our numbers, but wouldn't guarantee sustainability in the long term.

The second option is to move from our current ministry site, either to a leased or rented location. This is, upon investigation of costs, not a viable solution, however, and would sacrifice all the activities supported by this building.

The third possibility is to partner with another Anglican parish, either through amalgamation or a two-point parish. Amalgamation would entail one congregation giving up its location. A two-point parish would result in sharing a priest. This is the current situation with St. Margaret of Scotland and St. Stephen Burquitlam. This community has already been through an amalgamation and has indicated that this is not our preferred route.

The fourth option is to engage in a more regional partnership. Out of this arose a discussion amongst St. Timothy, St. Stephen, St. Margaret and St. Laurence regarding the possibilities for a team ministry across the Burnaby and Coquitlam areas.

Team ministry is a model of church organization that is more commonly employed in the English Church, where predominantly rural parishes are grouped together under a collective leadership to maximize resources and opportunities. The team consists of the clerical and lay leadership for the area. Clergy would comprise a senior priest or rector, one or more ordained staff persons with specialized ministry skills, e.g. family ministry or societal outreach, and recognized deacons and/or retired clergy committed to the team. The team would also include part or full-time lay staff such as an office administrator, janitorial support, musician, book-keeper, or parish nurse.

Team ministry differs from multi-point parishes in that there is one decision-making body rather than separate parish councils for each of the church buildings represented. It differs from the "mega-church" model in that separate points of worship and outreach are maintained, each with a vital and active ministry. The clergy are known and owned amongst the worship sites rather than having primary responsibility to only one building or group of people. The clergy are jointly available as resources for the community, and work together to share the responsibility for pastoral care and sacramental presence.

This model would have different advantages and adjustments for the participating parishes.

For St. Timothy's, this would mean a transition from the one priest/one parish model that is more familiar. The worship site would be maintained and possibly expanded at Willingdon and Kitchener as a strategic location for Burnaby. There would be more than one priest available for worship and

leadership. There would be less of a physical presence during the week as the office assistant would be relocated to the St. Laurence or St. Stephen's site, but this would be compensated by the office assistant being available by phone or email for many more hours than the present 5 hours a week. There would be less volunteer burnout as we would be supporting a joint parish council and key ministries would be supported by the region. Finances would be handled centrally, with one set of books. Decisions would be made by the regional council, which would consist of a set number of representatives from each ministry site (not proportional to the congregation's size). In turn, the larger team ministry would be able to send more delegates to Synod as a larger body and therefore have a larger voice in diocesan matters. This does not preclude specific working groups engaged at a specific site in a specific ministry, e.g. the Food Bank at St. Timothy's.

For St. Stephen's, the change would be dramatic in terms of the site. Being the central point of the region and the proposed terminus station for the Evergreen Line, St. Stephen's lies at the epicentre of new development. The present facility could be re-developed with the cooperation of a commercial developer to create a mixed space with housing, offices, community meeting rooms, and a worship space. Targeted ministries like assistance for new immigrants, an emergency shelter, or youth group functions would be supported. A mid-week seeker's service and new members' welcome groups and bible studies could be clustered. St. Stephen's will reap the benefits of its location and its involvement with the wider region for support and funding.

For St. Laurence, this proposal represents a way truly to engage in ministries where the people are. From a suburban location, it is difficult to target and attract newcomers from the wider population. Through a team ministry, St. Laurence can more ably deploy the resources it already has, and build a wider base for sustainability. St. Laurence currently has the infrastructure and staff to help the other churches forward. A wider sharing of clergy and staff may feel like their own personnel are being spread more thinly, but the buy-in of the smaller congregations will actually show a greater return. The move to a team ministry brings new ideas and enthusiasm in the collegiality of its members.

For St. Margaret's, a team ministry means sacrifice and possibility. If the St. Margaret's site is to be sold, one idea is for negotiated access to retain a space for a chapel, perhaps within the common rooms of the previous Abbeyfield House or built into a common room of a new development. The gathering point provided by a worship presence without the associated costs of maintaining a building would free up individuals to engage in ministries in the Burnaby or surrounding areas closer to their homes and interests.

To date, the interest and engagement of St. John, Port Moody and St. Catherine, Port Coquitlam, is unclear. St. Catherine's is already in conversation with Trinity United Church to partner in ministry more fully within their existing congregational spaces. St. John seems to indicate that although it considers itself a neighbour and offers prayerful support, it has no pressing reason to change its structures at this time.

You are invited prayerfully to consider whether some form of team ministry might be the way God is calling us forward in faith. There are some concrete steps we can take to test this out. We can share our incumbents in the leadership of worship, we can have a hard look at the financial implications of such a venture, and we can pray and talk together.

To this end, the three parish councils of these churches are asked whether it might be good to meet together in the New Year to further our conversation.