



St. Mark's Anglican Church

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

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2014

Parish Council would like to hear your ideas on how we can deal with our deficit. If you have any thoughts, questions, comments or suggestions about this or any other matter, please use the pens and papers provided in the Narthex to communicate them in writing and put them in the box provided, either signed or anonymous as you would prefer.

Serenity Garden-The Serenity garden is closed for the next few weeks due to maintenance. Thank you for your cooperation.

Credence Table-St. Mark's oak Credence Table was refinished six years ago. It is stained now, and is in desperate need of refinishing. Kathryn Smith asks that if anyone in the Congregation can volunteer for this task, or if anyone knows of a friend or family member who can volunteer, that you contact her on her cell: 778-549-0858.

Sunday School-today's 10am Service is an Intergenerational Service.

THE HOLLY BERRY FAIR...The Evening Guild NEEDS YOU!

We urgently need donations for our raffle and gift baskets for the Holly Berry Fair. Firstly, we need non-perishable food items. We are also looking for donations that can be used in gift baskets, such as spa & bath items, items you would like to "re-gift", etc. Any items not used in the baskets will be put onto the Treasure's Table, which benefits both the Evening Guild & ACW. Donations can be handed to either Linda O'Donovan or Debbie Maxwell on Sunday mornings, before OR after the 10am Service. If you wish to drop items off during the week please place them on the counter in the Evening Guild/Flower Room (in the Hall). Any questions please call Linda at: 604-536-7983.

St. Mark's Youth-Youth gather on Sundays at 10am in the Youth Room for their learning series: "Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God". Also join us on Tuesday evenings at 7pm for our FUN weekly evening Bible Studies as we get to know some interesting characters from the Old Testament. For more information, or to sign up for our newsletter, visit www.stmarkbc.org/youth/

Operation Christmas Child is here! St. Mark's Youth invite you to bless children around the world by packing a shoebox of toys & essentials. Pick up a box & brochure in the Narthex. Boxes must be dropped off in the Narthex **TODAY**. This year shoeboxes will be distributed in Uruguay, El Salvador, Guatemala, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, Venezuela, Equatorial Guinea, Costa Rica, Guinea, Haiti, Nicaragua, Chile – including Easter Island – and Senegal.

Flowers for the Altar-are given today by Michele Kotler thanking God for the gift of a beautiful and loving mother, Ruby Laronde, in celebration of her 90th birthday. Flowers are also given today by Margaret Appleton, dedicated to the Glory of God with heartfelt thanks and in loving memory of Martha and Fred Coates and Cecil Appleton.

St. Mark – Ocean Park Operating Fund Account --			Financial Status at October 31, 2014	
	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR to DATE	BUDGET	VARIANCE
TOTAL INCOME	40,220.02.00	325,919.44	361,255.00	(35,335.56)
TOTAL EXPENSES	33,558.79	355,932.91	361,255.00	5,322.09
Surplus (Deficit)	\$6,661.23	\$(30,013.47)	\$ ---	\$(30,013.47)

For further explanation and details on our financial disposition, please read the Treasurer's Report in the Parish Council Minutes posted on the far left bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Seniors Christmas Luncheon-Please telephone Olive at 604-535-2228 and leave a message at that number stating your name and if you need transportation to the event. Please do not call the Office with your RSVP.

The Lunch Basket for Hungry Children-is provided this week by Carol Scott to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for God's many blessings. And by Aliyah who writes: "Children in the world are starving, hungry, and famished right now. Hunger is everywhere. We are very lucky that we have food and water. And everything we need to survive. Some children in the world don't have a family. Some children in the world have nothing. That is why we are giving food to those children. To make their day bright and happy. So they don't starve so much."

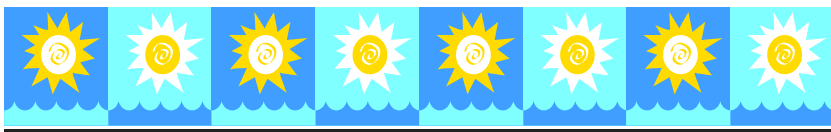
Readers Ministry-It is time to update the 2015 Readers List for the 10am Service. If this is a Ministry you are interested in learning more about please speak to John or Roberta Braddock at 604-538-8642, or leave your name with the Office.

Next Sunday's Bible Readings-Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Psalm 95:1-7a, Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46

ACW Announcements-The sock tree is back in the Narthex for the Collection of socks, toques, work gloves, treats and small toiletries, to be made into Christmas gifts for the seafarers in port at Christmas time. The box for the bales to the North is also in the Narthex. The list of items required includes: men's PJs, mitts & gloves for all ages/gender, bars of soap, small cross-stitch projects, small make-up bags and items to put into them, used baby clothing. For babies under 24 months, new clothing is required. The 2015 Canadian Church Calendar is now available for purchase from Kathryn Smith.

St. Mark's Men's Club-is once again collecting unused Christmas Cards for the Surrey Remand Centre. If you have any please place them in the box in the Narthex **today**.

Mission Missive-Toni Wallis is collecting articles for the winter edition of the *Mission Missive*. Please contact Toni if you have an article idea.



Seniors News-Wednesday Get Togethers are alternate Wednesdays. The next one is Wednesday, November 26.

Upcoming Events:

- The bus for the March 13-15, 2015 trip to Victoria is filling up quickly. Bus + tours = \$110
- Gilbert & Sullivan Christmas Pantomime "Santa Claus" at the Surrey Arts Centre – Wed. Nov. 26 in the evening. Tickets are ordered as per request, so call Sue as soon as possible: 604-531-4931. Or call Janet: 604-531-9585.

Brian the Pie Guy-Order your pies from our resident Pie Guy – 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

Prayer Chain Contact-is Lynne Hurd for the months of November, December and January. You may contact Lynne at 604-542-2772 or lynneh1@telus.net with your prayer requests and updates.

OFFICE HOURS

**Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday:
9am to 3pm
Friday: 10am to 1pm**

Upcoming Events

Monday, November 17

9am – Exercise – Hall
10:15am – Israeli Folk Dance – Hall

Tuesday, November 18

9:30am – Bible Study – Family Room
7pm – Bible Study – Education Centre
7pm – Youth Group – Youth Room
7pm – Evening Guild – Family Room

Wednesday, November 19

9am – Exercise – Education Centre
10am – Healing Service – Sanctuary
11am – Altar Guild Meeting – Family Room
6:30pm – Alpha Course – Education Centre
7:30pm – Adult Choir Practice – Sanctuary

Thursday, November 20

1pm – Outreach Committee – Family Room

Friday, November 21

9am – Exercise – Hall
2pm-Memorial Service for Jean Weller in the Sanctuary

Sunday, November 23

10am-Baptism Service
Children's Choir Rehearsal after the 10am Service in the Sanctuary

PWRDF Update

On November 8, 2013, every single home in the village of Sabang Bao on the island of Leyte, Philippines was damaged or destroyed by **Typhoon Haiyan**. Many of the affected families have received aid from various agencies to rebuild their homes on their land, and life is slowly getting back to normal. For other families, there is a problem. They don't own land. So even for the NGOs who have funding to build houses for those who lost everything in the storm, there is nowhere to build. They are tenant farmers, living on and working land owned by someone else - someone who doesn't live in the community or sometimes even the country. PWRDF's, partner the Episcopal Church in the Philippines (ECP), has come up with one way of dealing with this problem. They have purchased a hectare of land from a resident in Sabang Bao, and are now working with tenant farmers to build 80 houses on the land. The families are working with an engineer to prepare the land, make compressed earth blocks to build with, and to build the houses for themselves and their neighbours. Working together, a dozen villagers can build a house for one of their number in less than a month. The compressed earth blocks being used in the construction are a new technology to the people of Sabang Bao. "At first, people were unsure about using the blocks," said Lennon Jake Bay Bay, the engineer working on the project, "but now they are getting interested." The blocks are made from materials that are easily available locally, so are cheaper and more environmentally friendly to produce than the hollow blocks used previously.

ECP's development program operates on the concept of "receivers to givers." This means that ECP doesn't generally just give people money for projects, but expects the money to be repaid over time, and that money is then used in new communities to provide even more people with a leg up. But after **Typhoon Haiyan**, ECP was tempted not to enforce the "receivers to givers" program. According to an ECP report, "With the massive destruction of communities in Central Philippines caused by the super-typhoon, it had seemed insensitive and inappropriate to talk about the "receivers-to-givers" scheme with communities whose livelihoods have been almost completely wiped out." ECP staff was surprised when the scheme was enthusiastically accepted by the farmers of Sabang Bao. "What the staff later come to realize was that, as stated above, many of the participating households are tenants who have never owned a piece of real property in all their lives and this project offered them what they considered to be a golden opportunity to own land for the first time." Thanks to the support of PWRDF and ECP, these 80 families in Sabang Bao have the opportunity to significantly improve their lives with dignity and through their own hard work after a storm that had destroyed all they had.



PWRDF