



# St. Timothy's Gazette Advent 2011

## *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.

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North Vancouver, BC V7M 2J5**

**Services held at Sutherland Church  
[www.st-timothy.com](http://www.st-timothy.com)**

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### **St. Timothy's Anglican Church**

Sunday Services at:

#### **Sutherland Church**

630 East 19th Street,, North Vancouver

First Sunday: Matins at 9 a.m.

Other Sundays: Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.

Sunday Sermons are available on our website

# Message from the Rev. Ken Bell “All of the lights”

There are so many signs; it is almost hard to miss. Mandarin oranges and eggnog are on the shelves, the fire log is on TV (in HD no less), poinsettias and various evergreens fill nurseries, red, white, gold and green decorate the local stores and bell ringing music echoes through the malls. Oh and one more thing, all of the lights! Lights on houses, lights in trees, lights on front lawns, lights on plastic animals, lights outside and lights inside...Lights! Lights! Lights!

There is no mistaking it; the merry holiday season is here. Along with it come lists, parties, sweet treats, rum and eggnog, gatherings with people you don't necessarily care for, cards to write, decorations to hang, baking to do, malls to navigate, things to buy. Oh and did I mention the lights to put up?

Then there are the Christmas TV shows, movies, plays and music. So much of it is fluffy and sentimental, “mommy wants red shoes for Christmas” and everybody lives happily-ever-after sort of stuff. The news even changes, more touchy-feely pieces and they even tell you where you can go see lights!

But as much as it can be too fluffy, too sweet, too sentimental, too early, too commercial, too over the top, just plain too much...we all find the things we love about Christmas. And if we are honest with ourselves and take a break from complaining for a moment, we can admit we even look forward to all the sentimental hogwash. Sure we know it is ridiculous but we also know that it points to something much bigger, brighter, something beyond itself.

All of the lights help us to remember the moment the light of the world was born. All of the lights shine in the darkness and remind us that even if things are really bad, we have hope. All of the lights remind us that God's love for us is so great

that he became one of us. All of the lights encourage us to look for ways to make peace on earth, and peace with our brethren. All of the lights cause us to recall the joy of Christmases past and the people who brought a little light into our lives.

All of the lights, the white ones and the coloured one, the bright and the dim, the large and the small are not just lights, they point, they light the way to the one. Of all the lights there is one who shines brighter and purer than all the angels heaven can boast.

This Christmas time embrace the fun things, the silly things, the traditions, the music, the lovey-dovey feeling in the air, even the things you may not like so much but you know someone you love does. Take it all in. Then drive around one cold clear night and look at all of the lights. And then consider, “of all the lights...”

O holy night!  
The stars are brightly shining;  
It is the night  
Of the dear Saviour's birth.

Led by the light  
Of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts  
By His cradle we stand.

Truly He taught us  
To love one another,  
His law is love  
And His gospel is peace;

Fall on your knees,  
Oh hear the angel voices!  
Oh night divine!  
Oh night when Christ was born.

May the light of Christ be yours this Christmas.

With Peace and Love from,

~ *Ken, Sonya, Lillian and Ethan*

# Book Reviews

## **Christianity Beyond Belief: Following Jesus for the sake of others.**

By Bishop Todd Hunter

It is not a Christmassy book; it has nothing to do with Christmas except that it has to do with following the one who was born on Christmas day. But Todd's book challenges us to consider what believing in Jesus is really all about, it is about so much more than securing a ticket to heaven (whatever that actually means). He also challenges the church to consider its purpose. Is church a place we go to once a week or once in a while, fulfill our religious duty, and hope to walk away from 'feeling' a little better than when we went in. Something we judge based on whether we 'liked' it because we sang our favourite song or the sermon was especially short. Or is there a chance that church and following Jesus is about something greater, something bigger?

Todd calls for us to reframe our salvation and discipleship. God's intention, he says, is for us to become 'Cooperative friends of Jesus, living in creative goodness, for the sake of others, through the power of the Holy Spirit.' It is that line 'for the sake of others' which I think is most challenging but also most important.

Fifteen months ago we began a thing, a vision to, 'Daily considering Jesus'. This will remain a focus of growth and discipleship, finding ways to help everyone at St. Timothy's daily think about Jesus, their life in Christ, just consider him. But in 2012 we want to build on this, add another layer. What does it mean for us to consider Jesus, to follow him and to live our lives in his service but for the sake of others? This has implications both for us as individuals but also for the church.

So if you would like a glimpse into where we are going and what council will be considering in the year to come, pick up this book as a Christmas present for someone (but make sure you read it first).

~ ken bell+

# Council Update – Fall 2011

The last two council meetings have been somewhat contentious affairs with the Kids Church program and policy being the focal issue. One G-team leader quit after the October meeting but agreed to return for the November meeting. There was a motion made regarding the Kids Church at the October meeting which was passed with two members voting against it and one abstention. This motion, the first St. Timothy's motion not passed unanimously, was later judged to have been rushed and was therefore deemed improper. It was set aside by the chair for re-consideration at the November meeting. A re-worded motion was put forth, discussed with more background information given, and then voted on. It was passed with one abstention. At this meeting Ron Edwards resigned from his position as secretary and council member effective immediately.

We wish to express our deepest thanks to Ron Edwards for his extended service and the profound knowledge, guidance, patience and experience he has brought to St. Timothy's council. Ron has served as a Warden and as the Secretary since incorporation and was instrumental in the forming of St. Timothy's. Indeed, Ron was a warden of St. Martins Church when Bishop Michael Ingham declared Canon 13 and seized control of that church's administration and funds, deposing Ron in the process. You could say Ron has been on our church council since before there was a council. His knowledge, guidance and experience will surely be missed.

Thank you Mr. Ronald Edwards for all you have done and continue to do towards the life of St. Timothy's.

~Ron Barrett, Rectors' Warden

~Nancy Nelson, Peoples' Warden

# Reports from our "G"s

## Gather Group *Gather all ages into Christian fellowship*

As we approach Advent, it is worthwhile casting a look back at the Fall season to recall all that we have done and to look forward at what is planned.

**Pastoral Care** held a well attended training session in October on how to pray for those in need. The Pastoral Care team is also looking into the possibility of bringing in speakers in the future who can give them further information and guidance.

**Coffee Hour** is now serving medium roast coffee from the Ruli wash station in Rwanda. This is of special interest to us at St. Timothy's as our church made a contribution to help set up this wash station.

After leading the **Ladies Group** for the past few years, Audrey will be stepping down as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. On behalf of all the members of the Ladies Group, I would like to thank Audrey for her work as leader of this group and for arranging for the many interesting speakers.

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, St. Timothy's held its annual **Harvest Supper**. This year, there was an international theme both in the food served and in the rather frustrating flag identification game played! Thank-you to all who helped put this dinner on!

In September, Andy and Katie Withrow welcomed a son, Emmett, into their family. Although the Withrows now live in Victoria, we at St. Timothy's have a special bond with them and so it was felt fitting that we should send a gift to honour Emmett's birth. Through the generosity of many people, a cheque for a sizeable amount was sent

which Katie said would be kept to help pay for future programs for Emmett.

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, the **Christmas Party** will be held at Sutherland from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please plan to attend!

Peter continues to publish the **Newsletter**, something we are very grateful for. He welcomes any submissions you may wish to give him.

~ *Daphne Martin*

## Ladies Group Report

We have had an interesting and busy time in the Ladies Group this Fall.

We were very privileged at our October meeting to have Leddy, Gerry and Ken comes to visit us and give us a presentation on their visit to Rwanda this summer. An added bonus at the meeting was a visit from Naomi, their interpreter during their time in Rwanda. Naomi answered many questions on her life in Rwanda. During her three week visit, many of us were able to host Naomi to a meal or activity.

At our November meeting, very fitting for the Remembrance Day week, Bea Messenger gave us a presentation on her trip in the early summer to Holland, Belgium and France. It was a very moving story of her quest to find her brother Ernest's grave in Holland, and to visit her other brother Bud's grave in France. Both brothers were killed during World War 11.

November saw our annual craft sales. Our first one was at Amica, West Vancouver on Saturday November 5th. The next sale was at Churchill House on Saturday 26th November and our final one will be at church following the service today. Funds raised from these craft sales go to support the Harvest Project and the Northshore Youth Safe House.

During the last year we received almost \$100 worth of pennies and we were able to send off a cheque to Steve Monks for the Medical Mission in Mexico where he has been working for the past few years. It is just amazing what we can do with all those

pennies! Keep them rolling in – we Ladies love to roll them. Kids for Kids also is a Fall project that we support and this year we are able to support 4 Rwandan students for a year's schooling.

We also held a Games Afternoon on 12 in October with light refreshments and by popular demand another one is coming in the New Year for those who love cards and scrabble. We will finish this year with our Annual Christmas Ladies Group luncheon on Monday 12th December at Sutherland Church. Anyone interested in joining our Ladies Group is most welcome and please feel free to drop in particularly when we have speakers. The more the merrier.

~ Audrey Haigh

## **Glorify Group** *Glorify God in Worship*

### **Altar Guild**

New members are urgently needed for the Altar Guild.

We have just two meetings a year, Spring and Fall. The more members we have, the less often you are on duty. At present it averages once a month.

1. We have just two meetings a year – Spring and Fall
2. Training is provided.
3. Two members only are required for Matins Sunday, the first Sunday each month. Preparation for this takes 15 minutes.
4. Four members are required each Eucharist Sunday, two to prepare the Eucharist and two to set up the Altar. This is completed in less than half an hour.

5. There is always an experienced member on duty with you

The preparation for the Sunday service usually takes place at 10 a.m. Saturday. If you have other commitments Saturday, eg. children's soccer, set up may be done Friday, or at a different time Saturday, or if necessary, prior to the service early on Sunday.

As some of our members are having medical and driving concerns, we would especially welcome young members, and male members would be very welcome.

The need is urgent.

Please contact Corinne Burns or Sarah Lucas.

~ Corinne Burns

### **Grow Reports**

***GROW: to become more like Jesus Christ***

### **The Children's Ministry of St. Timothy's**

Kidz Church has been on a journey through the Old Testament. In September 2010 we began in Exodus with the Israelites being enslaved by Pharaoh. God heard the cry of his people and used Moses to lead the Israelites out of slavery. Over 5 months we learned how to trust and to worship God. In Sept, 2011 we continued the journey into the Promised Land with Joshua. We made the Ark of the Covenant and saw God being among his people leading them into battle. Using gingerbread men we tasted sweet victory of battles won. We ended the journey with Joshua ending up in the Promised Land. The children took a poster size puzzle of the Promised Land, each decorating their own province. All things are possible with God. We have learned a lot about God's character and human nature in the stories of Moses and Joshua.

Now we are turning our attention to the Christmas story for Nov and Dec. Over the next 7 weeks, the children will be creating a painting of the Christmas story. Each week the children learn a new part of the story and add a new element to the painting. The other Sunday the question was asked 'how did Joseph respond when the Angel told Joseph to stay with Mary?' One child said "I surrender". It is a wonderful experience to be a part of children growing in the knowledge and love of Christ. Blessings to all this Christmas from the Kidz Church.

~ Sonya Bell

Dear family at St. Timothy's;

Throughout Fall 2011, the children at St. Timothy's have been exploring the Biblical character: Joshua. Each week the children were led by a team of three teachers as they learned together and individually about Joshua's great adventures. As always, the children's understanding of the Bible was hopefully achieved through the variety of Medias used: story-telling, dramatic re-enactment, art, music, games and question/answer period.

Over the past two years, I have noticed that the children have become confident in answering questions and being involved in each area of the program. For those who may choose not to participate, I have noticed that this program is also able to reach them in one way or another. I am grateful to see the various ages develop Christ-like behaviours both as a group and as individuals. As we move into Advent, the children have already begun their biblical "Journey into Bethlehem" and are creating an artistic masterpiece to reflect their learning. My prayer is for each child to not only learn the story of Jesus' birth, but to receive the hope and joy of the Christ child come to earth. May God bless and enrich your lives with His Word.

In Him,

~ Christina Hodson  
*Children's Ministry Assistant*

**Small Groups:** Did you know that St Timothy's has 7 different small groups that meet each week? We may be a small congregation, but almost 50% of our adults are involved in one of these groups! Praise the Lord! Meeting at different locations, days and times and each study different topics, they all share the same purpose: growing to be more like Jesus Christ. A worthy goal, but one that is impossible to reach without the nurture, support, and guidance that belonging to one of these groups provide. If you aren't involved in a group, please consider contacting one of the hosts and joining. New members are always welcome!

As a bit of a summary, the group that meets at Ron and Carolyn Edward's home is presently doing a study on the "Christian Disciplines. The study is "designed to strengthen your foundations in Christ and deepen your relationship with him". They were thrilled to have Naome Uwanahoro while visiting from Rwanda, participate in one of their bible studies. Early Tuesday morning 2 groups meet at the Holiday Inn. A men's group and a women's group who are doing a study titled "Throughout the bible, throughout the year". The other group that meets on Tuesday has been faithfully lead by Florence Wilton and Paddy Donaldson for many years now. They are presently studying, "The Kingdom of God" and are hoping to do a study on prayer in the New Year. On Wednesday mornings there is a woman's bible study that meets at Sutherland Church which provides childcare and then in the afternoon another group meets at my home and is presently doing a study titled, "The Red Letters: The words of Jesus for today's world." The study includes a DVD with a very informative and dynamic conversation with Tony Campolo who is named by *Christianity Today* as one of the 25 most influential preachers of the past 50 years. And finally on Wednesday evenings a group meets at Ken and Sonya Bell's home, and they are studying the Gospel of Mark. **Mondays 7 pm-8.30pm** Ron/Carolyn Edwards's 604-985-9839.

**Tuesdays 7am-8am** Men's Breakfast - Holiday Inn John Collings 604-984-9897.

**Tuesdays 7am-8am** Women's Breakfast - Holiday Inn Sarah Lucas 604-986-5451.

**Tuesdays 9:15 am -10.45am** Florence Wilton 604-926-7417.

**Wednesdays 9:15** Women's group at Sutherland Rita Seiki 604-988-3619.

**Wednesdays 2pm-3.30pm** Meetings at Patricia Young's 604-980-2955.

**Wednesdays 8pm-9.30pm** Meetings at the Bells' Ken/Sonya Bell 604-980-7521.

## St. Timothy's Film Ministry:

Films are displayed on a table in the coffee area each Sunday after services. Please feel welcome to browse the collection and borrow a film to watch with friends and family. Here are a couple of new films recently added to the collection.

**Departures:** This is a Japanese film with



English subtitles, which won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film in 2009. *Departures* is surely the gentlest, sweetest movie about death that you will ever

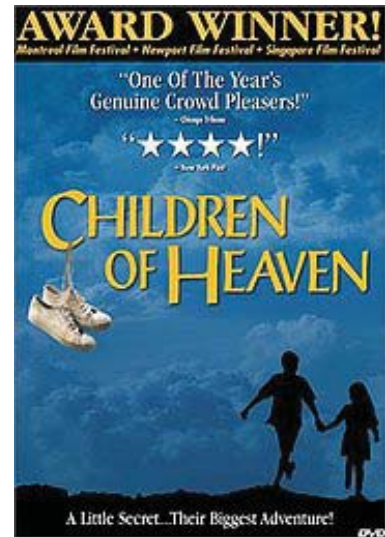
see. A cellist named Diago, comes to the rueful conclusion that he's not talented enough to make a career as a musician; having just returned to his hometown with his wife, he answers a job ad for what he thinks must be a travel agency... only to discover that company prepares bodies to be

placed in coffins. Fearful of his wife's response, he hides his new job--but as he grows to appreciate his boss and the affect that the humbling ceremony of cleaning and dressing the deceased has on their families, Diago discovers that he might have a calling. Though it starts out quietly and even seems slight, it gradually builds in emotional power, layer by layer, until scene after scene at the end is richly moving. Particularly affecting is the performance of Kimiko Yo, the secretary of the company, who harbours a troubling secret. A few moments of overt symbolism push the movie from compassion to sentimentality--but every time *Departures* seems to have lost its footing, a scene follows that strikes all the right notes so deftly it resonates like a bell. A truly marvellous movie. - *(This review is from Amazon Canada).*

## **Children of Heaven:**

Nominated for the Best Foreign Language Film in 1998.

CHILDREN OF HEAVEN is winsome, poignant, life-affirming, and moral. This beautiful film tells the story of a brother and sister who live in a poor section of Teheran and have to make do with one pair of shoes between them. In the midst of poverty, this movie affirms life, love, family, perseverance, and compassion. ~ *Patricia Young*



## **St. Timothy's Church Library:**

While I was browsing the web, one day, I came across a wonderful blog written by a local "Church Lady", Suzanne Wilson, who has compiled a history of churches in North America, Monaco and the



Vatican. Her concise, but thoroughly researched blog is called, "**Churches on Sundays**". A blessing for us all.

<http://www.churchesonsundays.blogspot.com/>

Our Library also has some very good books on churches, and Church, history. There have been more than a few of these books donated by various church members. Here is just a small selection of what you can find on our Library shelf:

**Pacific Pilgrims**, by Lyndon Grove (1979): A 120 history of the Anglican Church in BC and its "pilgrims".

**In Praise of Churches**, by John Betjeman and Paul Hogarth (1996): A wonderfully illustrated guide and evocation of the church and church life -- High and Low, Matins, Evensong, etc.

**The English Parish Church**, by Gerald Randall (1988): A summary of the evolution of parish churches in England, from Pre-Gothic to the present day.

**Cathedrals and Abbeys of England**, by the Very Reverend Stephen Platten, Dean of Norwich (1999): A guide to over 60 of England's most visited cathedrals and abbeys.

These books, and more, along with Suzanne Wilson's blog would make for excellent Christmas reading, with plenty of pictures to enjoy.

**I love thy Church, O God!  
Her walls before thee stand.  
Dear as the apple of thine eye,  
And graven on thy hand.  
Beyond my highest joy  
I prize her heavenly ways,  
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,  
Her hymns of love and praise.**

*~from the hymn, "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord"  
by Timothy Dwight, 1752-1817*

"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in

the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."  
**(Ephesians 2:19-22)**

Have a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year 2012.

~ *Monica Craver*

### ***Synopsis of Update from Sharyn Thomson – October 4 – November 17, 2011***

Since early October, Sharyn has been keeping us up to date on the step by step procedure as she and her team travelled from Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso to Yaoundé, Cameroon to finalize the typesetting of the New Testament, detailing mechanical breakdowns of vehicles, computer problems, health issues and limitations imposed by the publisher. This is the culmination of years of effort as Sharyn and her team translate the New Testament into the local Baumu language, in Burkina Faso. In her words: "Over the past few days, I've been reflecting on how I would describe my emotions at the end of a long-distance race. While those of you cheering us on may rightly feel "excited", this has never quite seemed to be the right description of my emotions. Yesterday it came to me that "exhilarated" would better describe my current mood, together with a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment. Today I asked Simon how he was feeling and he said that when we had finished reading through the text and handed it back to the typesetter last week, he felt a great sense of satisfaction and joy. (In Buamu, his "centre is very cold!") He went on to say that he felt we had done the best that we are able to do. The rest is in the Lord's hands."

On Nov 9 she wrote:

"Yesterday we received our "translator's" copies of the Buamu New Testament at a short ceremony organized by the typesetters and personnel at the CABTAL offices where we have been working. (CABTAL is the Cameroonian Wycliffe organization.) It was very special to actually see a printed and bound copy of the New Testament – complete with pictures and maps! It will also be

good to have something to show the Buaba back in Burkina Faso as they still have some time to wait (at least 9 months) before seeing the final product. From here, the text is sent to the Dallas where the work we have done will be checked again. Once the folks in Dallas give their approval, the files will be sent to Korea for printing. From there, the printed New Testaments will be shipped by sea to Africa, and then by truck from the coast to Burkina Faso.”

~ *Sharyn Thomson*

### **A Reflection on the AM-Canada Fall National Conference titled *The Intimate Pilgrimage* and held at St Timothy’s between September 15 and 17.**

Now two months after the event, it is interesting to me what I remember of the event. Most significantly, I remember the privilege of hearing from profound speakers; Archbishop Yong Ping Chung (retired Archbishop of the Province of South East Asia) such a powerful, peaceful speaker and Bishop Todd Hunter (head of Churches for the Sake of Others, in the USA) such a dynamic speaker. (Rev. Terry Walling and our Bishop Silas Ng also spoke, but I did not have the privilege of actually hearing them.)

The conference was well attended, but being held in North Vancouver, I guess I was disappointed that more of our congregation did not take advantage of the opportunity to participate. Apart from our congregation, our fellow breakaway groups locally e.g. St John’s Vancouver did not attend – was it advertised sufficiently? Seeing we all think along similar lines, we need to support and encourage each other in our mutual understanding. Did I enjoy all aspects of the conference – no – of course not; it is not my preference to sing repetitive choruses, and my preference at celebrating the Eucharist is a more formal setting with all clergy robed, but why should my preference be even considered? As a church we are constantly reminded that we exist for the benefit and teaching of others; outsiders. It is a sure death

wish for our congregation to indulge only in what pleases our present membership!

The theme of the 2 day conference was the “Intimate Pilgrimage with Jesus”, how we might share our faith, beliefs with others – neighbours, work associates and family. First, we were told, I must understand clearly what being a Christian means to me personally and then be able to articulate that in simple, concise terms to anyone who shows interest. As Bishop Todd explained, if our aim is to live a “good” life with the end goal of arriving in heaven, then we have missed the point! He emphasized that while we are saved by Grace, we still need to live our lives with purpose and that involves work. We need to live out our imagination of where we want to and can be. Without the imagination we will be satisfied with ‘also ran’. Bishop Todd urged us to give up our (usually self-imposed) restrictive lives, and by opening our imagination become fully human in its fullest context. (He explained it much better than me – see Rev. Ken’s Book Review for further insight of Bishop Todd!)

Memories linger, and my impression of the conference was positive and worth repeating. To be in the presence of our God filled leaders is motivating. My hope is that next time such an event is held in Vancouver, that more local people will avail themselves of the experience.

~ *Peter Haigh*

### **A Thought:**

“True freedom is not freedom from responsibility to God and others in order to live for ourselves, but freedom from ourselves in order to live for God and others.”

Taken from *Authentic Christianity* © 1995 John Stott and Timothy Dudley-Smith.

~ *Thanks Florence*

## I've Found My Perfect Job

1. My first job was working in an Orange Juice factory, but I got canned. Couldn't concentrate.
2. Then I worked in the woods as a Lumberjack, but just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the axe.
3. After that, I tried being a Tailor, but wasn't suited for it -- mainly because it was a sew-sew job.
4. Next, I tried working in a Muffler Factory, but that was too exhausting.
5. Then, tried being a Chef - figured it would add a little spice to my life, but just didn't have the thyme.
6. Next, I attempted being a Deli Worker, but any way I sliced it... couldn't cut the mustard.
7. My best job was a Musician, but eventually found I wasn't noteworthy.
8. I studied a long time to become a Doctor, but

didn't have any patience.

9. Next, was a job in a Shoe Factory. Tried hard but just didn't fit in.
10. I became a Professional Fisherman, but discovered I couldn't live on my net income.
11. Managed to get a good job working for a Pool Maintenance Company, but the work was just too draining.
12. So then I got a job in a Workout Center, but they said I wasn't fit for the job.
13. After many years of trying to find steady work, I finally got a job as a Historian - until I realized there was no future in it.
14. My last job was working in Starbucks, but had to quit because it was the same old grind.
15. SO, I TRIED Retirement AND FOUND I'M PERFECT FOR THE JOB!

## New Arrivals for St Timothy's

1. **Frank (Frankie) Brian Buhler** was born Friday, September 16th, 2011 at 4:10am. He weighed 8 lbs 10 oz and was 53 cm (21 inches). He was born naturally in a successful VBAC, something for which we are so thankful. Most of all, we are thankful that Frankie and I are healthy and that we have this beautiful son!

Frank is named after Grady's paternal Grandpa, Frank Buhler. It is also a special family name on my side as my "Putsie's" name is Frank

Puts, and my uncle's name is Frank Sas. And of course, we can't forget St. Francis! We chose his middle name in honour of Grady's Dad, Brian Buhler.

2. **Emmett James Withrow** born 4 weeks early, on Friday 23 Sept - 4lb 14oz - and spent some time in NICU for observation but overall doc says he looks great. Katie, Andy and Savannah are delighted.

# WE CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTH

Dear Lord, as we celebrate Your birth,  
let us remember that You are  
the true reason for Christmas.

Let every sparkling light remind us how  
You illuminate our lives, a shining beacon  
to guide us in our thoughts and actions each day,  
and how You light us from within  
in the knowledge of Your love and truth.

Let the Christmas trees, standing straight, tall,  
unbowed, remind us of Your uprightness,  
Your goodness, Your perfection,  
and Your refusal to bow to worldly temptations,  
no matter how great the challenge or trouble.

Lord, as we feast on Christmas treats,  
let us remember that You are the sole provider  
of everything worth having,  
that all good things come from You.

And as we enjoy our gifts,  
let us never forget that You are  
the greatest gift of all--our wonderful Saviour,  
Counselor, Giver of an eternal life  
whose wonders we cannot imagine.

So as we delight in Christmas,  
the happiest and brightest of holidays,  
let us remember there would be  
no Christmas without You, Lord,  
and let our hearts be filled with joy,  
love and thankfulness,  
this Christmas and all the ones to come.  
In Jesus' name we pray,  
Amen.

*By Joanna Fuchs  
Christmas Newsletter of the Christian Salvage Mission.*

**Note** *The Christian Salvage Mission*, originally based in Ontario, collects used evangelical material for distribution around the world. Western Canada Representatives are now organizing the collection of material for shipping. For more information go to [www.csmcanada.org](http://www.csmcanada.org)

~ Thank you Florence

## Christmas Events

**Sunday December 4:**

**St Timothy's Christmas Party** 5pm at Sutherland Please sign up so we know who is coming.

**Sunday December 11:**

**"Christmas Presence" 8pm**

Perhaps the most "Christmassy" event you might attend this year. A wonderful Christmas variety show with incredible musicians, actors and performers.

Tickets available at Sutherland church or at [www.pacifictheatre.org](http://www.pacifictheatre.org)



# Advent & Christmas at St. Timothy's

## "All of the lights"



**Sunday, November 27:**  
**"All of the lights- Love"**

**Advent Choir Service** Great music & selected readings set the stage for the season of waiting, for God's love.

**Sunday, December 4:**  
**"All of the lights- Hope"**

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his peoples from their sins'



**Sunday, December 11:**  
**of the lights- Peace"**

Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them her heart'



**Sunday, Dec. 18 Joint 10am service with Sutherland:**  
**"All of the lights- Joy"**

*Lessons & Carol Service filled with special music and familiar songs leading us to the stable.*

For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.'



**Christmas Eve- Saturday,**  
**December 24**

***All the Lights"***

'When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.'

**4pm A children's & family communion service.**  
Followed by a Birthday Party.

**Candlelight Communion Service.**



## St Timothy's Church Calendar

*Please join us!*

*Note: All events will be at Sutherland Church  
(unless otherwise stated)*

4 Dec. Sunday at 4:30 pm **St Timothy's Christmas Party**

8 Dec. Sunday at 8:00 pm **"Christmas Presence"** at Sutherland  
Tickets from Sutherland Church or at  
[www.pacificteatre.org](http://www.pacificteatre.org)

19 February 2012 **St Timothy's AGM**

19 February 2012 **Lent Gazette**



**Archbishop Yong Ping Chung preaches on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011**