



St. Mark's Anglican Church

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URGENT – The Altar Guild is in need of a small refrigerator in order to keep the communion wine at a stable temperature. If you have a 'fridge you can donate OR if you wish to make a financial donation toward the purchase of a small 'fridge, please contact Kathryn Smith: 778-549-0858 hkmasmith@shaw.ca

Next Sunday's Bible Readings – Genesis 28:10-19a, Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43

Prayer Chain Contacts – Michael and Jean Weller. Call 604-538-9334 or email: weller301@shaw.ca

The Lunch Basket for Hungry Children is provided this week to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for God's many blessings.

St. Mark's Youth – Youth gather on Sundays at 10am in the Youth Room. Our current series, "For The Life Of The World" will help us integrate our faith with life in the modern world. After taking a summer break, Youth will begin to gather on Tuesday evenings in September for fellowship and Bible study. For more information or to sign-up for our newsletter visit www.stmarkbc.org/youth/

Library News – *Stones for Bread* by Christa Parrish tells of the simple life Liesl McNamara has cultivated for herself. Baking bread for her bakery is Liesl's life. But suddenly her life is becoming complicated: her head baker brings his troubled grandson into the bakeshop as an apprentice; her waitress submits Liesl's recipes to a popular cable cooking show; and the man who delivers her flour, a single dad, seems determined to win Liesl's affections. Will she remain buried in detachment or take a leap of faith into a new life?

Craig's Blog – Access the "Pastor's Blog" via www.stmarkbc.org/blog/ on St. Marks' website. You will see on the other side of today's "Pulse", a recent article by Craig. Also his stories are pinned up on the Hall's bulletin board.

"PARISH PULSE" NEWSLETTER OF ST. MARK'S CHURCH

SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2014

Flowers for the Altar – are given today to the Glory of God in thanksgiving for the life of Charles Schreck. Flowers are also given today by Barbara and Jamie Grantham to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Georgina Stuart Strachan.

Summer Sunday School – starts on Sun. July 13.

First Fruits Garden Project – First Sundays, June to October. Following the 8am and the 10am Services each first Sunday of the month there will be an offering of the "First Fruits of our produce..." Prov. 3:8, at a table in the Parish Hall. This is a fun and very interactive offering of vegetables, fruits, seedlings, flowers, bulbs, etc., by some of the very generous gardeners amongst us. Come and check it out **July 6**.

Vacation Bible School – This year's theme is "Son Treasure Island". The VBS runs between Mon. August 18 and Fri. August 22. Application and consent forms are available Monday through Friday in the Church Office.

Seniors News – Wednesday Get Togethers are alternate Wednesdays with the next one on **July 9**. Join us at 1pm in the Family Room for games, or in the Library for conversation, both followed by light refreshments, tea and coffee at 2:30pm in the Family Room. For information on upcoming events please call Sue at 604-531-4931 or email Sue at sinder@shaw.ca, or call Janet at 604-531-9585.

The Pie Guy – Order your pies from Brian! \$12 for each full pie, or \$6.50 for each half-pie. Choose from Apple, Blueberry, Strawberry, Raspberry, Peach, Rhubarb, or any "combo" of berries. Or, order a signature Goat Cheese & Blueberry pie for \$15 each, or \$8 for a half-pie. Need a brunch or dinner suggestion? Savoury Tourtiere pies are \$18 each or \$9 for a half-pie. Brian can be reached at 604-538-0269 or at thepieguy@shaw.ca

PWRDF Update - For many students in Haiti, the hot lunch provided by PWRDF at their school is the only food they will have that day. In fact, in many cases, it's the reason they attend school at all. If lunch wasn't provided, the children would be at home, helping their families to try to have enough food to eat. Instead, they are able to go to school and learn, an action that helps them improve their own lives. The program provides more than just nutrition - schools are provided with water purification tablets, soap and hand towels, as well as hygiene education for staff to help keep the staff and students healthy and prevent cholera and other water-borne diseases. To learn more please visit FredSays.ca

OFFICE HOURS

**Monday, Wednesday and
Thursday**

9am to 3pm

**Tuesday is CANADA DAY and
the Office is closed all day**

Friday 10am to 1pm

Upcoming Events

Monday, June 29

9am – Exercise Class - H

Tuesday, July 1 – OFFICE is
CLOSED for Canada Day

Wednesday, July 2

9am - Exercise Class – H

10am - Service – Sanctuary

Friday, July 4

9am - Exercise Class – H

“Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

Jesus, with a simple command, cut through the years of his illness, his blaming, and the magic and superstition associated with that place; “Get up, pick up your mat and walk!”

The lame man was healed in that instant and rose up delivered from his illness.

These pools which date back to the Roman era have been found. It is a wonderful place which was commemorated by a fourth century Byzantine church. A Crusader church followed. Today there is a more recent French Catholic Church with a happy priest (a rather rare sight) at the door. 😊

Below: Archaeology unearthed at the Bethesda site.



Below: The Happy Priest



The Pool of Bethesda – By The Rev. Craig Tanksley

There was a pool near what was known as the Sheep Gate in Jesus' day. It was a part of a larger complex of cisterns which collected water for use in the Temple. Also there, were small pools which were used for medicinal purposes. Legend said that from time to time an angel would stir the waters. The first person in when the waters were stirred would receive their healing. Jesus came to this place in John chapter six. Many sick people were there including a man who had been lame for thirty-eight years. Jesus asked him, “Do you want to get well?” The man's response hints at a spirit which had soured over the years of his illness,