



St. Luke Cedar Hill

The Diocese of British Columbia
Anglican Church of Canada

3821 Cedar Hill Cross Road
Victoria, BC V8P 2M6

A City on a Hill Cannot Be Hidden...

The Prescription

Anglican Life on Cedar Hill

Community

Youth Ministry

Caring Family

Christmas 2015



Highlights of this Issue:

Pictures from This Year's Pageant and the 1957 Pageant

St. Luke's Harp Choir

St. Luke's Christmas Bazaar Report

Rector: The Reverend Daniel Fournier

Associate Priest: The Reverend Donald Walls

Honorary Assistant: The Reverend Lyn Oldale

Christmas Issue – December 2015



From your Editor – Ray Lett



It's difficult to remember that a few months ago we were complaining about lack of rain, dry gardens and golden lawns as the seemingly endless wind and rainstorms batter Victoria. Is there climate change? It certainly seems like it. Perhaps it was a coincidence that on the day before the international climate agreement was signed, I attended a community climate science seminar at the University of Victoria, where the speaker was Dr. Andrew Weaver, an internationally respected UVic climate scientist and MLA for the Oak Bay-Gordon Head riding.

During the seminar Dr. Weaver talked about the disconnect between science and policy makers when climate change issues were debated and how there was often a failure of scientists to clearly communicate the results of research to the public. He also revealed some sobering facts, such as the predicted increase of greenhouse gases, mainly carbon dioxide, from human activities and from natural sources such as melting permafrost leading to a rise in global temperature. Clearly, there will be future challenges dealing with the effect of a predicted rise in sea levels as polar ice caps melt. Faith communities can help to reduce our use of non-renewable resources by urging earth stewardship among members, even in a small way such as driving less each week. For the Prescription, why don't you send us ideas on reducing the use of non-renewable resources and combating global temperature rise.

In this issue, the Rev. Daniel Fournier writes about his perspective on Christmas, there are articles from Heather Moon about a St. Luke's Christmas Pageant in 1957 and pictures from Barb Prescott of our most recent pageant. Marlene Mitten urges you to join St. Luke's Parish Council in 2016, Carol Turnham and Lois George report on the Christmas Bazaar, and another story from St. Luke's Churchyard is featured.

Thanks from me and from Barb Prescott, co-editor, to those of you who sent articles and our regrets if we've missed anyone's contribution. Remember, we may have to edit your articles for brevity and grammar, and we cannot include previously published material unless you have permission from the source because of copyright infringement. You can send material to the St. Luke's Church office (st.lukes@shaw.ca) or e-mail it directly to me at Raylett@shaw.ca. Text should be in Microsoft Word format if possible, and JPEG format photos (high resolution) are preferred.

Friday, March 4th, 2016 is the deadline for the Easter 2016 Prescription.

Christmas 2015: From the Perspective of a Hill

by *The Reverend Daniel Fournier*



*The Reverend Daniel
Fournier*

*Photo credit: Michael
Zastre*

Recently our two churches at the crossroads, Lutheran Church of the Cross and St. Luke's, held our annual Advent Choral Service. This year the service format was different from previous years as we celebrated an evening prayer service instead of the traditional Advent Lessons and Carols. Once again I was delighted to hear how well the two choirs worked together to provide a beautiful worship service for everyone. Of the many musical pieces played that evening, one stands out in my mind in the weeks following the service. "Creation will be at Peace" refers to a number of scripture references from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. One of these, featured in the early days of Advent readings, is as follows:

"On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow,
of well-matured wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever." ~ Isaiah 25: 6-8a (NRSV)

This hopeful text speaks deeply to my heart in a time when we so much need to hear good news. The voice coming from the mountain of the Lord is the announcement that the Lord is coming and so we are filled with anticipation. The good news is that God is preparing for all a great and plentiful feast filled with good things.

It is so interesting that in much of scripture the place where the voice of God is often heard is upon a hill, on the mountaintop, upon a high place. We see that significantly also in the gospels where so much of Jesus' preaching and places of miracles, places of relevance and importance, take place on hilltops or on the side of a mountain. For example, one of the Matthew gospel stories, where Jesus feeds the multitudes with seven loaves and a few fish, is set up on the hillside.

The story of Jesus feeding the multitudes makes me think of the folktale "Stone Soup". I am sure that most of you have heard the story before. The story can be told in various ways but basically, it goes something like this. Villagers in the story were starving, and a newcomer suggested that if they boiled water in a large pot and added a stone, a very good soup could be made. Upon tasting it, it was determined that it might be a little better if they could only find some potatoes...some were found. More tasting ensued... maybe add a few onions...some cabbage...and finally, some meat was found. When everyone gave what little they had, they had a large and nourishing meal. "They all ate and were satisfied."



Stone Soup!

From the perspective of our hillside at St. Luke's Cedar Hill, I have to say I've seen some wonderful miraculous things take place here in this parish this year. And it fills my heart to see what has taken place as our people journeyed thorough this past year together. I have seen the people of this parish support and uphold so many through their friendship, love, prayer and financial support. I have seen us answer the calls of coming to the aid of those in need. One example of this is the outreach that we have given financially to the refugee crisis both in the support for the PWRDF and their initiative on this matter as well as in other ways that we have been of support. I have seen this love and support go far beyond this parish as well and I'm astounded by how our community of Victoria, Vancouver Island and Canada have reached out in tremendous and powerful ways to welcome those who have gone through great hardship. I see this as an example of the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves or the miracle of Stone Soup.

On the mountain of the Lord, God calls us to see the light in the coming of God as we see it in the little child born in the season of the incarnation. At Christmas, we gather to hear the story of Jesus' coming into our world as a child; after Christmas we tell that story from the Epiphany perspective - the light of the world, the word made flesh, was coming into the world, has come into the world.

It is my earnest prayer that each of you, as you celebrate Christmas and welcome a New Year, will live in the light of Christ brightly revealed for you, and that you will experience miracles each day of God's tremendous love, mercy, compassion, and goodness. May God bless each one of you in this Christmas season and in the year to come.

Merry Christmas and Blessings in the New Year, Daniel+

An Invitation to be Part of Parish Council for 2016

Dear Parishioners of St. Luke's Church,

As our Rector likes to remind us, "Is God calling you?" I wonder how many of you have asked where does the money go, what does Parish Council do, how are decisions reached, and what are a Warden's responsibilities?

Well, wonder no more. Now is the awesome opportunity to answer both God's call and all your questions. Come and join us on Parish Council for 2016. Find out what it takes to run a parish the size of St. Luke's. Have a more direct say in the direction we take as we move forward in this parish. We meet once a month on the third Tuesday. If you have questions, talk to any of the Wardens or members of Parish Council. Please consider joining us for the 2016 council term.

This year we are looking for people to fill the roles of Deputy Wardens. Barb Prescott and Harry Felsing have done way more than their fair share. It is time for someone else to step up and fill those shoes. As a Deputy Warden, you will have lots of time to find out how the position works, what the responsibilities are, and work with the current team to learn the ropes. If this is something that interests you, please speak to any of the Wardens or the Rector.

Marlene Mitten, Rector's Warden and Chair of the Nominating Committee



Guess Who?

And the “Guess Who” picture from the Fall issue is our choir member and soloist, Erika Pryer.

Thanks to Erika’s grandmother, June Pryer, for sending in this picture! We’d love to include yours in the next Prescription. So please sort through some pictures of your younger self and send us one.

Now a different one for you.
Who is this masked woman?



Operation Christmas Child 2015

by Sharon Hallsor



Elisabeth with the 55 shoeboxes
Photo credit: Sharon Hallsor

On November 22nd, Elisabeth Hallsor delivered shoeboxes to Operation Christmas Child on behalf of St. Luke’s Church. This year, the families of our Sunday School filled 55 shoeboxes, with items such as toothbrushes, socks, soap, crayons, stuffed animals, balls and jump ropes for children aged 2 through 14 years old. The filled gift boxes will be distributed by Samaritan’s Purse volunteers to children in Third World countries through local church contacts. The neighbouring children and their families are then invited to a fun celebration where they will receive our Christmas presents and learn about Jesus and the story of his birth. A warm thank you to everyone who contributed to our Sunday School project this year!



Parish Council Members – June 2015

Sitting from the left – Genevieve Richards, Ray Lett, Bonnie Watkins, David Williams, Vicki Sharp, Rev. Donald Walls, Edith Jarrott

Standing from left – Rick Saville, Harry Felsing, Sharon Hallsor, Barb Prescott, Rev. Daniel Fournier, Marlene Mitten, Bill Ross, Lis Louwrier

Absent – Sandra Lindberg

Our thanks to Michael Zastre for taking this picture.

ST. LUKE’S 2015 PARISH COUNCIL

Rector’s Warden
Deputy Rector’s Warden
People’s Warden
Deputy People’s Warden

Marlene Mitten
Barb Prescott
Sharon Hallsor
Harry Felsing

Treasurer
Secretary

David Williams
Genevieve Richards

Synod Delegates

Sharon Hallsor
Barb Prescott
Genevieve Richards

Alternate Synod Delegates

Harry Felsing
Ray Lett
Marlene Mitten

Members-at-Large

Edith Jarrott
Sandra Lindberg
Lis Louwrier
Bill Ross
Vicki Sharp
Bonnie Watkins

*Draw your Church together, O Lord, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love on every continent and island.
We ask this in his name and for his sake. Amen.*

A Word from the Wardens – December 2015

by Marlene Mitten, Sharon Hallsor, Barb Prescott, and Harry Felsing

Prepare the way of the Lord, prepare the way of the Lord. The words of the Taizé chant echo through Advent. This is a time of preparation and the start of a new year in the church calendar, a time to look back and a time to look ahead.

Since our last Wardens' Report, we celebrated **our St. Luke's Day Patronal Festival** on Sunday, October 18th. Parishioners enjoyed the opportunity to bring food for dinner representing their ethnic background and to wear a costume or clothing representing their heritage. The pictures below show some of the imaginative and colourful clothes worn to the dinner.



Susanne, Genessa, Tara and Samantha celebrate their German heritage.



Daniel and Joan representing their backgrounds, Quebec and England

Photo credits: Barb Prescott



Eguono wearing a dress from her birth country, Nigeria.

Eguono comments: "My attire is a very casual Nigerian two piece. It's not worn exclusively by a particular ethnic group and can be worn on different occasions. These attires are always custom-made and designs typically depend on the skill and creativity of your tailor. What is common is to always have a headgear (scarf), which is a rectangular piece of cloth tied around the head in varied styles. Again, the style of one's head gear depends on the one's skill and creativity."

Fantastic Fridays continue to be popular and enjoyable times to come together for crafts, songs, a story, and a meal. The theme of our November Fantastic Friday was faith. Crafts centered on the theme of faith. We used the FROG acronym (Fully Rely on God) as we made some FROG related crafts and talked about faith. The December Fantastic Friday's theme was hope. We made stained glass ornaments, sang Christmas carols and had a mini Christmas pageant. **Please mark the 2016 Fantastic Friday dates on your calendars: January 8th, February 5th, March 4th, April 1st, May 6th, and June 3rd.** The January Fantastic Friday will be the 2nd Friday of the month (instead of the usual 1st Friday) and its theme will be love along with Epiphany.



Making stained glass ornaments was a popular craft at the December Fantastic Friday
Photo credit: Barb Prescott



Scenes from the Fantastic Friday Nativity Story

Photo credits: Rebecca Bradley and Barb Prescott

Parishioners of all ages are always welcome at Fantastic Fridays to take part in the activities and act as hosts. Or invite a friend or neighbour to come along with you to find out why Fantastic Fridays are so fantastic!

On November 8th, St. Luke's hosted a performance by Bema Productions of The Grandkid. The hall was full and the actors engaged the audience from beginning to end. Laughter and tears mingled and it was an enjoyable experience for all present. The net proceeds from this performance (\$1721) went towards the fundraising for the Aboriginal Neighbours Revitalization of Indigenous Living Languages (RILL) Project.



Peggy helping at the Handicraft stall

Photo credit: Sharon Hallsor

We held another very profitable Christmas Bazaar on November 21st. It was a busy day and a great turnout of people came through in spite of (or perhaps helped by) the many other bazaars and craft fairs that day. Our thanks to Carol Turnham and Lois George for convening the Bazaar and to the great team of parishioners who work so hard preparing items before the sale and then spend a full day working at the Bazaar. Like many of our events, so many people contribute to making the Bazaar a success. When we see so many people volunteering, we can't help but be thankful for the great team we have at St. Luke's. Please refer to Carol and Lois's report on page 14 for more information.

The Advent Choral Service with Church of the Cross was held on Sunday, November 29th at Church of the Cross. What a beautiful service it was with so many musical highlights by Daniel, our choral scholars, and the combined choir under the direction of the choir directors, Susanne Reul-Zastre and Brian Wismath. As well, \$1170.30 was collected for Church of the Cross's Refugee Fund.

On December 6th, we enjoyed a visit by Bishop Logan at the morning services. He brought along his puppet, Luke, and the children helped him find his other puppet, Duke, as he reminded us to let God's voice be heard amongst all the pre-Christmas busyness. See pictures on page 9.

Looking ahead, we're planning our usual schedule of services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. On **Christmas Eve**, at **4 pm** will be a Child-friendly service with Christingle oranges for the younger children; at **7 pm**, a candle-lit communion service; and at **10 pm**, a traditional BCP service (also candle-lit). On **Christmas Day** at **10:00 am** will be a Family Communion Service (no 8:00 am service that day).

We are also planning a **Lessons and Carols Service for Epiphany on January 3rd at 10 am**, with two more 10 am services the following Sundays. The 9:15 and 11 am schedule of services will resume on January 24th.

Mark your 2016 calendars – Please note that our Annual Vestry Meeting will be on February 21st after the 10 am service. Mark that date on your calendar and also refer to the **Important Dates to Note** table on page 11 of the Prescription for more information on upcoming events.

May God's blessings be upon you and your family through Advent, as we celebrate Christmas together at St. Luke's, and into 2016!

Your Wardens, Marlene, Sharon, Barb and Harry

Pictures from the Bishop's Visit



*Above:
Robert Hallsor
helping Bishop
Logan find Duke*

*Photo credit for
pictures of the
Bishop's visit:
Michael Zastre*

A reminder that your support is always needed for.....

The Regional Grains Program for Our Place – Our Place would be delighted to receive the “Grain” contributions you put in the box at the back of the church. Contributions are collected on the second Sunday of the month. Here’s the roster for 2016:

Month	“Grain”
January	Rolled Oats
February	Muesli
March	Barley
April	Macaroni
May	Green Split Peas
June	Brown Rice
July	Spaghetti
August	Egg Noodles
September	Lentils
October	White Rice
November	Dried fruits
December	Nuts

Also, consider helping with **Flowers for the Church** by making a donation to the Altar Guild. Please contact **Margaret Warden** at 250-477-1303 for more details.

And we really DO NEED New Volunteer Greeters, Readers, Sidespeople at all of our services. Please speak to the Rector, Ray Lett, or Barb Prescott if you are able to help in any of these ways.

St. Luke's Harp Choir *by Dorothy Cook*



*Left to right - Joan Scandrett, Tasche Jordan, Dorothy Cook, and Lyn Oldale
Photo credit: Daniel Fournier*

St. Luke's now has the very beginnings of a Folk Harp Choir. Three of us, Lyn Oldale, Joan Scandrett and Dorothy Cook have formed a trio of folk harps to be part of some services over Christmas and into the future. To this end, we had a couple of harp workshops from Tasche Jordan, aka Harper Tasche. He is an internationally acclaimed Folk Harper from Seattle. Dorothy and Lyn were at a harp retreat on Whidbey Island in June and asked him to come and give us pointers in the right direction.

On November 24th Dorothy, Lyn and Joan attended two really good classes and in the evening played as the warm up to his concert. Harper Tashe received a warm welcome and played like an angel. He also donated more than half of the takings to the St. Luke's Choral Scholar Fund and has promised to come back!! Watch this space for more about your new Harp Choir.

Important Parish Dates for Your Calendar - Christmas 2015 to March 2016

Date	Event
Thursday, December 24 th	Child Friendly Christingle Carol Service – 4 pm Family Communion Service with Carols – 7 pm Traditional Choral Communion Service with Carols – 10 pm
Friday, December 25 th	Family Communion – 10 am
Sunday, January 3 rd	Festival of Lessons and Carols for Epiphany – 10 am Services also at 8 am and 7 pm
Wednesday, January 6 th	The Epiphany of Our Lord – 5:30 pm at Lutheran Church of the Cross – Potluck Supper followed by a worship service including an impromptu Epiphany pageant.
Friday, January 8 th	Fantastic Friday (aka Messy Church) – 4:30 - 6:30 pm
Friday, January 29 th	Pub Night – 6:30 - 9:30 pm
Friday, February 5 th	Fantastic Friday (aka Messy Church) – 4:30 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday, February 9 th	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Doors open at 5:30 pm – Dinner at 6 pm
Wednesday, February 10 th	Ash Wednesday Services at 10:30 am and 7 pm
Sunday, February 21 st	Combined Service – 10 am Followed by Lunch and Annual Vestry Meeting
Friday, March 4 th	Fantastic Friday (aka Messy Church) – 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Editors' Note: Pam Gaudio submitted this article, which she found in the Saanich Archives. Geoffrey A. Vantreight Jr. was interviewed on August 5, 1977 by S. Manson. Pam thought parishioners would be interested in reading about the Vantreight family, in whose memory the beautiful Vantreight window on the north side of the church was donated.

Stories from St. Luke's Churchyard Geoffrey Arthur Vantreight

Geoffrey A. Vantreight was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1880. He immigrated to the United States with his parents, John and Flora, arriving in San Francisco in 1882 after a long train ride. His elder sister told him stories of Indians selling their wares at railway stops in the southern United States. At the age of four he moved again, this time to settle in Gordon Head. From 1891-1896, he attended Gordon Head School which his father helped to start. The young boy's early days were filled with chores. The family farm of 125 acres was heavily timbered and had to be cleared, wood chopped for heat and the



*The Vantreight Window
in St. Luke's Church.
Photo credit: Ray Lett*

animals tended. These early duties stood him in good stead; when his father died in 1896, he became the head of the household. It was a hard time for the family, accustomed to a guaranteed income from their father's pension. Geoffrey cut cordwood from the trees and took the horse and wagon to Victoria homes to sell it daily. He received about \$1.50 for each cord. After a grueling day, he would climb in the back of the wagon to sleep, trusting the horses to return him. Morning would find him sometimes at home, and sometimes in a neighbor's field.

The family was fortunate when Patterson, then the Lieutenant Governor, bought a large portion of their land on the East side. This legacy was used to buy a home in Victoria for his mother and sister, and finance 20 acres off Tyndall Avenue for a new farm. This farm was where Geoffrey made his fortune and earned the name "Strawberry King of Gordon Head." At \$10 per acre, the land had to be cleared, which he and his younger brother Sydney set out to do. Times were very hard for the young men, but worthwhile as their farm grew. They participated in the lively Mutual Improvement Society founded in 1898.

A few years later Geoffrey purchased another seven acres, this time cleared, for \$15 per acre. Here the important experimental farm was set up. At this time, his crop was mainly soft and stone fruits. After the historic sale of William Grant's crate of strawberries for \$6, other farmers were quick to catch on. Geoffrey took the lead and by 1915, was already known as the 'Strawberry King'. The Vantreight farm was known for daffodils as well. W.T. Edwards, a neighbor, traded a sack of bulbs over the fence. These later parented vast acreages of the flower.

The experimental farm, mentioned earlier, was where the strawberry root weevil was discovered, and some years later finally stopped. The weevil ruined whole crops and nearly wiped out the strawberry farmers in Gordon Head. Before mechanized crop dusting, each plant had to be anointed by hand with a mixture of holopern and apple pulp as weevil bait. Prior to this, many other methods had been tried, including setting up weevil fences. A tongue and groove trough was laid down along the rows and the groove filled with pitch. The latter method proved more satisfactory. Fruits were harvested in the early days by Native people, the Songhees and Koksilah, who would come in their canoes with their families and spend the summer harvesting. Later years saw Chinese workers, who had been part of the CPR crews, living on the edge of the Vantreight farm in workers' houses for 10 months of the year. The Chinese seldom brought their wives, who generally lived in the Victoria area. These gentlemen were praised for their diligence and hard work; without their help, Gordon Head would not have gained such recognition for its fruit.

The bounty of the harvest was delivered to the Victoria Harbour nightly to make its way across the Strait to the Empress Jam Factory, and to homes, canneries and wineries in the area. This marketing system needed review and led to the development of the Fruit Growers' Association in 1916. The first meetings were held in the Vantreight barn. There was some difficulty in getting consensus from local farmer to participate. The market had fluctuated greatly since the first \$6/crate, but it was another ten years before 100 percent participation was recorded. Vantreight now had started a family with his wife Maude Bartholomew. Maude, born in 1892 in London, England, immigrated to Jersey Island in 1908. They were married in 1914 at an Anglican Church in Vancouver.



*John and Florence Vantreight,
Geoffrey's parents
Courtesy of Wendy Gedney*

The community spirit was strong. Vantreight served many years on the Board for the Mutual Improvement Society, developing activities for the folks at Gordon Head, who were necessarily protective of one another. In 1916, there was a great snow. The Houlihan neighbors heard a noise over toward Vantreight's. Upon investigation, they found the whole family snowed in, out of wood and sick with the flu. James Houlihan supplied them with a staple at Gordon Head – cordwood. Some days later, Geoffrey walked the five miles to town right over the fences to carry 20 loaves of bread back to feed his family. Geoffrey Vantreight died on August 27, 1959 and is buried in Row F, Plot 37. His father, John Vantreight, is buried in Row B, Plot 14 while his mother, Flo (Florence), is buried in Row B, Plot 16.

An Update from the Shelbourne Community Kitchen by George Klima, Communications Coordinator for the Shelbourne Community Kitchen

The kitchen training programs are now building self-reliance among dozens of people: single moms, students, families, and guys. We hear comments like this, "Thank you for this joyful experience that took my mind away from the stresses of life."

Our pantry program provides healthy food for those in need. Currently the pantry is running low on basics such as potatoes, onions, pasta sauce, rice, canned fish and meat, and pasta.

Winter is a time when staying warm can be a challenge. Consider how it is for those without a car and on a limited income! So The Kitchen is hoping to give an extra \$10 for each participant who comes to our pantry. Of course, this will be possible only if you can support us with cash donations. Please consider "sponsoring" one or more of our pantry participants. Contact Laura Cochrane (laco@telus.net) or Kim Cummins (info@shelbournecommunitykitchen.ca) for details.



*The Shelbourne Community Kitchen
3541 Shelbourne Street
Between Cedar Avenue and Donnelly
Avenue*

There is always a need for non-perishable food items to replenish the Shelbourne Community Kitchen Pantry. See list above. You can contribute by leaving food items in the basket at the back of the church. (Our food donations are now going to the Shelbourne Community Kitchen instead of to the Mustard Seed.) Or please contact Kim Cummins, the Program Coordinator, at info@shelbournecommunitykitchen.ca or 250-590-0980 to arrange a time for delivery of your food items. They will be very much appreciated.

St. Luke's Christmas Bazaar 2015

by Carol Turnham and Lois George

St. Luke's Church parishioners held another very successful Christmas Bazaar on November 21st, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, which raised a total of \$8,884.35. The weather was bright, dry and not too chilly, which contributed to the steady stream of customers. People began lining up at 9:00 am, and continued all day. Other craft fairs were held in the neighbourhood, such as at CLV (Community Living Victoria) and Doncaster School, but that did not prove to be a problem. Parking was a bit of an issue since CLV did not want too many of our workers to use their parking lot, and the Linden Singers held a large choir rehearsal at Church of the Cross starting at 9:30 am. However, our parking attendants did a fine job, and all went well.

The usual publicity was carried out. The Reverend Daniel Fournier welcomed the waiting crowd. Customers were all given handouts about St. Luke's activities and information about the Bazaar, produced by Barb Prescott. Our sincere thanks once again to all who contributed so generously to our sale. Your antiques and collectables, jewellery, books, other valuables, and donations of all sorts were really appreciated. We give a special thanks to those who work so hard all year making handicraft and needlework items, jams and jellies, and home baking to sell. Our thanks to Heather Simpson, who has agreed to take over the Greeting Cards stall from Marjorie Huggett. Marjorie has made so many beautiful cards over the years, and they will be appreciated for many years to come.



Carol with the Christmas arrangements she created.

Photo credit: Ray Lett

Our thanks to all the Conveners and their helpers who cheerfully agree each year to donate their time and efforts to the sale. We really appreciate the set-up and take-down crews for all their hard work. The members of the Money Team are appreciated, from those who take charge of the floats to the counters at the end of the day.

Our sincere thanks to Jane Grant and her hard working kitchen crew for keeping the hungry crowds satisfied. Thanks also to Genevieve Richards for coordinating the lunch servers. This year, four students from Lambrick Park School volunteered their time to help serve, which worked out well for all. Megan Pratt's help was really appreciated when she pitched in at a moment's notice to help at the peak of lunchtime. The lunch is always very popular, and people had to wait to get a chair.

Fortunately, the bookstall could be set up earlier than usual, as it is a huge job! Thank you, Felsing family and their helpers. Thanks also to Tara Poilievre for the Little Elves Shop, where young children can buy inexpensive gifts for others, and even wrap them up! This encourages children to see that the Christmas spirit is about giving to others.

Leftover items were taken away by a gentleman from the Canadian Diabetes Society. Our heartfelt thanks again to all who make this event so pleasurable. Well done, family of St. Luke's!

Christmas 1957 at St. Luke's *by Heather Moon*

There is great excitement! Reverend David Ragg has announced that the A.Y.P.A. (Anglican Young People's Association) will participate in a Christmas pageant that will be held in the Church. Each of us will have a part!

The ladies of the Church make beautiful costumes for us to wear while the men build a platform that will fit over the altar to ensure that all those attending have a clear view. The preparations are completed; the night is here. We are assembled in the choir room in the church basement. Ladies of the parish help the angels secure their wings and make certain their halos are firmly attached to their hair with bobby pins. Others are dressing the shepherds and the three kings and putting make-up on faces.

We can hear the parishioners arriving upstairs in the church and our excitement revs up! The church is filled to capacity. We get our "cue" that all is in readiness.

With great stealth and in complete silence, we leave the choir room, turn right into the furnace room continue on through the basement to the door to the outside and go up the stairs and into the sacristy. We are holding our breath!

We can hear Reverend Ragg announcing from the back of the Church that he is about to turn off all the lights in the church and that the pageant is about to start. All goes silent. Reverend Ragg begins reading the Bible verses.



Angels appear to the Shepherds. Angels left to right are Ruth Foster, Sharan Moon, Nelda Bradshaw, and Heather Moon

Photo submitted by Heather Moon

The Angel Gabriel creeps out into the church along with Mary. Gabriel ascends the platform and a spotlight immediately illuminates the scene. An audible gasp erupts from the congregation. And so began the telling of the Christmas story.

As the readings continue, the church goes dark and then light again as participants silently return to and leave the sacristy and assume their places. Wonder and joy abounded within the participants and the observers. So much so that word got out to CHEK TV. At that time, their studio was in the neighbourhood, a few blocks away on Epsom Drive. We were asked to come to the studio so that the pageant could be shared with the television audience. We were more than pleased to do so!



Shepherds at the Stable. Angels left to right are Ruth Foster, Sharan Moon, Nelda Bradshaw, Ada Wellburn, Heather Moon, Penny Todd and Jeannie Foster.

*Joseph – Bruce Timbers, Mary – Betty Armstrong
Photo submitted by Heather Moon*

I have included several photos of the pageant and have identified the performers by name where possible. The two Foster girls, who were angels in the pageant, are sisters of David Foster. The Foster family attended St. Luke's for several years.

As you can see, the costumes were beautiful. You can also see the wooden platform was quite high as the participants are above the height of the reredos.

As you recall memories of Christmas with special meaning for you, I wish all of you a Blessed and Merry Christmas 2015.

Pictures from St. Luke's Pageant – December 13, 2015



Baby "Jesus" aka Baby Ivy with her parents.



Well done, narrator Stephen Zastre!





Photo credits for pageant pictures:
Vicki Sharp, Michael Zastre, and
Barb Prescott

More pictures of the pageant can be found at the Image Gallery of St. Luke's website:
www.stlukesvictoria.ca/imagegallery.htm

Fees for Funerals and Memorial Services

This fall the Rector and Wardens reviewed the fees for funerals and memorial services. The rates below were recommended to Parish Council at the October Parish Council meeting and were approved by Council at that time. If you have any questions or concerns about the fee schedule, please speak to the Rector or one of the Wardens.

For St. Luke's Anglican Church:

You may write **one** cheque for the total amount, or as indicated below (made payable to **St Luke's Church**). Please write a **separate** cheque to the organist as noted below.

Fee Summary

For the use of the church: **\$150** (payable to St. Luke's Church: marked "church")

For the use of the hall facilities: **\$150** (payable to St. Luke's Church; marked "hall")

For the use of the Lounge in the Hall: **\$50**

For refreshments: **\$8.00** per person (payable to St. Luke's Church; marked "refreshments"): No. of persons ____ x **\$8.00** = _____

For tea and coffee only: **\$3.50** per person (payable to St. Luke's Church; marked "refreshments"): No. of persons ___ x **\$3.50** _____

For the Altar Guild: **\$75** (payable to St. Luke's Church marked "Altar Guild")

For the organist: **\$150** (please write a **separate cheque** to the organist)

For Interment: **\$75**

For the clergy: We do not charge for the ministry of the clergy, however you are welcome to give the clergy person an honorarium (*suggested amount \$250*).

The above amounts are the fees that cover the operating costs of St. Luke's. Any amount the family wishes to give in memory of their loved one over and above these amounts will be eligible for a charitable donation receipt.

The Churchyard by Heather Moon

I have several Bibles and recently when looking for a specific verse, I picked up the closest to hand, the one that belonged to my maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Ince. As many of us do, she had tucked little mementoes into her Bible and the following beautiful poem was among them. I think my grandmother likely received it to comfort the family when my grandfather was buried at St. Luke's in 1946. I pass it along to my family at St. Luke's in the hope that it will bring peace and comfort to all who have loved ones sleeping below the "loving arms of the old oaks". It is on a 5" by 3" plain buff coloured card in small print. It reads as follows:

THE CHURCHYARD

St. Luke's, Cedar Hill Cross Road
Victoria, B.C.

Beneath the lee of the rocky hill,
And wide, blue spreading skies,
Where stands the sacred house of God,
The quiet churchyard lies.

Tall poplars sway in the evening breeze,
Dark firs their vigil keep,
Old oaks stretch loving arms above
The homes of these that sleep.

Upon the hill a cloth of gold
The gorse and broom have spread,
And fragrant flowers make sweet and glad
This garden of the dead.

They are not far – to us they come
From brighter realms above.
On errands great their spirits speed,
Fulfilling perfect love.

We hear them in the gentle wind,
We find them in the flowers,
We know them when in hope they speak
Within these hearts of ours.

Love knows no death nor age, nor time,
No grave, nor passing bell;
We in their hearts and they in ours,
Remembered, ever dwell.

--ALLEGRA



Photo credits: Barb Prescott



The Christmas Pageant
by St. Luke's Cartoonist, Stephen Zastre



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Upcoming Events



Celebrate The Epiphany of Our Lord
Wednesday, January 6, 2016
5:30 pm at Lutheran Church of the Cross

St. Luke Cedar Hill Anglican and Church of the Cross will once again join to celebrate the Festival of the Epiphany beginning with a **potluck supper at 5:30 PM** followed by **worship at 7 PM**. The worship with Eucharist will include an Impromptu Epiphany pageant enacting the story of the Magi who followed a star to find the infant Christ Jesus, and end with "chalking the door" for God's blessing of a new calendar year. All are welcome.

FANTASTIC FRIDAYS at St. Luke Cedar Hill



1st Friday of the Month
4:30 - 6:30 pm



hands-on activities for all ages

something new to try each month
 ...woodworking, games, drama,
 art projects, treasure hunts and more



dinner prepared for you & your family

freshly cooked, delicious, and nutritious



thank God, it's Friday

take time to pause
 ...strengthen your spirit with
 familiar music & thoughtful stories



Come when you can & come as you are!
3821 Cedar Hill X-Road

Mark your calendars:

1st Friday* of the Month
Jan. 8 – Feb. 5 – Mar. 4
 *2nd Friday in January

PUB NIGHT

in St. Luke's Hall

Friday, January 29th

6:30pm - 9:30pm

Beer & Wine
 (\$reasonable)

Soft Drinks

Snacks

Games, Music



Come and relax with your friends!

*To help us prepare, please let us know
 how many will be in your party
 by calling the office 250-477-6741*



ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21st

Following the 10 am service and light
 potluck lunch.

Reports from 2015 and election of new
 Parish Council members.

Mark this date on your 2016 calendars and
 plan to attend this meeting.

**The Parish of St. Luke Cedar Hill
 is all of us.**

Please read the reports,
 come to the meeting, and
 support the parish leadership
 in all of our work in this parish.