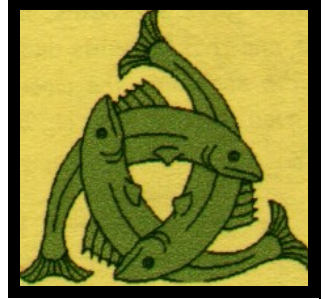


THE TRINITY NEWS



HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH SOOKE, BC

Vol. 3 No. 10

Our Clergy's Thoughts and Reflections

Collect: *Creator of the fruitful earth, you made us stewards of all things. Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness, and steadfast wills to use your bounty well, that the whole human family, today and in generations to come, may with us give thanks for the riches of your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. BAS p. 396*

Since many will be with family and friends on Monday, October 11th, the civil holiday, we will anticipate Thanksgiving on Friday, October 8th, with a complete turkey dinner with our guests at Vital Vittles. We will then remember liturgically, with Holy Communion, on Saturday at 5 pm at Early Church and on Sunday at 10 am the many ways in which God has blessed us and our parish in the past year.

All cultures celebrate agricultural festivals; so too do many religions. Among the Jews, the three pilgrimage feasts each had agricultural significance. Medieval Christianity also developed a number of such observances. And here in Canada we also stop, reflect and thank God, the ultimate source, sustainer and abundant giver of life and grace.

Those who grow fruit and vegetables whether as a hobby or as an occupation in Sooke, have experienced another abundant harvest. Our growers displayed their produce at our town's Fall Fair. Two adjectives come quickly to mind: variety and abundance. For others: planting, watering, caring and harvesting. And now comes thanksgiving. How rich is the soil! How happy are the laborers!

The collect reminds us of our role as stewards: we should take responsibility for what God has entrusted to our care. All people need to be nourished. Food and drink are everyone's right. And yet, in our world, in our village, there are still hungry people. They hunger for physical nourishment, for social nourishment, for spiritual nourishment. God continues to count on us to recognize God in the needy and then respond effectively. However, there is more.

While we address some basic needs of some people every Friday, we have yet to address those societal structures of injustice which create and perpetuate hunger and poverty. Our upbringing equips us very well for sharing our bounty: the many ways in which God has blessed our parish in the past year. We have yet to recognize that all of us are born into an organized social framework in which we live. Depending on who we are, the framework may work very well for us; for others, it works very effectively against them. How do we collectively bring about change in our social fabric so that more and more in our village benefit from the different levels of schooling, government and opportunity for development and self-determination for which we all long? Thanksgiving should lead us to include more and more people into the circle of those who can voice their thanks to God.

Sincerely,
Alex+/Nancy+

Deacon Wally's reflections:

In the September newsletter, I wrote: 'What the people do as small groups and individuals, or don't do, is the position of the church' and 'each of us is responsible for ministry, and part of my duties as a deacon is to help you strengthen your ministry'.

I waited a few weeks for people to talk to me, but that didn't work quickly enough! Now I've started to initiate the discussion, which is done confidentially and one-on-one.

Here's a summary of what I do:

- acknowledge that God engages each of us for ministry;
- ask you to think for a week on what I could do, or the church as an organization could do, that would make your ministry, or ministries, more effective;
- engage you a week later on what would make your ministry more effective.

Here's what I don't do:

- Offer to do direct ministry myself on your behalf; and
- Take a list of things that other people should do.

Let's talk!

Families torn apart by jealousies and misunderstandings, leading to brother doing battle with brother.



If it sounds like the basis for an all-too-familiar story in your morning newspaper circa 2010, rest assured they were struggling with the same issues in ancient Biblical times. In fact, it's the premise behind, the fall presentation of the Sooke Harbour Players (formerly known as Stage West).

Continues on page 3

Reflecting on...Romans 12:15-16:

"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another."

As Christians we strive to answer the call of God by living and working in harmony with all people.

Once the disciples of Jesus argued among themselves about which one of them was the greatest disciple. In His gentle manner, Jesus returned harmony to the room by reminding them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."

We, disciples of Jesus, may have moments when we strive to make our self more visible in order to feel important. Or there may be times when we wish we were recognized publicly or within our own family circle.

No matter what our role may be at home, in our community, or at work, we are always being called to a life of service by our God. When we choose to answer the call to serve God, we are also dedicating our self in service to humanity. When we take the time to recognize that we are each equally loved and valued by God, we can then live and work in harmony with all people.



"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another."

How do we follow Jesus?

COME AND FOLLOW

We try to live our lives as he did – the example of the perfect steward. Stewardship is discipleship. It is the care and use of all that we have been given by God and is often explained in terms of time, talent, and treasure. Communication requires that a message be both sent *and* received and explaining stewardship in simple terms is more effective. Here is a way to look at these aspects of stewardship.

We are all blessed with so many talents and yet we may not know they exist. Talents that can support not only a church, but also charitable works throughout the community. Your use of talent for the work of God is one of the most personally fulfilling opportunities of your lifetime. Payment in a smile, in relief of suffering or in lending a hand to someone in desperate need is greater than any material payment you will ever receive.

Treasure is a gift and lest it become a burden, justice requires us to consider the needs of others as we enjoy the gifts we have been given. Our use of treasure to support the charitable works of the church helps to bring justice and equity to the world. Charity is not a tax. It should be given freely because we understand and believe in the end result of our giving of financial support to any ministry.

What should you give? There is no one answer, but we should all give according to what we have been given. Rather than gifts of equal size, gifts should be based on equal sacrifice.

The gift of time is just that – a gift. None of us knows exactly how much time we have been granted on this earth. In the time that we have, we are asked to use that time effectively by continuing the mission of Jesus Christ throughout our days.

Time is fleeting. Make the most of yours by using all of your gifts to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY AT HOLY TRINITY WILL BE OCTOBER 17TH

Families: *from page 2*

And what's particularly remarkable about this scenario is that two talented British blokes, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, were able to turn the Biblical saga of Jacob, his 12 sons and their trials and triumphs, found in the latter chapters of Genesis, into a highly entertaining musical. While serious issues are portrayed, they are done so in a delightfully light-hearted, toe-tapping manner. For example, Egypt's Pharaoh, with whom Joseph finds favour, bears an uncanny resemblance to Elvis Presley.

The Sooke Harbour Players production is being staged by more than 50 local actors, musicians and backstage crew, including three members of the Holy Trinity parish; Lucinda Welch (stage manager), Miranda Welch (children's choir) and Graeme Morton (Naphthali, one of the scheming brothers).

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat will be staged on three weekends next month, Nov. 5-7, 12-14 and 19-21 in the Edward Milne Community School theatre.

Showtimes Friday and Saturdays are 7 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at a number of retail outlets in Sooke and area, or you can arrange for yours through Lucinda, Miranda and Graeme.

~ Graeme Morton



PECANS IN THE CEMETERY

On the outskirts of a small town, there was a big, old pecan tree just inside the cemetery fence.

One day, two boys filled up a bucketful of nuts and sat down by the tree, out of sight, and began dividing the nuts.

"One for you, one for me. One for you, one for me," said one boy. Several dropped and rolled down toward the fence.

Another boy came riding along the road on his bicycle. As he passed, he thought he heard voices from inside the cemetery. He slowed down to investigate. Sure enough, he heard, "One for you, one for me. One for you, one for me." He just knew what it was. He jumped back on his bike and rode off.

Just around the bend he met an old man with a cane, hobbling along. "Come here quick," said the boy, "you won't believe what I heard! Satan and the Lord are down at the cemetery dividing up the souls."

The man said, "Beat it kid, can't you see it's hard for me to walk." When the boy insisted though, the man hobbled slowly to the cemetery. Standing by the fence they heard, "One for you, one for me. One for you, one for me..."

The old man whispered, "Boy, you've been tellin' me the truth. Let's see if we can see the Lord."

Shaking with fear, they peered through the fence, yet were still unable to see anything. The old man and the boy gripped the wrought iron bars of the fence tighter and tighter as they tried to get a glimpse of the Lord.

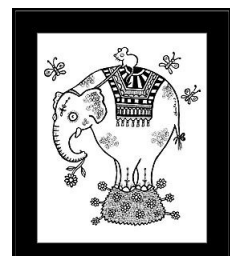
At last they heard, "One for you, one for me. That's all. Now let's go get those nuts by the fence and we'll be done." They say the old man made it back to town a full five minutes ahead of the kid on the bike!

WAYS AND MEANS... things planned to raise funds for

HOLY TRINITY

The **Elegant White Elephant** Sale...with Plant and Baked Goods Sale too!

Saturday October 2nd from 9:30 am—2 pm (Please bring sale items to the church on Friday from 2 pm to 5 pm.) Have your Baked Goods packaged with nicer plates, doilies, ribbon if you can; if not we will have some there on Friday to use.



Contacts:

Connie Isherwood for White Elephant Sale.

Elizabeth Tanner for Plant information or to help.

Norma Fitchett for Baked Goods information or to help.

Octoberfest Spaghetti Dinner with Silent Auction

Saturday, October 23, 2010 5:30 pm @ Legion \$15 per person



Hallow E'en? You Don't Say!

Regardless of the name...Hallow E'en as they call it in Ireland, just means All Hallows Eve, or the night before the 'All Hallows', also called 'All Hallowmas', or 'All Saints' Day. 'Hallow' comes from the old English the word meaning 'sanctify'.

In ancient times, this day was a special and honored day of the year.

In the Celtic calendar, it was one of the most important days of the year, representing a mid point in the year, Samhain, or "summer's end". Occurring opposite the great Spring Festival of May Day, or Beltain, this day represented the turning point of the year, the eve of the new year which begins with the onset of the dark phase of the year.

And while celebrated by the Celts, the origin of this day has connections to other cultures as well, such as Egypt, and in Mexico as *Dia de la Muerte*, or the day of the dead.

The Celts believed that the normal laws of space and time were held in abeyance during this time, allowing a special window where the spirit world could intermingle with the living. It was a night when the dead could cross



the veils and return to the land of the living to celebrate with their family, or clan. As such, the great burial mounds of Ireland were lit up with torches lining the walls, so the spirits of the dead could find their way.



Originally in Ireland turnips were carved out and candles placed inside as lanterns lit to help guide Jack's lost spirit back home. Hence the term: Jack-o-lanterns. Later, when immigrants came to the new world, pumpkins were more readily available, and so the carved pumpkins carrying a lit candle served the same function.

As the Church began to take hold in Europe the ancient Pagan rituals were co-opted into festivals of the Church. While the Church could not support a general feast for all the dead, it created a festival for the blessed dead, all those hallowed so, All Hallow's, was transformed into All Saints and All Souls day. Today, we have lost the significance of this time of year, a time which in these modern days has been turned into a candy fest with kids dressing up as action heroes.

Many cultures have ceremonies to honor their dead. In so doing, they complete a cycle of birth and death, and keep in line with a harmony and order of the universe, at a time when we enter into the cycle of darkness for the upcoming year.

As you light your candles this year, keep in mind the true potency of this time, an interesting history of thoughts on the other side of life. Today it is a good time for us to remember those who have gone before us. A time to reflect on our love and gratitude for their lives among us.



~ Nancy+

HAPPENINGS IN AND AROUND HOLY TRINITY!



Recent fund raiser *"Plain Delight"* by Mary Brown and her friends for Holy Trinity's Vital Vittles Outreach netted \$ 456.00

MANY THANKS, MARY!

Vital Vittles Team members seen here are from Top/L-R Suzanne & Jean de Grasse and Norma Fitchett Below / L-R: Karl Heinz Mosig, Kase Roodbol, Don Chapple and Kay Caffrey.

This much needed and much appreciated program has been preparing lunch every Friday for over 7 years! And you too can be a part! Just ask Shirley Roodbol how you can contribute.



On Sunday the 12th, a special liturgical event (below) at Holy Trinity brought a number of musicians together to lead us in prayer. Particularly inspiring was an original composition of the Lord's Prayer by Brent Straughan. Pictured below are Ellen Himmer, Shane Beech; Emily Pollet, Rebecca Clayborn, Trevor MacHattie.



HER HANDS ARE NEVER IDLE! Marie Lott pictured here wins the first place award for her Quilt at Sooke Fall Fair. She no sooner finished that project than she and husband Tom began preparations for their 6th year fund-raising event for Cystic Fibrosis, raising over \$5,000—bringing the total of all six years to nearly \$40,000. Their hard work and dedication to this effort makes us all proud!





The Labyrinth: and why you'd want to walk it.

Recently I had the pleasure of walking a labyrinth at the home of Wally and Sharleen Eamer. As a labyrinth facilitator, trained at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, I enjoyed the one we had at St. Barnabas for the seven plus years we were there and on rare occasions I've walked the one at Christ Cathedral in Victoria. I've missed walking them more often.

If you have walked a labyrinth or explored it on paper you likely have found it leads to many deep questions and sacred responses.

Often confused with a maze, which it isn't, the only decision needed is when to enter. Once that first step is taken, the path takes you to the center and back out again. This simplistic design is the first hint of the labyrinth's power.

← *Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, California*

Pilgrims ventured to the Holy Land as a sacred journey from all over Europe during the early Middle Ages. When the Crusades began, travel became very dangerous and the Church wanted to prevent a greater loss of life. Cathedrals were being built in France and Italy at that time and the labyrinth was placed in the floor of many of these churches to represent the sacred pilgrimage to Jerusalem. The pilgrims came to the cathedral and walked the sacred path arriving at the center called the "New Jerusalem". Over time, the labyrinths' use became unpopular and its power came under suspicion. It was torn out or painted over in many of the church floors where it had once been widely used.



In Chartres Cathedral in France, the labyrinth remains. It is an intricate part of the Cathedral's grand design. The stones that make up the path are not painted with the pattern as you might imagine; the stones are the pattern. The path is laid out in 11 concentric circles intricately woven in a sacred geometric pattern. It is surrounded by lunations, 28 semi-circles per quadrant creating a quarter year's lunar calendar around the labyrinths' perimeter. The labyrinth's relationship to the magnificent stained glass Rose window in the church's entry is also significant. **If the front wall were placed down flat on the floor, the entire window would exactly cover and match the size and shape of the labyrinth!** The Sacred space is created in part by the labyrinth's presence.

The labyrinth is metaphorically a three-fold path. Upon entering one begins the symbolic path of releasing and letting go. The center represents illumination and opening to the Divine. The return path is union; taking the walk's benefits back into our lives. But we do not walk the path alone; others share our journey. On the labyrinth someone may be walking ahead of us at a pace we find difficult to follow. Our choice then becomes to stay behind and walk at another's pace or go around them and honour our own body's rhythm. There are times when we may come face to face with fellow journeyers. Will we greet them with a smile or even a hug or will we remain within ourselves and continue on the path? There is no right or wrong way, the choice is ours to make. It is in these moments that the labyrinth's mystery and sacredness become apparent. We begin to take a look at how we are in life about our chosen path and at those with whom we walk. We have the opportunity to consider what is important, what we call sacred.

If you have an opportunity, consider walking a labyrinth, or with the point of a pen concentrate on following the path from a paper design like above. Either way you will find it a true path to the sacredness of who you are.

~ Nancy +

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OCTOBER

- 2 9:30 -2 pm Parish Fund Raiser—White Elephant/Plant and Baked Goods Sale
- 10 10am Thanksgiving Service
- 11 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day
- 12 7 pm Parish Council
- 17 10 am Stewardship Sunday
- 23 5:30 pm Parish Fund Raiser—Spaghetti Dinner w/Silent Auction @ Legion
\$15 per person
- 31 10 am Feast of All Saints w/ Eucharist



LOOK TOWARD NOVEMBER

- 7 10 am Bishop James' Annual Visit / Remembrance Sunday Holy Communion

Every Friday: Vital Vittles — 11:30-1:00 pm

Every Saturday: Early Church 5 pm w/ Holy Communion

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CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

- 1 Julie Larsen
- 11 Richard Cousineau
- 21 Maureen Hasanen
- 24 Violet Cray;
- Nancy's priestly ordination
- 25 Marie Lott
- 27 Chrissy Ford
- 30 Shirley Roodbol



Anniversaries

- 10 Muriel and John Yates
- 12 Pat and Don Lee
- 21 Violet and Ray Cray; Lucinda and Mike Welch
- 26 Helen and Ernie Bacon

