



St. Timothy's Gazette Fall 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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Services held at Sutherland Church

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

“The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen”.

Here we are September again. While summer got off to a slow start it certainly kicked into high gear (or at least sunny gear) in August and just as we were getting used to it September happens. Well that is the way it is sometimes. We just get things going, get into the swing of things, think we have things figured out...then out of nowhere things shift on us.

In our life in Christ this happens a lot. We get into a nice rhythm with church or devotions or our prayer life, we think we have this God/Faith thing figured out, all things are on a nice even keel, then something happens which knocks us around a little and makes us feel unstable and maybe even uncertain about what we thought we knew all along. A loved one get sick, our job is threatened, there is a dispute in the family, God’s character of love, grace or mercy is put into question, or ‘God forbid’ something changes!

But as upsetting and even off putting as these times may be it is precisely in these times that we tend to grow and be nourished the most. These are the moments when God comes alongside us and speaks, if we are willing to put aside our initial upset, and actually listen.

When these shifts, large or small, happen to us, we have three options. We can do as some of the Israelites wanted to do as they entered the wilderness, choose to turn around and go back to where we were before it all started. This can feel comforting at first but going backwards is not usually the best way forward. We can do the dig in our heels, sit down and try not to go anywhere thing. This usually has the effect

getting us stuck in an endless loop hitting our heads into the same wall we hit last time. Or we can choose the road less travelled, the way of uncertainty, the way of faith and move forward, follow Christ wherever he is leading us, which usually is on the way of the cross.

What I find hopeful about September is that it is one of those points in the year that we can choose to try a different way, an opportunity to maybe start or restart those areas in our lives where we may feel off course, uncertain or stuck.

What is required for us to take this step though is the grace of Christ. God’s grace not only shelters us, but gives us undeserved forgiveness. So if we have the courage of faith to follow Jesus on his way, his grace is there to pick us back up when we inevitably stumble, and encourage us back on our way.

The quote at the top will probably sound somewhat familiar to most of us as a version of it is found in many of the New Testament letters. This particular version though comes as the final words God speaks to us in the whole of Scripture, Revelation 22:21. Revelation is the book of the bible that most people are leery of because of its graphic images and unfamiliar genre. Yet it is a book of great hope. A book addressed to ‘The Church’, both ancient and modern, which is in one of those decision points as it suffers persecution, false teaching, and dwindling faith. In the midst of uncertainty, change, fear and confusion the message from the Lord is, “the Lamb is triumphant”.

In his book *Discipleship on the Edge*, Darrell Johnson (former professor at Regent College and current Senior Pastor at First Baptist Vancouver) says that if he could have a copy of only one book of the bible it would be *The*

Revelation of Jesus Christ. So because of this and because it is such a great book of hope and because it is widely ignored/feared/misunderstood, we are going to study our way through this final book of the bible together over the fall. And lest you think that I will have all the answers (which is never true, but even more true in this circumstance) I will be learning through the weeds with you.

And by his Grace we will see, understand and follow.

Three final notes: First I wish to encourage all of you to take advantage of St. Timothy's hosting the AM Canada National Conference "The Intimate Pilgrimage" Sept 15-17. You don't have to travel any further than you do on Sundays. So even if you cannot attend all of the conference, try to attend at least some of the evening or weekend events.

Second we want to put together and **Advent Book** again this year, so we want everyone to begin to think about stories of Christmases past, Advent or Christmas poems (favourites or originals), reflections on best loved songs, paintings expressing your 'winteriness', or whatever you can contribute this year. The deadline for submissions is November 1st in order to give the editor time to put everything together.

And finally, October 18th will mark the beginning of St. Timothy's annual "**40 Day of Pray, Fasting and Hospitality**". It is a season of taking time to pray for everyone in the church along with the various ministries as well as a time to invite people who you may not know very well to break bread with you.

As always it is such a pleasure and privilege to be a part of this church community and I look forward with great hope to all the LORD has in

store for us in the years to come. We welcome you to get involved in serving God and serving one another as we seek to become more like Christ in our day to day lives.

Your Servant in Christ

~ ken bell+

Book Reviews

Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption: By Laura Hillenbrand

This book has been on the NY Times best sellers list for several months and deservedly so. It follows the story of a young naval flyer Louis Zamperini, based in Hawaii during WWII. His plane is shot down and all are presumed lost at sea except that he and two crew members survive only to float across the open ocean for several months, until at last they find land. Unfortunately the land is controlled by the Japanese. For the next several years he moves from camp to camp as a POW surviving in, what can only be described as, the most horrific conditions imaginable. It is not until he returns home though that he is forced to face his personal demons, and at long last finds not only freedom but redemption.

Veneer: Living Deeply in a Surface Society:

By Timothy Willard and R. Jason Locy
"The world has a love affair...with itself. Armed with Facebook, Twitter, and blogs, we think ourselves mini celebrities, and we use consumption and technology to convince our friends that this facade is who we are. Veneer illustrates that consumption is more than just acquiring more stuff; it is a potentially dangerous mindset---a mindset turning everything, even people into products" (*taken from Amazon description*). The authors argue that this Veneer living and consumption mindset is having a deep effect on the church,

that the church is steeped in a culture of consumption, “Give me what I want or I will shop/worship elsewhere”. The church has a duty not to try to speak this language but rather to be a refreshing voice amidst a venerated world, to speak of life, freedom, honesty and beauty.

Hungry for God: Hearing God’s Voice in the Ordinary and Everyday: By Margaret Feinberg

In your heart you feel the longing---an emptiness that can't be satisfied by food, or friendships, or entertainment, or success, or anything this world can offer. Only God can fill the void. More than you know, you hunger for God. **In Hungry for God**, critically acclaimed author Margaret Feinberg puts you in touch with your desire for intimacy with your Creator and what it takes to find fulfilment. Feinberg writes, 'The sound of his voice is spiritual nourishment, his voice a banquet for my soul--- every syllable a tasty morsel, every expression flavoured with love.' With rare insight into the Scriptures, human nature, and the heart of God, Feinberg invites you to discover the ways in which God speaks to you not from the top of some holy mountain, but in the midst of your everyday affairs. Learning to hear God's voice isn't as much a destination as it is a journey, and if you travel far enough, you'll find yourself abiding in the presence of God. Passionate, honest, and filled with wisdom and inspiration, **Hungry for God** will help you cultivate the holy intimacy your spirit craves. *(this description taken from Amazon.com, they said what I wanted to say only a little better).*

~ ken bell+

Council Update – Fall 2011

Summer holidays and the P.N.E. are drawing to a close. What a beautiful summer month we

have had in August as nice weather finally caught up to the season. The end of the holidays brings the congregation together from their various summer pursuits. As a church we start up Sunday school and small group Bible studies. Choir practice led by Lois Carter will be better attended now the holidays are over. We have been able to mark our first wedding with Roger and Nancy (Vondette) Nelson. A mission trip to our sister church in Kadua was completed and we have much to work on as a result. One member went on a mission trip to Nicaragua, another student attended summer classes in France. It is good to see the holes filled in the church pews with familiar faces bringing so much to share about summer vacations and disruptions.

We will share a joint start-up barbeque with the congregants of Sutherland church. This September marks our first anniversary at the Sutherland church and we seem to have settled in. Odd that so many comment on how short that time has been. With the start of the “new year” our “G” groups will be meeting, planning and then sharing what will come. If you have been thinking about lending a hand in any of the various ministries now is a good time to step forward. Many hands make light work.

Welcome back one and all. God bless you.

~ Nancy Nelson & Ron Barrett.

From The Table, Victoria

What’s happened at the Table since you last heard from us?

So much has happened since my last update to you all. We officially hit the summer lows around the end of June. That’s when many of our University crowd went home or found a summer job outside of Victoria. It’s also when

many of our families take off for some time away. As a result our summer gatherings have fluctuated between 30 and 60. Our neighborhood gatherings reduced from 8 to 6 but have remained solidly attended throughout the summer. By Easter we were averaging about 70 on a BIG Table Sunday and we are anticipating a fruitful Fall.

This past weekend (Aug 26-28) we held our 2nd annual Table Leadership Retreat at Camp Thunderbird (YMCA) in Sooke, BC. It was a great time to grow together and challenge our leaders into a deeper discipleship. We were ecstatic to have 26 attendees (these included our children as well!).

What's new with the Withrow family?

The Withrow's are with child for the second time! Katie is due October 15th and is starting to feel it! Savannah (2 1/2) is VERY excited about all of this and has a couple name ideas for the baby (we'll see). We will soon begin the process of transforming our guest room into a baby room. We've talked about mentally preparing ourselves for transitioning from having one child to two, but I'm fairly certain there is no real way to prepare for the chaos that now awaits us! We do not know the gender but we think it will be a boy (although we were fairly confident that Savannah would be a boy so who knows!).

How can you continue to pray and support us?

As we look forward to September and what we're calling our "Re-Launch" we are trusting that God will continue to provide for us and bless our community as we seek to invite others into the warmth of Christ's love. Our Re-Launch is September 11th and we're kicking off a new series entitled "Seeds, Trees, and the

Beginning of Everything". We will be going through Genesis 1-3 between September and Christmas. We will also be starting up a new round of "Conversations" which is essentially "Pre-Alpha" for those who aren't necessarily interested in church but are interested in good conversations mixed with some good food. We will run conversations for 6 weeks and our theme is "God Made Chocolate and other Potential Myths" where we'll take a bit more philosophical approach to understanding reality, origins and God. We'll also be serving lots of chocolate!

We would love your prayers over all of these things. We have grown more and more accustomed to leaning on God in every season of our church planting! And we are so thankful to have you all in our corner cheering us on, supporting us in prayer and with your finances. You are a huge blessing to us all at the Table and it is our prayer that God would reward you according to your kindness and faithfulness to us.

Much love to you all!
Andy, Katie, Savannah and Baby!

Rev. Andy Withrow
The Table Church and The Open Gate Church



Reports from our "G"s

Gather Group

Gather all ages into Christian fellowship

Because there has not been a Newsletter published since Lent 2011, there are many activities and events to report on. I will do my best to be brief.

- Back on March 8th, the Shrove Pancake Supper was held at Sutherland. As always, there was a good turnout and the pancakes and sausages were enjoyed by all.
- On April 17th, St. Timothy's was privileged to be visited by Bishop Silas and his wife. To mark the occasion, we had a potluck brunch following the 9:00 a.m. service. I must specifically mention the lovely cake that Anne Kong baked for the reception!
- We held our seventh anniversary/summer BBQ at Sutherland on June 5th. This was the first BBQ since we moved to Sutherland and it seemed to go well. We look forward to having many more at our new location.
- To welcome Leddy, Gerry and Ken back from Rwanda and to give everyone an opportunity to see their pictures and hear their stories, a dinner was held at the Carters' on July 2nd. We were truly blessed as the rain held off until the last of the cleanup was done!
- During the summer, two social events were held. The "Special Tea for Special People" was held at the Haighs' on July 8th and was extremely well attended. Thank-you, Lois, for coming and providing the music! The young families also had a picnic after church one Sunday.

Looking forward:

- The Gather Committee is involved in providing refreshments for the upcoming AM-Canada Fall National Conference held at St. Timothy's September 15th-17th.
- The Harvest Supper is scheduled for Sunday, October 2nd, at Sutherland starting at 5:00 p.m. This year, it will be a potluck dinner with an international theme. Watch the bulletin for more details!
- The date for the Christmas Party has not yet been finalized but it will be either December 3rd or December 4th. Again, watch the bulletin for more details.

As the MacDonald family has left St. Timothy's, Sam will no longer be leading the Prayer Ministry which is now searching for a new leader. Please speak to Ken if you feel you have a calling for this. Florence has kindly offered to lead the Ministry on an interim basis.

We are grateful that Hazel has recovered from her ankle surgery and is now back supervising the Coffee Hour. How we missed her laughter and humour! Please contact Hazel if you are willing to join the coffee rosters as either a regular or on-call volunteer. The more people who volunteer, the lighter the load!

As you may already know, it has been decided that the Newsletter will now be published only three times a year, Lent, September and Advent. Peter, our editor, welcomes all contributions!

As always, our Pastoral Care Team is here to give help to any who need or want it. Please contact Dara or Myrna if you wish to be visited, prayed for or given any sort of assistance.

Please see the report from the Ladies Group below.

Daphne Martin

Ladies Group Report

Greetings to all members of the Ladies Group and a special welcome and invitation to those of you who may like to consider joining our group or dropping by on the 2nd Monday of each month. We would love to see you. We start the season on Monday 12th September, 1:30 p.m. at Sutherland.

We are planning to have Leddy and Gerry come to give a presentation on their visit to Rwanda in June – I am sure there were some who were unable to go to the Carters in July to hear about their trip so we do invite anyone who missed that opportunity to come on Monday 3rd October at 1.30 p.m. at Sutherland Church, for an update on life in Rwanda and our sister parishes.

Our last meeting in June was particularly interesting as we had Ryan Barrett come to tell us of his visit to Nicaragua with other UBC students. Well done Ryan. We had a presentation from Peter Haigh on the Northshore Rescue –both speakers left us with a great deal of information and inspiration!

Now that the fall is approaching we will be planning some events, which we hope members of St. Timothy's may join with us. In the spring we started two games afternoons which provided fellowship and fun (plus add to our coffers for outreach programs) which we will continue (check the weekly bulletins) and as usual we will be joining two craft sales in November at Churchill House and Amica.

Last year we started a "Penny Fund" - one of our dear friend Vera McLoughlin's ideas – it

has now reached \$60.53cents – if any of you have a bottle or bag of pennies that you wish to get rid of – the Ladies Group would be delighted to receive it and Hazel Blacoe our volunteer penny roller is waiting to receive them. We will be deciding in the fall which agency or outreach it will be donated to.

Many thanks to all who support our various fundraisers.

Audrey Haigh

MacDonald Migration/Prayer Ministry opening

The time has come for the MacDonald's to move on. We will be leaving St. Timothy's at the end of August and will start attending West Vancouver Baptist Church in September.

Thank you so much for all your prayers, love, support and encouragement over the years. We have gone through a lot together and we love you all.

Samantha started the prayer ministry 7 years ago at St Timothy's along with Florence, Kathleen and Audrey. St Timothy's faith in this area has grown substantially. So many of us really believe in the power of prayer. Thanks be to God.

If anyone feels called to lead this wonderful ministry please contact Samantha or Ken. Richard, Samantha, James, Grace and Alastair.

~ Samantha

Grow Reports

GROW: to become more like Jesus Christ

Just about every summer since I was very young, I have spent some of the summer time holidaying in the Okanagan valley of the interior of B.C. This was the case again this summer when we spent a week's holiday in the small town of Okanagan Falls, just south of Penticton on the south end of Skaha Lake. This sleepy little town is very well placed for visiting the numerous wineries and orchards which are almost everywhere! This is especially true in August as the fruit and vegetables are ripe, and the grapes, although not ready for the harvest, are visible and growing on the vines. This year while driving along Highway 97 between Oliver and Osoyoos we were absolutely surrounded with fruit trees laden with ripe plums, peaches, pears, apricots and apples, and as if that wasn't enough, on the hills close by, there were numerous wineries with grapes growing in uniform rows and vegetable fields of corn, cucumbers, tomatoes, beans and peas. The views were simply breathtaking. My husband Chris commented that "we indeed are in the land of plenty" and it reminded me of the passage from Genesis 1:

¹¹And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

Like the orchards and wineries which focus on "growing" produce, the Grow Ministry at St Timothy's also focuses on "growing" but the focus is on growing our knowledge and love of

Christ. I pray that as we grow in love and knowledge of Christ that we will produce fruit which will give glory to God revealing to everyone we come in contact with in our daily lives, just how much God cares and loves us . . . ~ Submitted by Patricia Young, Chair of the "Grow" Ministry

Nursery: So that the parents of the very youngest of our children have an opportunity to attend our worship services or be with their older children in "kids' church" we are now providing a nursery to care for these young ones. During the summer months when the nursery room was unavailable we cared for these young children in the narthex area, but now we are able to use the small nursery room beside the "kids' church" room. Thanks to the 7 women who have volunteered to help out with this very important ministry and to the parent-helpers, we will be able to provide safe and loving care for these very important members of our congregation.

~ Patricia Young

Welcome to Kidz Church

St. Timothy's is blessed with a wonderful group of children. We come to praise God and worship with fellow believers. In Kidz Church we learn about God and how to live like God. We invite children of all age groups to come together to worship God. St. Timothy's Kidz Church is bubbling with life as we discover the great biblical stories in God's word. Kidz Church gives opportunities for children to practice and experience Christ-likeness as they play, learn and work with others.

Our value at St. Timothy's is the provision of spiritual leadership for children and youth; believing that they are an essential part of our

community, bringing joy through their presence.

Our vision at St. Timothy's is to be a place where children come to know and trust in the love of God as they actively participate in the life of the church.

Three principles which drive this vision:

1. We believe in the importance of Bible based narrative teaching. As children learn the stories of the People of God, all other issues of values, morals and themes will be naturally revealed.
2. We believe that we are One Body in Christ. We are not a school, but a community; and that church provides one of the rare places where children are given the opportunity to interact with adults & children of other ages and backgrounds whom they may not otherwise play or relate with.
3. We believe in the importance of parent participation in children's ministry. This not simply a practical necessity but also a philosophical/ theological conviction. Parents are an important part of the spiritual formation of their children. The church is not a service provider set up to meet everyone's personal needs and desires. We are a family who takes responsibility to care for, encourage and teach the younger generation.

What is Kidz Church?

- Kidz Church is a church for kids.
- Kidz Church should be a reflection of adult church. Gathering of the Christian community to worship God. Kidz Church is a place to worship God together by praising God, demonstrating Christ-like behaviour and reading the bible.
- All age groups make one Kidz Church. We worship God through song, actions, play, prayer, and reading the bible.

- Experiencing church together allows the opportunity to live out Christ-like behaviour because you are met with relationship challenges that naturally occur in a group situation. Teaching Christ-like behaviour is no small task as we battle our self-centeredness and human nature. The attitude is not 'what do I get out of it?' but 'how do we worship God better?' The children are learning about each other's needs and are beginning to identify where they can be helpful to each other. In essence practicing how to love their neighbours. We pray that God will change all our hearts to be focused on Him.

- This style or method of children's ministry is a little unconventional as it is a change of thinking from age targeted theme curriculum, to community bible based curriculum.

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~ *Sonya Bell*

Dear family at St. Timothy's;
As the children finish summer and begin a new season in fall, the Children's Ministry would like to thank all of those who volunteered throughout the summer months. The summer of 2011 lead the children through major characters in the Bible. From Noah to Jesus, the children learned how each character glorified God in one way or another. Through stories, songs, games, crafts, free play and discussion the children have explored these icons of the Bible. Moreover, the children of St. Timothy's have learned how each one of them can do great things for God. Jesus said "that unless you have faith like a child, you will not enter the kingdom of God". As teachers, our aim is to nourish this child-like faith with God's word, prayer and creating an inviting place for the children to be and interact in.
This season we begin with "Joshua's Big Adventure", the teacher's pray that the children

will learn more of who God is; His character, His faithfulness, His love and consequently who they are in God's eyes.
In His Joy,

The Children's Ministry of St. Timothy's

Adult Small Group Ministries:

Anyone is welcome to join any of these groups. If you are interested please make contact with them and ask for further details of time and start up dates.

Monday evenings: There is the small group of adults that meet at Ron and Carolyn Edward's home. They are continuing their study on Prayer.

Tuesday mornings: from 7-8am there are Women's and Men's Breakfast meetings that meet at The Pantry restaurant at the Holiday Inn. They discuss selected daily readings from "My Utmost for His Highest", by Oswald Chambers. Contact either John Collings or Sarah Lucas.

Tuesday mornings: a group meets that is organized by Florence Wilton and Paddy Donaldson. They are planning to study "The Kingdom of God" and resume meeting September 6th.

Wednesday mornings: WOW (Women of the World): This is a Women's bible study that meets at Sutherland Church on Wednesday mornings, beginning September 14th at 9:15 am. Babysitting is provided. All women are welcome to join!

Wednesday afternoons: Beginning September 21st a small group of women will be meeting at Audrey Haigh's house studying "The Gospel in Life- Grace Changes Everything" by Tim Keller.

Wednesday evenings: there is yet another small group of adults that meet at Ken and Sonya Bell's home.

St. Timothy's Film Ministry:

The Film Ministry at St Timothy's continues to be well utilized. Films are usually available each Sunday after the service. Many are borrowed each Sunday and as new ones are added more interest is generated. Each year I hope to add at least new 10 new films. Films for the ministry are chosen using the following criteria:

- Connection or disconnection with the Gospel
- Engaging with others, to communicate God's love and hope in non-threatening ways
- Remembering always that God has been and will continue to be there in the culture and in the people with whom we engage, working in the most surprising ways to transform his good yet tarnished creation

I have recently placed an order for a PBS Documentary titled: "The Better Hour: The Legacy of William Wilberforce". The Better Hour is the story of Wilberforce who, inspired by faith, used his political and social influence to change the world for the better. At the beginning of the 19th century, almost a third of the British economy depended on the trade of human beings. William Wilberforce was determined to end this horrific practice, by persuading both Parliament and British society to abolish slavery in the British Empire.

~ Patricia Young

St. Timothy's Church Library:

St. Timothy's Church Library will be open the Sunday after Labour Day weekend, after a couple summer months of renovations at Sutherland Church. Every year I have an "amnesty" on long over-due books. If you have

any books that were borrowed prior to June please return them any Sunday during September. More new books have been added to the growing church library collection. Check them out!

During the summer I read a "life-changing" book by A.W.Tozer, "**The Pursuit of God**". This book was written by Tozer in 1948, and is said to be one of his best writings. You could almost say that this book was written by Tozer while on his knees in worship before God. It is timeless. **Aiden Wilson Tozer** (April 21, 1897 - May 12, 1963) was an American pastor with the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church.

Here is an online link to Tozer's classic book that can be read online, or printed on a printer, which ever you prefer. I believe every member of St. Timothy's should read this book at least once in their lifetime. It could prove life-changing for you, also:

[http://www.ntslibrary.com/PDF%20Books/Tozer Pursuit of God.pdf](http://www.ntslibrary.com/PDF%20Books/Tozer_Pursuit_of_God.pdf)

"Faith is the gaze of a soul upon a saving God."~A.W. Tozer

Blessed reading!

~ *Monica Craver*

Update from Sharyn Thomson – *June 20, 2011*

I'm now in Ouagadougou after spending three peaceful weeks in the village. It was good to be away from the city for a bit although I must admit that I did miss having access to fans and air conditioning! This morning there was a good rain and the air is now fresh and cool. It won't last long so I treasure every minute of it!

Here's how the Lord answered your prayers over the past few weeks:

Buamu New Testament: Emmanuel and Simon finished checking the parallel passages and are now working on the glossary. This involves looking at what additional information would be helpful for readers of the New Testament, especially those who do not yet have access to the Old Testament. Glossary entries also need to be checked by a translation consultant so they need to finish this work as quickly as possible. Pray for insight and wisdom as they decide what information to add; and for clarity of thought as they draft these entries in Buamu.

We are scheduled to begin typesetting on October 3rd in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Last week, Emmanuel and Simon received word that their passports were issued just 2 days after the applications were submitted -- Praise the Lord! Now we need to purchase the airline tickets so that we can begin the process of applying for Cameroon visas. Please pray that this next stage in the process would go smoothly.

I continue to work on the list of key terms, noting the places where these have not been translated consistently. I'm about half-way through the list. When I get back to the village next month, I will go over the list with Emmanuel and Simon so that they can check the passages and make any necessary changes. We are very aware that there is still a lot to do before we leave for Cameroon. Please continue to pray that the Lord would protect the team during this final stage.

Linguistics: Once again, the urgency of getting the New Testament ready for typesetting has put my thesis on the back burner. The significant progress that I had hoped for did not happen. Please continue to pray with me that I might listen to the Lord's voice as I plan my days. There is always enough time to accomplish his purposes for each day!

Burkina Faso: We are thankful that the last couple of weeks have been fairly peaceful. Please continue to pray that those in positions of authority would govern wisely. In the Buamu area, weather conditions are more of a concern than the political ones. While there have been a couple of good rains, the ground is still too dry for this time of year and sowing is behind schedule. Farming is not for the faint of heart! Pray that the Lord would send both rain and sun as they are needed and that his people might continue to declare that “God is good – all the time!”

~ *Sharyn Thomson*

Life-style leadership at St Timothy's

Leadership can be defined as the ability to achieve results through the willing efforts of other people. Looking at our Federal election back in May – we saw one leader pushing to stay the course, with many issues the public did not like, and compromises made, a second leader, respected for his intellect, but unable to convey a vision or disciplined enough to pursue a vision, and a third leader with charisma, and fighting a serious health battle, leading the people to some exciting potential changes, but with the unlikelihood of gaining a majority, he was unlikely to have to actually perform. The first leader won a majority, the second lost his following and the third excited enough people to become the loyal opposition. When Jack Layton subsequently died, people of all political stripes rallied. His politics were not shared by all, but his drive and determination to pursue his goals had universal appeal. Looking at the Vancouver riots, there were quite a few trouble makers, bent on destruction, who were able to encourage the masses to join them, for no apparent reason, in destroying personal property and thumbing their noses at the authority of the police. The few were able to lead a large group into performing actions that

most would normally have not considered. Then there were the volunteers, gathered together overnight by social media, who descended on the mayhem of the night before to clean up the place, motivated by civic pride. A few leaders were able to encourage a large number of people to positive action. Look at the rejection of the HST recently in our province. Leadership in introducing the tax did a poor job of explaining it to the electorate, and (in my opinion) it was rejected, not because it was poor policy (it is likely to be re-introduced eventually), but because of the way it was introduced – poor leadership! Like it or not, we are all influenced by leaders.

Just a quick look at some activities in this Gazette indicate how extensively members of our congregation have travelled this year. How many people did we come in contact with and influence by how we lived, and acted? Even in our daily lives – how do our actions look in the eyes of fellow workers, bosses, customers, clients, even fellow commuters? We do influence others by our very being, and our attitude to every situation betrays our inner motivation. If our purpose here is to Praise God, do all of our conversations, actions and thoughts follow that aim? At St. Timothy's we have an opportunity weekly in our sermons, to see how those before us – for the last 3000 years – have acted, reacted and behaved – not much differently than us today – and +Ken does a good job of identifying how we might apply their better responses to our daily lives. Daily prayers, bible readings, small group discussions, church involvement, both liturgical and social colour our thinking. The upcoming conference “The Intimate Pilgrimage” to be held at St Timothy's this week, is a rare opportunity to participate in first class presentations and discussions, and show how we might alter our attitude in our de-churched culture. As a result, the outcome of our

interface with those around us might be our positive leadership for a better world – even if it is only one or two people at a time!

~ Peter Haigh

Spotlight on Bea Messinger's Reconciliation with the Loss of her Brothers

(See the Advent 2010 Gazette for the initial instalment of this saga)

Because so many situations fell together in a miraculous way, Bea Messinger feels that God's hand was guiding a process that has at last brought her a measure of peace. The story is not finished, as its progress continues to be pursued by friends in Holland.

Bea Harrison from her first recollections had always had a close attachment to her two older brothers, Arthur, known as Bud, and Ernie. Arthur, ten years older than Bea, always seemed to be the one who was ready to listen to her questions and concerns and she has a highly valued photograph of her as a tot in his arms. When she was ten years old, she hugged both brothers when they left for war with the Canadian Scottish Regiment. She was never to see either of them again and was devastated by the loss.

Bud was killed in action in France and is buried in a military cemetery in Bretteville sur Laize in France. Bea through the years had not been able to summon the courage to visit his grave as she knew it would be a very painful experience. Ernest's place of rest was unknown until Bea recently discovered a letter in German written to her mother in 1945, just after the end of the war. It was from a German medic and minister who had been present when Ernest was killed. He wanted to let Bea's mother know that Ernest had had a Christian

burial and was at peace. He had described in detail the exact location where Ernest was buried in the garden of a ruined farm near Nijmegen in Holland. He had wanted to return Ernest's Prayer book, but when he was held as a prisoner of war by the Americans, it had been confiscated along with other possessions.

What followed seemed like a series of "God-incidences": Don, the father of one of Bea's music students, took an interest in the photographs of her brothers and became engrossed by their story as his father had been in the Canadian Scottish Regiment. When he talked about it with a Herman, a golfing friend, Herman suggested contacting his relatives in Holland who might be able to offer some assistance. Meanwhile a Dutch friend called Helen contacted Jose in Holland, who found out where Ernest was buried. With Don working through the internet in Canada and Jose planning in Holland, both young, caring people, an itinerary was arranged. The trip to Holland and France would have two missions: visiting Bud's grave and locating where Ernest was buried.

Bill and Bea, accompanied by Helen and her husband, Keith, travelled in the spring of 2011 first to Beek, Holland in time to celebrate the anniversary of Liberation on May 4. They attended a church service and a cenotaph service, where they met the Mayor. Both services were in Dutch but during the service their ears pricked up when the Mayor said that Ernest Harrison was listed as missing, but intimated that it was known where he is buried. Everyone at the services was friendly and helpful especially a young doctor whose wife, also a doctor, had recently lost her brother. The young couple invited Bill and Bea to dinner the next day.

Jose, with whom they had been communicating in Holland, took them the next morning to see the field where Ernest was buried.

Unfortunately the present owner of the farm, a widow, was unwilling to meet Bea and does not want to be involved. Her late husband and her father-in-law, who previously owned the field, had agreed that something should be done about getting a burial in a consecrated place, but nothing can be done unless the present owner is in favour. When Bea visited the Groesbeek Canadian Military Cemetery the next day and saw how beautifully kept it was, she felt even more unhappy that Ernest had not been buried there. Helen had contacted Mr. Van Eck for help with accommodation and they were invited to supper with him. When Bea and Bill left Holland, they knew that a group of friends including the Museum Curator and the Priest would continue working on their behalf to try to have Ernest's remains moved to the official cemetery.

They travelled on to Bruges in Belgium, then to Bayou in France where they saw some of the famous tapestries. They had already made arrangements to see Bud's grave in Bretteville sur Laize. It was an English couple, Rena and Ian, who had agreed to take them to the large military cemetery. Bea found it a very emotional experience to see her brother's grave after so many years. Helen stayed to comfort Bea while Bill and Keith went to see a church that William the Conqueror had attended. On the way back they got very lost, driving in the opposite direction but finally a Catholic Priest who spoke English was able to put them back on track. Again they felt that God was with them and guiding their way. Back in Juno, Bill

and Keith went to see a German bunker, but Bea felt the need to rest.

They had beautiful weather every day as they travelled on, visiting the large monument at Visy Ridge and after seeing Delft, they went on to Utrecht, Helen's home. They attended a Roman Catholic Church in Utrecht, where an English-speaking nun was very supportive of their quest. They arrived back in Canada feeling happy that they had received so much support everywhere on their journey.

Meanwhile, Jose had decided to write to the widow in whose field Ernest is buried. She felt that although Bea had visited the farm and done her best in direct contact, possibly another Dutch woman would have a better chance. There was no reply. Jose decided to phone and after a long persuasive conversation, eventually the widow agreed to have the matter officially opened. The situation is now much more promising.

Through another chance contact, Bea learned that the priest who had written the letter to her mother is now deceased, but she was able to write a letter of thanks to his daughter, who responded with great interest and friendliness.

Bea is so glad that she decided to undertake this venture and is grateful for all the assistance she has received. She read the minister's letter to her mother to the congregation at St. Timothy's last Remembrance Day and is happy to share with us all how the story has continued. May God continue to bless this situation!

~ *Florence Wilton*

Higher Spirits Hiking Group

In early August, Ray and I met with the Collings to go on a medium hike (that is about 3-4 hours) as we had just come back from a walking holiday in the Gulf Islands, covering 87 miles in 2 weeks and we were weary! We headed up towards Whistler deciding on a hike as we drove. Helm Creek looked promising, as the trail head was at the end of a high up logging road that John and Lucy's 4 wheel drive vehicle could reach. The first part of the hike was very steep up through beautiful old growth forest with yew tree groves that we had never seen before. We got up to gentler terrain that roughly followed the creek and came upon the first signs of snow (note to self - this is a summer hike in August!) The snow was crusty and quite easy to walk on without snow shoes. We were about two thirds of the way up to the meadow area, but were in quite large trees which indicated we weren't near the tree line. By this time three hours had passed. My legs were tired at this point and with quite a distance to return, John agreed to walk back with me. Ray and Lucy wanted to keep going to reach the meadow and then would head back and catch up with us. They continued on for about 45 minutes and broke out into the meadow - snow scattered - so still too early for mountain flowers. They half ran back most of the way and caught us just before the parking lot. Our medium hike turned out to be 7 hours long, but a good time was had by all!

Our 2nd hike this summer was on August 27 and was starting up the Squamish River valley. The destination was Tricouni Meadows. This time the hikers were Leddy, Peter and Audrey, John and Lucy and me - Ray had to work. The logging road up to the trail head, to my surprise, was a real 4 wheel

drive road with large boulders and dips and holes. This road made the Helm Creek logging road look easy. I now know what a 4 wheel drive vehicle can accomplish. The trail head was an hour's drive from the valley floor. The hike offered spectacular views of the mountains, the day was clear and the hikers were energetic. There were large numbers of mosquitoes so we were very thankful that Audrey had packed the bug spray. The Collings warned us that it could be wet and boggy underfoot. They were right!! - I only sank up to my knees once! We all had hiking poles which really steadied us over bogs and creeks. We had a beautiful lunch on the way up. Again we enjoyed reaching the snow level which helped keep us cool for the uppermost part of the hike. As there was so much snow there were no flowers, but the little cirque we were in was absolutely stunning. On the way down we found Leddy's glasses where he had forgotten them at our snack break. We held our breath driving back down the logging road as the side drop-offs were very steep and appeared to be straight down in places. We celebrated our survival at a Squamish restaurant.

We can hardly wait for the next hike.

~ *Paddy Donaldson*

P.S. If any other members of the congregation would like to participate in our infrequent hikes, please let John or Peter know!

ST. TIMOTHY'S BICYCLE CLUB

The St, Timothy's Bicycle Club is not an officially-sanctioned activity of the church. However, for the past several years, certain members of the parish have come together voluntarily to enjoy the joys of long-distance cycle touring.

In doing so, we have been able to indulge ourselves, not only in undertaking wholesome

exercise but also in drinking in the fabulous scenery (and yes, the fabulous wines!) God has blessed us with.

These trips always leave indelible memories. For example, those who participated in our first-ever tour, to the North Island of New Zealand, will never forget 'the incident'.

Our most recent tour this past August involved three active cyclists (Leddy, Linda and Gerry) plus one Sag Wagon driver (Daphne). Our route took us from Blaine, Washington to Eugene, Oregon, cycling approximately 500 miles/800 kilometres in total (we shuttled across Seattle). Along the way, we rode the entire stretch of the Oregon coastline from Astoria through to Florence, before turning east to climb the mountains over to Eugene. Along the way, we were the recipients of warm, sunny weather with little or no rain and (for once) winds mostly at our back. The two flats on the tour were easily dealt with.

Upon arrival in Eugene, we treated ourselves to a limousine-escorted tour of some of central Oregon's better wineries.

Little did we know, however, that further adventures awaited us. As we were

homeward bound on the I-5 at about 8:00 pm in the evening, just north of Tacoma and travelling at about 110 kilometres per hour, the rack on the back of Daphne's car, together with the three bikes, fell off the car!

These were terrifying moments. We took it for granted that the bicycles had been destroyed, but we were really worried that someone else may have then hit the bikes, causing vehicle damage, personal injury and even death.

Finding your way back on an I-5 interchange at dusk can be very tricky. We missed the proper turn two or three times, each time passing a billboard reading 'Jesus cares about you'.

It was nearly two hours later before we found our bikes, at the side of I-5. To our shock and awe, the bikes and rack were not only there, but the bikes themselves sustained only minor damage. Henceforth, we will refer to this as the 'Miracle on I-5'.

We can not guarantee such high-pressure adventures in the future, but new members to the Club are always welcome.

~ *Gerry Taunton*

IRISH CHRISTENING

Patrick's pregnant sister was in a terrible car accident and went into a deep coma. After being in the coma for nearly six months, she wakes up and sees that she is no longer pregnant. Frantically, she asks the doctor about her baby. The doctor replies, 'Ma'am, you had twins ... a boy and a girl. The babies are fine, however, they were poorly at birth, and had to be christened immediately so your brother Patrick came in and named them.

The woman thinks to herself, ' Oh no, not me brother, he's a clueless idiot ...

Expecting the worst, she asks the doctor, ' Well, what's my daughter's name?

'Denise' says the doctor.

The new mother is somewhat relieved, 'Wow, that's a beautiful name, I guess I was wrong about my brother', she thought ... 'I really like Denise '

Then she asks, ' What's the boy's name?'

The doctor replies ' Denephew

ST. TIMOTHY'S FIRST WEDDING CEREMONY

St. Timothy's first marriage ceremony was performed at Sutherland by Rev. Ken Bell at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, 2011, when Nancy née Vondette, St. Timothy's People's Warden and choir member, was united in marriage to Roger Nelson.

Blue, the bride's favourite colour, was the decorating and unifying theme for the decoration of the church, which looked splendid for the occasion, and the sun shone.

The ceremony was marked by the traditional lighting of a "Unity" candle. There were three white candles on the altar. The larger "unity" candle stood in the centre, with a "family" candle on either side. The side candles were lit by mothers of the bride and groom, symbolizing the individual lives of bride and groom before marriage. After the exchange of vows and blessing of the marriage, the bride and groom together lit the centre candle, symbolizing the union of two hearts and lives, and the two side candles were extinguished. The radiance of the "unity" candle symbolized a testimony of unity in the Lord.

The ceremony was followed at 6:00 p.m. by a reception in the banquet room at The Eagles Hall on West 3rd Street in North Vancouver. This joyful celebration was attended by representatives from the three families, Nancy's, Roger's and St. Timothy's.

St Timothy's can now claim to be a full service church, having previously performed Baptisms' and Funerals!

Congratulations to Nancy and Roger!





St Timothy's Church Calendar

Please join us!

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

5 Sept. Sunday at 5:30 pm **Sutherland's Kick-Off BBQ**

12 Sept. Monday at 1:30 **Ladies Group**

15 – 17 Sept. **Anglican Mission Canada Fall National Conference**

15 Sept. Thursday 7:00 pm The Intimate Pilgrimage Opening Session

16 Sept. Friday – all day sessions 10:00 am – 4:30 pm

Friday night 7:00 pm Communion Service All invited

17 Sept. Saturday all day sessions 10:00 am – 4:30 pm

You are welcome to join at those times you can; you do not need to attend the whole conference

2 Oct. Sunday at 5:00 pm **International Pot Luck Harvest Supper**

3 Oct. at 1:30 pm **Rwandan Update** by Gerry and Leddy – Ladies Group

27 November – **Advent Gazette**

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

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