



St. Timothy's Gazette Advent 2009

Our Vision:

St. Timothy's **Vision** is to be a nurturing, biblically-based community growing Christ's Kingdom.

Our Mission:

St. Timothy's **Mission** is to
Go out into the North Shore community to
Gather all ages into Christian fellowship,
so that we may

Glorify God in worship,

Grow to become more like Jesus Christ, and

Give of our time, talent and treasure to serve others.

Phone: 604 908-HOLY (4659)

**Mail Address: #908-1641 Lonsdale Ave.
North Vancouver, BC V7M 2J5**

**Services held at Lynn Valley Recreation Centre
www.st-timothy.com**

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St. Timothy's Anglican Church

Sunday Services at the Lynn Valley Rec. Centre
Frederick and Mountain Highway, North Vancouver

First Sunday: Prayer Service at 9.15 a.m.

Matins at 10 a.m.

Other Sundays: Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.

Sunday Sermons are available on our website

www.st-timothy.com

Message from the Rev. Ken Bell

Adventus:

“It’s hard to be patient when you’re only five”. This is a common refrain in our house. “When is it tomorrow? How many more sleeps until my birthday? When can I play with my friends? Is dinner ready yet?” and many similar questions are met with the response, “Just be patient”. Well she is right, it is hard to be patient when you are only five, but the truth that she does not understand is that being patient does not get easier with age.

Patience is not an age issue. Just consider how people over the age of five behave in traffic jams, grocery store line-ups, doctor’s offices, restaurants, church and so on. No, the issue of patience and waiting is spiritual not chronological.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope:
my soul waits for the LORD
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.
(Psalm 130:5-6)

Waiting is not something most of us are very good at, especially waiting for things we really like. Christmas, for example. As a result, we start listening to carols while decorating our house and drinking eggnog lattes in November! (I know it is shocking, but true. Some of you know I am speaking about you).

‘Waiting’ though is one of the watchwords for Advent. Advent is Latin for ‘coming’ and marks the beginning of the church year, four Sunday’s before Christmas. During Advent, we wait and look forward to the coming of Christ, both in his incarnation, (his birth, something the Children of

Israel waited hundreds of years for), and in his second coming (something we have been waiting 2000 years for). In that context four weeks does not sound very long.

However, waiting is not a passive activity where we just sit, waiting for something to happen to us or around us. Henry Nouwen describes the waiting at Advent as active waiting “Active waiting means to be present fully to the moment, in the conviction that something is happening where you are and that you want to be present to it. A waiting person is someone who is present to the moment, who believes that this moment is the moment.

Part of our active waiting is preparation, preparing our homes and our hearts. A second element of waiting is penitence, humble acknowledgement of our sins before the LORD. This is the reason the colour purple is associated with Advent, it is the colour of penitence (also used in Lent for the same reason).

The other colour we commonly associate with Advent is blue, the colour of hope. In Hebrew ‘hope’ and ‘wait’ is the same word. A translator can render ‘Wait for the LORD’ as ‘Hope in the LORD’ with equal accuracy.

So during Advent as we prepare our homes, and ourselves we are called to wait in hopeful expectation for the coming of Immanuel the ‘with us God’. Behold the timeless One who was with us in the pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night, tented with us in the tabernacle, and lived with us in the temple, now enters naked into the world he created.

*And his mercy is for those who fear him
From generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of
their hearts;*

*He has brought down the mighty from their thrones
And exalted those of humble estate;
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the
rich he has sent empty away.*

As we enter into Advent, slow down, don't rush towards Christmas, instead be patient. Deliberately Wait, Prepare, Watch and Hope so that you might rejoice in that which the LORD is making ready for you and so that you might be able to receive the love which enters the world in the Word of God made flesh.

A Happy & Hopeful Advent to you all.

Rev. ken bell

* * * * *

From our Sister Parish in Kaduha, Rwanda

Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2009

Subject: Thanks

Dear Rev. Ken Bell,

Greetings to you from EAR, Kaduha Parish.

I am glad to greet you and all brethren in the precious name and Saviour Jesus Christ; and indeed thanking you so much for the support of motorcycle to facilitate us the trips we used to do when visiting our Christians in my Parish especially in Chapels and then going to the Diocese headquarters office in the monthly parish leaders' meeting.

Motorcycle has just been purchased and is shown in the attached photo.

We are so grateful to any of your all faithful Christians contributed to supporting Kaduha Parish.

Actually the parish's activities that is undertaking is that it is preparing Christmas period of 2009 evangelizing the Gospel using a new biblical approach that God has revealed us. Of using a big evangelical team of 150 people whom have a missionary will whereby the team's purpose is to go to each family by family for God's Word. Therefore, this facilitates to evangelize many people in short time and each family has really been visited and know its situation.

To sum up our congregation message to you we would also like to ask you to continue praying for our calling to serve God's Ministry and all Christians of Kaduha Parish in general.

Wishing you a good Christmas of 2009 and happy New Year 2010

Kaduha Parish Pastor

Reverend NSABIMANA Callixte



Anglican Mission Update:

It has been nearly six years since the Mission extended an invitation for us in Canada to join with them as a missionary outreach of Rwanda, to serve as indigenous missionaries. January 27-30, 2010 in Greensboro North Carolina, the Anglican Mission will be celebrating its 10th Winter Conference. When the Mission began its work they were told ‘it was too soon, wrong move, it will never work, you will be gone in 5 years’. Well the Mission continues to grow at a rate of about one new church every three weeks and is the largest group affiliated with the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA). The Mission has set both the standard and the template, for other groups to emerge out of the old crumbling structures.

Our leadership, beginning with Archbishop Kolini and Bishop Chuck Murphy, continues to remind us that our call is to be both faithful and fruitful. While others are taking up the challenge of building new structures and systems the Mission wishes to continue to focus its time, talent and treasure on the millions of de-churched and un-churched in Canada and the US.

This has been an active year in the Anglican Coalition in Canada (ACiC). New works have begun in Ontario and on Vancouver Island, with another new work taking shape in Squamish. We have ordained several Deacons and Priests. There has also been a change in the leadership of the ACiC, with Bishop Silas Ng being consecrated and Rev. Peter Klenner taking on the role of Network Leader. I am continuing in my role as Clergy Formation Advisor for the ACiC and Asian Initiative.

We also continue to work closely with our more than 40 ACNA partner churches in the Pacific Northwest.

If you ever have any questions about what is taking place within the ACiC, AMiA or the new province (ACNA), please feel free to ask me and I will do my best to answer.

Your Servant,
ken bell+

Wardens' Update – Advent 2009

The parish has been busy socially and ecclesiastically since the last newsletter. We held a Garage Sale in September, our annual Harvest Supper and auction in October, and craft sales in November. Our small groups started meeting again after the summer vacation and these are a wonderful way to interact with and grow within your church community. They have been working on the Stories Topics that were started each week in the sermons. Church Council has met each month and in September council and staff met for a retreat. This year we celebrated All Saints Day with our second annual High Mass– a beautiful service. We have been encouraged by +Ken to participate in 40 days of Prayer and Fasting up to the end of November, contemplating the Stories. We have been and continue to be an active church!

We have continue to have services at Churchill house twice each month thanks to +Ken, Angela our Music Director, and a few members of our congregation. We shall be celebrating a Christmas Service there for the residents who are unable to attend our services in Lynn Valley. Our relationship with Churchill House continues to develop. We consider this outreach as a “second altar” for St Timothy’s.

We have raised up with help from our congregation Andy Withrow to the priesthood and sent him off to set up a congregation in Victoria. Hopefully, he will succeed there. We

continue to help support him in his endeavors. We now have two more members of our congregation Grady Buhler and Jonathan Seiki, that are starting training at Regent College. They will need our support both in our prayers and, hopefully, also financially.

On Sunday 22 November, we presented our potential 2009 budget which reflects our costs for operating St Timothy's and expanding our activities based on input from our 5 "G" groups – Go, Gather, Glorify, Grow and Give. Your reaction to council's proposal will allow us to firm up the budget to be presented at our AGM in February. The actual budget will be based entirely on the pledges we receive from the congregation. As a church we are blessed with a congregation that tithes or are working up to a tithe. We have been blessed with financial income that has exceeded our budget and our pledges every year. The financial input has been remarkable considering our numbers and in comparison with other church congregations. In addition the congregation's contribution of a high level of time and talent continues to be amazing. It only proves out the adage (paraphrased) – "Where your treasure is, there is your heart also".

We encourage any congregants who presently do not tithe to consider doing so, or start working in that direction. Part of the value of tithing is that, with a higher financial commitment, we are more likely to make our Christian journey a higher priority in our daily lives - to the benefit of our souls, our families and to all we come in contact with.

May the holy spirit that is at work within St Timothy's continue to bless us all as we continue to focus on our Vision – to be a nurturing, biblically-based community growing Christ's kingdom.

Respectfully *Nancy Vondette & Ron Barrett*

Reports from our "G"s

Go Report

Go out into the North Shore community

Our Society

The story is about the one of Rita's colleagues, who used to work for Vancouver School of Theology for 6 years, cooking everything without salt. One day, he cooked a turkey with so many spices but no salt. He believed that he took enough salt from other foods, so he lived happily cooking without salt at home. It sounds quite healthy and some may agree with this "natural eating." It is especially appealing because it very much suits today's society's "Organic" living. Well, what's wrong here? This is not a personal dispute on his diet. Let me tell you again. He left his old trusted salt while naming it a bad substance and saying hallo to the taste of exotic spices from all over the world. Yet he seeks hidden salt in processed food. Doesn't this sound familiar?

This is part of my paper this term...

"Bishop of New

Westminster, Michael Ingham failed to talk about Jesus to a Hindu man in India.¹ Because of this discouraging experience he started seeking mutual understanding of divinity with other religions. It could be natural for Ingham to become religious pluralist to approach non-believers in a cross cultural society.² Ingham's indication throughout "Mansions of the Spirit" is to devalue the only salvation through Jesus Christ to an

¹ Michael Ingham, *Mansions of the Spirit: The Gospel in a Multi-Faith World* (Toronto: Anglican Book Centre, 1997), 9-13.

² Ibid. 139.

optional pathway of spiritual wellness, while affiliating with groups of other religion together, to mutually worship “the hidden treasure at the heart of universe” as true god.³ Ingham criticized fundamental Christian belief saying;

“Such a god is not worthy of honour, glory, worship, or praise. This god offers no hope for a world deeply divided along religious lines, a world crying out for peace and reconciliation. This theology truncates and diminishes the universality and majesty of the true and living God, who is known in every nation but by many names.⁴”

Ingham simply ignores the entire Old Testament’s redemptive, compassionate, patient and merciful message from God but focuses only on judgment against the sinful consequences of the Israelites. Ingham cannot contemplate this steadfast love of God⁵, yet keeps his argument within social, political harmony in love, peace, and justice first and foremost. Christ is not in the center of Ingham’s theology but stands as a choice among other religions. “”

People in our society look for spiritual fulfillment (taste) by chasing after everything that they can think of (spices), other than the Lord our God (the salt), and when they need some saltiness, they rather take chemically produced Sodium chloride (idols) from fast food, rather than using natural salt(the Lord) which contains far more minerals and taste. Which way is more natural and organic, trend or tradition?

³ Ibid. 120.

⁴ Ibid. 61.

⁵ Ps 130:7, 8.

"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live." Ezekiel 18 30-32

Is this God, still so judgmental and bad for you, O society?

I bought hand harvested salt from the Island of Re at Queensdale Market, and I adore it so much. Even simple roast chicken drumstick tastes different. Isn't it true to say “good food makes good people” or “we are what we eat”? So, what are we cooking tonight? Is salt being the centre of your cooking?

Jonathan Masahiro. Seiki

Gather Group *Gather all ages into Christian fellowship*

The first social function of St. Timothy’s fall season was the Thankful Hearts Dinner and Auction which was held in conjunction with St. Simon’s and Immanuel on Saturday, October 3rd. Approximately \$10,000 was raised to help purchase a van for the Mexican Medical Mission and to assist with transportation costs for Partners-in-Hope locally. I think I speak for everyone when I say how much fun the evening was. I would especially like to thank Audrey and Linda for all their work as well as everyone else who pitched in to help make this evening happen.

Preparations are now underway for our Christmas Party which will be held at the Lodge at Laura Lynn on Sunday, December 6th. Plan to attend to enjoy the fellowship, the food and the carol singing!

Looking ahead to the New Year, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, February 16th. Please mark this date on your 2010 calendar!

Hazel would like to thank the ladies who help with Coffee Hour as well as those people who bring goodies for us and who donate to the coffee jar. There is still one vacancy on Team 5 so please speak to Hazel if you are willing to help out in this way. As there are five Coffee Hour teams, coffee duty comes around only every fifth Sunday.

This is the fourth Newsletter with Peter Haigh as editor. We would like to thank him very much for taking on this task and for doing such a great job.

Two special ministries within our church are the Prayer Team and Pastoral Care. Both ministries exist to care for and support us. Please feel free to contact either if they can be of any assistance to you.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas,

Daphne Martin

Ladies Group Report

The Ladies Group has been extremely busy in October and November with fundraising craft sales. Two of our monthly meetings were “craft orientated” and we do give Ursula and Joy Hopkins an extra vote of thanks for all the hours of work they put in to make the craft sale so successful and leading our group with so many good ideas.

We participated in a very successful craft fair with 25 other vendors at Churchill House on Saturday

21st November and at the time of writing are preparing for our second craft sale on Saturday 28th November at Amica in West Vancouver. Sales so far are up which is very encouraging to those who have worked so hard in sewing and cutting and making the crafts. We will be having our third craft sale following the church service on Sunday 29th November so we hope many of our St Timothy’s church family will be able to do some Christmas shopping!

Monies raised at Churchill House and Amica will be donated in total to A Rocha and the North Shore Youth Safe House and at our craft sale following our Advent Carol Service, money will be donated to the Victoria Plant headed by Andy and Josh to help support them in their start-up for planting a new church in Victoria.

During the coming Christmas season we are also collecting socks, woollen hats and baked goods to the Mission to Seafarers on 13th December – please feel free to join the Ladies Group in donating these items to help this worthwhile cause – drop off at church on the 13th in the blue box provided.. Also during this Christmas season we are renewing our support for three students as they receive their high school education at Kigeme Secondary School in Rwanda.

Our final meeting for this year will be our Christmas luncheon held at Churchill House on Monday 14th December. All of the ladies join in wishing all at St Timothy’s a very merry Christmas and many thanks for all the help that many of our congregation give to us in helping us put on some of our events during the year.

We praise God for all the many gifts that each and EVERY member of our group has contributed to the Ladies Group.

God bless, Audrey Haigh

Glorify Group *Glorify God in worship*

Altar Guild

Our Ministry warmly welcomes Hazel Blacoe.

Guild members are busy preparing for our Advent and Christmas services. As many members serve on other committees, new members would be welcomed. Four are needed every Eucharist Sunday - two on Credence preparing the Eucharist and two setting up the Altar and flowers. If you are interested in knowing more about what the role entails, please contact Corinne or Sarah. Training is provided for all new members.

We thank all who donate flowers which help to beautify our services. As Advent begins November 29, Altar flowers won't be required again until Christmas, when donations for poinsettias would be much appreciated. Special thanks to Joy and Audrey for supplying additional flowers throughout the year.

The Altar Guild Flower Chart for 2010 will be available next week. You are invited to add your name on dates especially important to you when you wish to supply flowers. Please tell Corinne the colour and type of flower you wish, place your donation in the offering envelope marked Altar flowers, and let Florence know what you would like her to put in the leaflet - and thank you !

Our dedicated members are: Carol Anderson, Hazel Blacoe, Corinne Burns, Pres., Joan Buss, Norma Johansen, Jennifer Kincaid-Smith, Lois Knight, Sarah Lucas, Vice Pres., Bea Messinger, Myrna Teskey, Marion Van Dusen and Ursula Vondette, Secretary.

Corinne Burns

Grow Reports

*GROW: to become more like Jesus
Christ*

Sarah Lucas

Nursery and Sunday School:

Christmas has come early for Sunday School. We have been studying the birth of Jesus since the beginning of November – the children always love this time of year! They have been busy making posters (gifts God gives us), practicing songs to present to the church in December and making Christmas crafts. In addition they have already made “thankful wreaths” and look forward to making advent calendars, tree ornaments and of course, lots of coloured sheets.

We have really appreciated all the help the Sunday School has been given in the past few months....but we could always use more!!

Andrea Nader

Youth:

Youth Group has been lots of fun. Although we don't have the number of youth we did last year, we gained some leaders which helps bring energy and excitement to our group. Over the past month we have connected with St Simon's Church. Jill, Andrew and Josh have joined us on Wednesday night. Our joint group is now nine people.

So far we have been looking at what it means to worship. We have also made pizza from scratch, gone bowling and had our mixer night which allowed us as a group to get to know each other better. Our mixer night revolved around our individual abilities and how they make us who we are.

Jill and I have been talking lots about where we want to see the youth group go over the next

couple of months, we look forward to the Advent seasons and our Christmas Events. As a group we are looking to do a drama for the family service of both churches. I hope participation will be as enthusiastic as last year, even when we didn't get to perform due to the snowfall. I am excited to see how things work out with St Simons building into a larger youth group with more members. Thank you for all your prayers.

Eric Park, Director of Youth Ministry

Small Groups:

If you are interested in joining a small group, please speak to either Patricia Young or Sarah Lucas, or contact one of the group leaders. The groups meet as follows:

Mondays 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Edwards's – 10 week study, "Meeting the Spirit" by Douglas Connelly.

Tuesdays 7:00-8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Meeting at The Holiday Inn Restaurant, N. Vancouver

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Tuesdays 9:30-11:00 a.m. at Florence Wilton's

Tuesdays 9:15-11:00 a.m. Meetings at Sarah Lucas' home

Thursdays, 9:30-11:00 a.m

"Walkie/Talkie"group. Meetings at Patricia Young's home – babysitting is provided.

Most small groups have been studying the "Stories: That's all we are" series. We have found them challenging but fascinating, as we examined various characters in the Old Testament, learned more about our God, the relevance of the stories to our own lives and how these stories point us to Jesus. It has been particularly appropriate as we begin to focus on and prepare for Advent and the coming of Christ.

St. Timothy's Church Library:

"Silent night, Holy night. All is calm, all is bright..."

The carols try to tell us that this is a calm and silent time of year. But for most of us, the weeks leading up to Christmas can be anything but calm. You know the drill: Christmas parties, shopping, wrapping, relatives, Christmas plays etc., etc. It's enough to leave even the strongest among us exhausted.

Can we slow things down a little so we can enjoy the season again? Can we put Christ ahead of Christmas?

There is a way to put a little relaxation back into your Christmas season without adding too much to your busy schedule. As we enter the Advent season and get closer and closer to the 25th, try reading a Christmas book, borrowed from the church library. Find a quiet corner, a cup of cocoa, and favourite blanket and curl up and read from a selection of:

"The Glory of Christmas Inspirational Writings from..." C. Swindoll, M. Lucado, C. Colson

"The Purpose of Christmas" –Rick Warren

"Christmas in Mitford: Esther's Gift: The Mitford Snowmen" – Jim Karon

"The Good Shepherd" - Gunnar Gunnarsson

"Christmas Stories..." – Teresa Worman

plus a few others

There is always available that timeless original Christmas story from the Bible **Luke 2:1-20**

The Church Library is always looking for more reading treasures to add to its Advent and Christmas collection. Have a Blessed Christmas everyone

Monica Craver

Give Report

GIVE: of our time, talent and treasure to serve others

St. Timothy's Church has continued to provide support for a number of very worthwhile and important ministries and services at local, national and international levels in 2009. This year, the Give team focussed on ways of providing support on two dimensions: the various ministries that can be supported (health care, evangelism, mercy ministries, education, environment, church planting, church resourcing, stipends for visiting speakers) and where the support is used (e.g., local, national and international).

So far this year, St. Timothy's church has purchased a motorcycle for Reverend Nsabimana Callixte from our sister church in Rwanda (\$6000). The church has also provided financial support to a number of other valuable and important ministries: the Harvest Project on the North Shore (approximately \$3000); funding for 16 students in Rwanda to attend school through the Kids for Kids program (\$2880); support for "The Table" church plant in Victoria (\$3000); support for Arocha (\$1750); donation of 10 DVD/VCR combo players to the pediatrics ward at Lions Gate Hospital (approximately \$1000); a donation to the Thankful Hearts Auction in October (\$250); and stipends for guest speakers that have come to St. Timothy's church this year (e.g., Steve Monks). For the remainder of this year, St. Timothy's church is planning to give to support the Partner's in Hope Christmas stocking program, travel bursaries for people wanting to attend the Winter Conference in January 2010 and church resourcing to assist with the new church plant in Squamish.

It has certainly been a wonderful year at St. Timothy's and the Give team thanks you for your assistance in helping pass on blessings towards these many wonderful ministries

Rami Nader

A Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil with the blessing which Christ brings and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven.

For Jesus' sake, Amen

(Thanks to Sam / Florence)

Update from Sharyn Thomson November 2009

The end of the fall semester is now in sight and I am looking forward to the break over Christmas. Returning to full time studies after 20 years or so has been a challenge! However, it's a challenge that I'm enjoying. I'm so thankful for the opportunity to study linguistics again and am already seeing many ways I can apply what I am learning on my return to Burkina Faso. However, there is still a lot of work to do before the end of this term. Please pray that I will be able to focus on the task at hand and keep distractions to a minimum.

From November 25 – 28, I will be in Calgary for the Annual General Meeting of Wycliffe Canada followed by the Board meetings. In June, I was elected to the Board Advisory Committee, a committee made up of Wycliffe members whose role is to provide member input into Board decisions. I will be attending this meeting as an observer and my term begins at its close. There are a lot of changes taking place, both within the organization and without. Please pray that we would all be ready to listen to what the Lord is saying to us and that we might be of one mind.

Back in Burkina Faso, the Buamu team continues to make progress on the translation. The first draft of Galatians is finished, the review committee is working through Romans and 2 Corinthians is ready for checking with a consultant. Please pray that a consultant would be able to check with the team early in the New Year. There is still a lot of work that remains before the New Testament can be typeset in 2011. Please pray for Emmanuel as he continues to grow in his role as project leader, that the Lord would give him the wisdom and strength he needs. Pray too that the Lord would protect the health and safety of the team.

In Ouagadougou, work continues on the reconstruction of roads and bridges damaged in the September flood. The main hospital has partially

reopened and is treating those in need of specialist care but less serious cases are still being directed to other facilities. Most of those who lost homes have been assigned land in areas less prone to flooding and are rebuilding as they are able. Please continue to pray for those in authority as they continue to deal with the aftermath of the flooding.

Heavenly Poem

I was shocked, confused bewildered
As I entered Heaven's door
Not by the beauty of it all
Not the lights nor its décor

It was the folks in Heaven
Who made me splutter and gasp –
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,
The alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from seventh grade
Who swiped my lunch money twice,
Next to him was my old neighbour
Who never said anything nice.

Herb, whom I always thought
Was rotting away in hell,
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, "What's the deal?
I would love to hear your take.
How'd all these sinners get up here?
God must've made a mistake.

And why is everyone so quiet,
So sombre - give me a clue"
'Hush child', He said 'they're all in shock
No one thought they'd be seeing you'.

Judge Not!

Remember – just going to church doesn't make you a Christian!
Every Saint has a PAST
Every Sinner has a FUTURE
(Thanks Myrna)

Parishioner Profile: Monica Craver

Monica was born in Burlington, Ontario where her parents still live. Her mother was first generation born Canadian of Polish parents and her father was born in Poland. He traveled to Canada as a teen with his parents in 1939 and was very aware of German S.S. as they sailed down the Rhine and were allowed to pass. It was only when they arrived in Britain that they heard Poland had been attacked by the Germans one day later and that they had made it out by the skin of their teeth!

Monica was their first child – a premature baby who had meningitis when a week old. Since she had difficulty speaking, her parents decided to focus on speaking English to her and in Grade 1 she was given speech therapy. It wasn't until she was ten that an astute teacher suggested she be sent for hearing tests and she was given hearing aids. The meningitis had also caused an auditory brain dysfunction that she learned to cope with after this time. She has fond memories of a free, happy childhood, playing with neighbourhood friends in an abandoned orchard near her home, exploring nature and having imaginary adventures. Through her very supportive parents, she learned to read and loved it. She could discover all sorts of knowledge even if she couldn't hear the teacher, so it opened up her world. She spent a lot of time with two cousins who were more like siblings and is still very close to them although one lives in Ontario and the other in Georgia, USA. Her brother, Philip, and sister, Anna, were not born until Monica was 12 and 14 years, respectively.

Throughout school until her teens Monica was teased a lot because she was slightly different, then partly through the encouragement of a mixed race teacher who understood her predicament, she learned to stand up for herself. She was a member of her high school library club and had a great deal of responsibility signing items out and setting up audio-visual equipment. Her mother was a secretary in her hometown Recreation Department and she signed Monica up for “everything”. She remembers day camps and baseball in particular. Monica excelled at cross-country running and high jump. Her dad worked for Dofasco as a heat-crane operator, pouring hot metal into molds. He was offered a position

as a foreman, but preferred not to get involved in complications of leadership.

Monica was raised as a Roman Catholic, but never really “heard”, understood or believed. As a teen she became an agnostic like her father, but continued to search. At school there was a special day of exploration devoted to work and vocations, which inadvertently had included some cults, i.e. Moonies and she discerned through God's protection that something wasn't quite right. She looked into her father's background and found that his roots were Jewish. This was the beginning point of her search for God.

After graduation from High School, Monica started work for a few printing companies in the Oakville/Mississauga area. She moved out of home and lived in a farmhouse and enjoyed the rustic experience including the animals and cutting wood. Her father's parents had lived on a farm in a log house without electricity in Saskatchewan and Monica remembers the occasional holidays there during her childhood and teens. She also enjoyed cross-country skiing in the area with the Halton Cross-country Ski Club. She had a series of positions with various printing companies, who, partly to avoid paying benefits, increased then decreased their staff. She moved with the same group of “itinerant workers” from one printing company to the next. Some of her jobs included being a bindery operator, shipper and delivery person. She also became part-time circulation manager for the Toronto Star in the Burlington area, thus working seven days a week for a couple years. Afterwards she became a full-time circulation manager in the Hamilton area, later finding out that she was among the first of two women to be assigned this position during the late 1970s/early 1980s. She was in charge of hiring adult drivers and looking after two hundred child and teen paper carriers.

Since a union strike at the Toronto Star later made her position more difficult, Monica decided to leave and pursued study in anthropology and archeology at McMaster University. In her second year in the cafeteria she became curious at someone's chess book from across the table and met Lyle. They

became friendly and began dating. He was studying in a co-op MBA program which involved four months at university and four months practical work in Winnipeg. They were married in 1984 and settled in Winnipeg, where they spent two years. Lyle was working for Burroughs and involved in the computerization of hospital records. They attended Lyle's Pentecostal Church which was right across the road from their apartment. The members of the church used to kid Lyle and Monica for being late to church on a semi-regular basis. Monica volunteered in the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, cataloguing artifacts.

Lyle was transferred to Willowdale, North of Toronto, doing similar work, but travelling to new Brunswick and Calgary for a couple weeks at a time. Monica volunteered in the Royal Ontario Museum in the archeology/ethnology department. They bought their first home in Pickering. In 1986 when she was expecting her first child, she and Lyle received the news that help was needed in Lyle's parents' store, Capilano Rock and Gem in North Vancouver. In 1987, six weeks after Mary-Beth's birth, the family moved out to BC. It had also been decided that this was a better area for raising children, so they found a home near Marine Drive and Lyle worked at the store. Monica learned the craft and did beading jewellery repairs for the store for several years. Shannon was born in 1989. About this time Monica and Erica Barrett co-founded the North Shore Branch of the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association of which Monica was president from 1989-1994. They moved to their present home on Hoskins Road in 1991, a few months before John was born. When he was two, they also opened and operated the BeadWeaver in Capilano Mall. Due to unexpectedly high overheads, they decided to close the store a few years later. After that, with the children all in school, Monica volunteered for a few years at the UBC Museum of Anthropology. When they had first moved to North Vancouver, they went to St. Richard's, where they were referred to St. Catherine's since there was a Sunday School. Monica and Lyle liked Rev. William Pike. Monica was received into the Anglican Church, by Bishop Hambidge, after her three children were baptized there. Shortly afterwards, Rev. Pike had been transferred to Alberta to be replaced by John Mash. When they felt the church

was becoming very liberal, they moved to St. Martin's just as Timothy Cooke arrived. Since the troubled situation a few years later, Lyle would love to return to St. Martin's but does not feel he can do so without embracing a Bishop he feels has left the Christian faith and also the children began having doubts that have not yet been assuaged. Monica started helping with books in St. Martin's and has had a major role in library ministry in St. Timothy's. She finds the church very supportive and enjoys being involved in a small group. There have been political concerns in her neighbourhood in recent years and Monica sat on the North Vancouver District Parks and Natural Environment Committee from 2004 to 2007 and for the last year or so Lyle has been a District of North Vancouver Council watcher, and sits as Vice-Chair on the District's Community Services Advisory Committee. Monica joined Prayer Canada last year and every Wednesday at the District Hall in North Vancouver, she prays with others for the Federal, Provincial, City and District leaders.

Lyle and his brother, Brian, now own and operate Capilano Rock and Gem; Mary Beth recently graduated from Carleton University with her B.A. and is now in Law School at UBC; Shannon is attending the Emily Carr University of Art and Design and will be spending four months, on exchange in Maryland, USA at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) early next year; John is taking a year off school, working at the family store and hopes to be accepted into the electronics and mechanical engineering program at BCIT in September.

After busy, busy years, Monica wants to take life more slowly and concentrate on her family, home, her writing and art. She is always striving to learn more about Biblical Christianity and is attending the Koinos lectures at West Vancouver Baptist Church this year. We at St. Timothy's are blessed by Monica's enthusiasm, her knowledge and all her work with our library.

-submitted by Florence Wilton

St Timothy's Church Calendar

Please join us!
(Mark your Calendars)

2009

- Nov 29 10:00 am Advent Choir Service at LVRC
Nov 29 Advent edition of St Timothy's Gazette
Dec 6 10:00 am service at LVRC – "Skepticism is met with Hope"
Dec 6 4:30 pm St Timothy's Christmas Party at the Lodge Laura Lynn
Dec 13 10:00 am service at LVRC – "Worry is met with Peace"
Dec 18 Friday – 7:15-8:30: Skating Party at Karen Magnussen Arena
Skating is free: rentals are available for a small fee.
Dec 20 10:00 am Lessons and Carols Service at LVRC
Dec 20 8:00 pm "Christmas Presence" at Sutherland – Variety Show
Tickets available at Sutherland Church or at www.pacifictheatre.org
Dec 24 2:00 pm Communion Service t Churchill House
Dec 24 4:00 pm Special Children's and Family Service at LVRC
Dec 24 9:00 pm Candlelight Communion Service at LVRC – "Darkness is met with Joy"
Dec 25 10:00 am Christmas Day with St Simon's at St Simon's.

2010

- Feb 16 6:00 pm Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Supper
Feb 17 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
Feb 21 after 10:00 service –St Timothy's AGM
Mar 28 10:00 Palm Sunday at LVRC
Mar 28 Next Issue of St Timothy's Gazette
Apr 2 11:00 am Good Friday Service at LVRC
Apr 4 10:00 am Easter Service at LVRC

LVRC – Lynn Valley Recreation Centre (our 'normal' church)

SMILE

A smile costs nothing but gives much

*It enriches those who receive it without impoverishing those who give it
No one is so rich or powerful that he can get along without it, and no one is so
poor that he cannot be enriched by it.*

*It brings rest to the weary and cheer to the discouraged. Yet it cannot be
bought, begged borrowed or stolen, for it has no value until it is given away.*

**Remember that some people are too tired to give you a smile, so give them one
of yours, for no one needs a smile so much as he who has no smile to give.**