



St. Timothy's Gazette APRIL 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: #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

Message from the Rev. Ken Bell

Remember...

Whenever anything of significance happened to the people of Israel they were told to "Remember". When Yahweh 'passed over' they were told to Remember this night always. Remember your captivity and deliverance. When Joshua led them across the Jordan on dry ground, they built an Ebenezer (memorial stone) to Remember. Remember the covenant with Abraham. Remember all that the LORD your God has done for you.

Almost 40 days ago we began the season of Lent with Remember. "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." Remember, is the theme which winds its way through our Lenten season.

Remember what Jesus proclaimed at the beginning of his ministry, "The time is come, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the good news". Remember Jesus teachings, the Sermon on the Mount, turn the other cheek and love you enemies. Remember "I Am the way the truth and the life." Remember, "I am the resurrection and the life." Remember, "I am the bread of life; no one comes to the Father but by me."

Remember Jesus' parables. The kingdom of heaven is like a father

who keeps watch for his lost son. Remember, the kingdom of heaven is like vineyard owner. Remember, the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey. Remember the sheep and the goats.

Remember the signs and wonders. Remember the blind will see, the deaf will hear, the lame will walk and the dead will be raised up. Remember that by faith your sins are forgiven. Remember Jesus commands his creation and orders the seas to be still.

As we draw closer to the cross we have more to Remember. Remember his entry into Jerusalem, proclaiming himself to be the son of David, the king of Israel. Remember how those who sang his praise soon chanted for his death. Remember how he washed the feet of his disciples and commanded us to be servants to one another.

Remember at the Passover meal, "Jesus took the bread and when he had given thanks he gave it to them saying, 'This is my body which is broken for you.'" Remember, "After supper he took the cup of wine (the third cup, the cup of salvation) and said, 'Drink this all of you, this is my blood which is poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.'" Remember his wilful submission in the Garden, "Abba, Papa, if it be

possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."

Remember his silence before Caiaphas and Pilate, "And he went as quietly as a lamb to be sacrificed." Remember the mocking, Remember the whipping, Remember the crown of thorns.

Now draw closer still and look upon your servant Saviour, your dying king and Remember. Remember the cross. Remember, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Remember, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Remember, "It is finished!" Remember, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!"

Remember Christian, Jesus' limp and lifeless body taken down. Remember the tomb. Remember the silence which followed the thud of the stone sealing in the dead.

Remember the numbness of Saturday.

Return with me now to the tomb!
Remember the dawn! Remember the women! Remember the angels!
Remember the empty tomb!

While we began 40 days ago
Remembering our death, we end
Remembering new life, the
resurrection of our LORD! Remember
the joy.

Remember O saint of little faith,
"Alleluia! Christ is risen! The LORD is
risen indeed! Alleluia!"

This Holy week I beseech you,
Remember!

ken bell+

Ken's Book Reviews:

1) **"Never Silent: How Third World Missionaries are Bringing the Gospel to the US"** by Rt. Rev. Thaddeus Barnum (published in 2009). In this book Bishop Thad tells the story how through God's grace and intervention relationships were formed that would lead to the reshaping of global Anglicanism over the past decade. He recounts the crisis in theology, leadership and mission which has brought the Anglican Church in North America to a point of division and a need for renewal. He talks about the dangers of churches and church leaders remaining silent when the Gospel of Jesus Christ is abused, neglected and exploited.

Never Silent provides an excellent overall assessment of how the Anglican Church has gotten to this point and the history of how the leaders of the global south have felt compelled to act to return the Gospel back to North America. Many people stepped out in faith and took courageous steps even while under tremendous pressure to back away and keep silent. It is remarkable how through a network of overlapping relationships and "chance" encounters God has raised up people

all over the world to reclaim, rebuild and reform his Anglican Church.

2) **“The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism”** by Timothy Keller (published in 2008). Tim Keller is the founding and senior pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. In 1989, when he told people he was going to start an orthodox church in the heart of New York, friends and family alike told him he was nuts, it would never work. Today Redeemer has nearly 6000 attendees at five services.

The Reason for God explores questions such as: Why does God allow suffering? How could a loving God send people to hell? Why isn't Christianity more inclusive? How can one religion be 'right' and the others 'wrong'? Why have so many wars been fought in the name of God? Has science disproved God? Keller uses literature, philosophy, real-life conversations and reasoning to answer sceptics and doubters. Keller does an excellent job presenting an intelligent platform on which true believers can articulate a reason for faith and belief in a world where authors such as Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris and Christopher Hitchens have written best selling books arguing that faith and belief is unreasonable and even dangerous.

This book is a good read for anyone looking for ways to better understand today's sceptics and want to find some ways to respond to them.

3) **“Just Walk Across the Room”** by Bill Hybels (published in 2006). Do you get excited when the preacher encourages you to share your faith with others? Do you get nervous with the word 'evangelism'? Hybels book looks at the idea of 'personal evangelism' from a natural, relational approach which simply follows Jesus' own example. Hybels teaches that if you are open to listening to God's Holy Spirit direct you then evangelism and helping people take one more step towards becoming a Christ follower really can be as simple as walking across a room at a party and saying 'Hi'. Build a relationship, be willing to tell your story and then let the Holy Spirit do the rest.

Just Walk Across the Room is a helpful book to study together with others as you step out your "circle of comfort" and into encounters with people who long for someone to take interest in them.

An Update from the Withrow's – "We made it to Victoria!!!"

To our loving family at St. Timothy's: It is with joy and sorrow that we write you. Joy for the new opportunities and faithful provision given by God as we start a new chapter here in Victoria and sorrow for leaving our St. Timothy's friends that we have grown to love over the past year and a half. Here is a report of what we have been up to these past several weeks...

Wow! What an amazing 2½ months! Katie and I have moved and we've been generously welcomed into the St. Mary Open Gate community in Langford, BC. This will be our "home base" as we prepare to church plant with the Wilton's. St. Mary's Open Gate has agreed to hire Andy for 1 year to help with their Young Adults and Sr. Youth. We are very excited and thankful of this opportunity that will financially help us in the first year as well as connecting us to the Greater Victoria community. Plus it lets Andy do what he loves doing – discipleship and ministry.

We recognize the role God has had and continues to have St. Timothy's play in all of this. You have been instrumental in our Anglican

formation and you have also given the means by which we have been prepared for both ordination and ministry within the Anglican Communion. And you are continuing to support us through prayer and both personal and corporate financial giving. May God's rich blessing repay you for all of your generosity to us.

Katie has started her maternity leave and has been VERY BUSY getting us ready for baby Withrow, who, by the way is sleeping right next to me! As I write this article Savannah Kate Withrow is 26 hours old! We love her!!! And, again, we are thankful for the prayers that so many of you have been offering up on our behalf. Savannah was a breech baby and had to be delivered by C-Section. Both mama and baby are doing great!

We continue to remember St. Timothy's in our prayers and we are able to keep up here and there via email and phone. We hope to visit soon with our new addition!

Love,

Rev. Andy & Katie Withrow

Wardens' Update – March 2009

As the first quarter of the year passes we can look back and count some of the blessings we have and enjoy at St. Timothy's. Our Fifth Annual Vestry meeting was held in February, chaired by the out-going People's Warden Mr. Peter Haigh who has set an exemplary example in the position for the past two years. We can also take this opportunity to record our thanks for John Collings and his four years (two two-year terms) of service at the helm of the "Go" committee, Chris Vondette for two two-year terms at "Give", Gerry Taunton and John Farncomb (deceased) for their contribution as auditors and Linda Taunton for her service on the nominating committee. We welcome Nancy Vondette as the new People's Warden, Jonathan Seiki at "Go", Rami Nader at "Give", Lucy Collings and Chris Vondette as auditors, and John Collings on the nominating committee. Leddy Lilley, Ron Edwards and Gord Barrett have agreed to remain as treasurer, secretary, and envelope secretary respectively. The terms of the church council positions are staggered so that there is continuity in the management of church affairs and so the rest of the positions will come up for renewal or change next year. We are all grateful for this commitment of time and talent from these members.

The third covenant we have with our members is treasure. St. Timothy's has a dedicated pledging congregation which allows for accurate planned budgeting. That with the steady conservative guidance of our treasurer, Leddy Lilley, allows us to steadily grow our assets while giving generously in our local community, nationally, and around the world. The "Give" report by Rami Nader has details on how much and where this money goes. Unlike many non-profits, our gifting is funded directly with no administration fees and the like – all the funds given go to the end users. Additionally, many congregants sponsor children through IN Network and the Ladies Group works tirelessly raising funds for a variety of good worthwhile causes. The amount of money they give is astonishing.

Our facilities are getting smaller. Or so it seems. With new members and new babies the place seems fuller than it ever has but there is always room for more. If we fill this place God will provide. All are welcome at our services and in our Sunday School. Not everyone in the congregation is a member of the non-profit corporation of St. Timothy's, nor do they have to be. Membership signifies a certain commitment to our church and principles as expressed in our "Membership 101" course. We welcome Darin Mahoney, Christy

Mahoney and Gerry Austin as new members in the fellowship of St. Timothy's. As of the date of this writing we can congratulate Carly and Grady on the birth of their baby Mary; and Angela and Jason on the birth of their baby Andreas. We have just learned that Katie and +Andy Withrow have birthed Savannah and our congratulations and love go out to all the new babies and their parents. +Andy was our second intern, our second Deacon, and our second ordination (our first was of course +Ken Bell). The confluence of newborn babies (with another due shortly) is remarkable in such a small congregation.

Our youth have made a weekend excursion to Manning Park on a ski weekend in conjunction with Lynn Valley Full Gospel. Much of the work our Youth Pastor does is not visible to other than the parents of the youth. Many of the youth Eric works with do not attend St. Timothy's and he often organizes events in coordination with other church groups. This is some of our best community outreach. In response to our insurance policy holders we have drafted a protection policy under the widely accepted and highly acclaimed "Plan to Protect" program and submitted this for approval prior to full implementation. This is a written policy with

proceedings designed to protect the children and staff from nursery through youth and beyond. Most of these rules and guidelines have been in place at St. Timothy's for years and we are now collating and organizing the paperwork and record-keeping. Speaking of which, we have arranged some off-site storage space where we can keep those records as well as other materials which are currently stored at congregant's homes.

We as a church are part of a larger organization and our Rev. Ken Bell participates in the work of that larger organization as we move forward towards a new North American Anglican Province. We share with them and they share with us. The Rev. Gabe Garcia was in town from San Diego March 22nd and came and shared a sermon with us. We are blessed to be a part of this larger organization, we are blessed with new members and new life, we are blessed with our time, talent, and treasure; we are blessed with each other.

May God bless you.

*Nancy Vondette & Ron Barrett,
Wardens*

Reports from our "G"s

Gather Report

Gather all ages into Christian fellowship

Over the last few months, the Gather Committee has been involved in a wide variety of activities ranging from social events such as the Christmas Party to the outreach mission of the Pastoral Care Team.

The annual potluck Christmas Party was held at the Laura Lynn Lodge on Friday, December 5th. Special thanks go to Myrna who kindly arranged for the use of the lodge, to Audrey who organized the dinner and to the many others who assisted her. It was wonderful for the church family to celebrate Christmas together in this way!

Our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper was held in conjunction with Sutherland Church on Tuesday, February 24th. This was a new format for us and it turned out to be very successful! Dara and Audrey did a wonderful job of organizing the event on St. Timothy's behalf. Thanks to Leddy and Chris Vondette who cooked up the pancakes and to everyone else who helped!

As always, the Pastoral Care Team is available to assist anyone in need.

Please speak to Myrna or Dara if you think they can be of help to you.

We continue to enjoy Coffee Hour after Sunday service. This is made possible by the ladies who do "coffee duty" every fifth Sunday, by Hazel who organizes things and by those who provide us with goodies. Thank you!

Peter Haigh has now taken over responsibility for the Newsletter. We hope he enjoys this new experience! Please speak to Peter if you have any ideas for or contributions to the Newsletter.

Looking ahead, June 14th will be a very important date for St. Timothy's – our fifth anniversary barbecue. Please mark this date on your calendar!

Our very active Ladies Group organizes many social and fundraising activities. Please see their report below.

Daphne Martin

Ladies Group Report

St. Timothy's Ladies Group meets on the second Monday of each month (except if there is a long weekend), for a social time and to plan activities to support worthwhile causes of our choosing. We have 20 members and at most meetings average 14 to 16 attending.

This spring, we have organized three speakers to attend our meetings to learn about the various organizations that we sponsor. Alayne Adams came in March to tell us about the work of Partners in Hope which offers women hope, physical and psychological support and healing through Jesus Christ to victims of harmful circumstances and dependencies.

In April we have invited a guest speaker from the Harvest Project, Derek Pace to expand on the successes of that organization, and in May we will hear a speaker from the Northshore Youth Safe House to explain how they support youth who are in need of help in our area.

If you are not presently a member of our Ladies Group but are interested in attending these presentations we would be delighted to welcome you without any further commitment.

This Lent we are again supporting our Sister Diocese in Rwanda with our Lenten Awareness Program. We hope that many of us at St. Timothy's will

participate in this worthwhile project and discover just how much fun it is to count the number of shoes, light bulbs, paintings, plants, pets and electrical appliances we own in our homes! We are truly blessed in North Vancouver and this little project for both old and young can open our eyes to just how many "possessions" we own. Please return all bags and envelopes filled with coins, a cheque or bills to Carolyn Edwards, our Treasurer or place them in the collection baskets on Easter Sunday or the following Sunday. Please make cheques out to St. Timothy's Church, marked "Lenten Awareness". All monies will be tax receipted, if the giver is identified.

Cupcake Sale on Sunday 29th March- this was a new venture for our Ladies Group and we made \$130 and it seemed to be enjoyed by all – happy creamy smiles for some!!

Another annual Fundraiser, which has proved to be so much fun and is highly supported by our congregation, is Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. This year there are four nights of fun and food so that hosts and hostesses may also participate in one of the evenings as well as the guests! Please join us! Where else can you have a three course meal with wine for \$25.00?

The minimum cost per ticket is \$25.00 – A further donation, if you wish, can be made and all monies will be given to our Vision Fund. A tax receipt will be issued for any amount over \$25. All donations will be anonymously received, collected and handled by our church treasurer.

Treasures and Craft Sale to be held at The Delbrook Recreational Centre on Saturday May 2nd. We welcome donations of small treasures, jewellery and homemade crafts for this sale organized by Vera (seniors' Hub). Any items to be donated can be brought to church on 26 April and marked "Treasures –Delbrook".

Salmon Dinner at The Edwards'
Lamb Dinner at The Haigh's
Chicken Dinner at The Taunton's
Wine Tasting/Eats at The Taunton's

Games Night to be held Friday evening May 22nd at 7.00 p.m. at Churchill House – come with your favourite board or card game and enjoy a fun evening with friends.

We hope many will join us for all or some of these activities so that we can generously support our outreach to Rwanda, Partners in Hope, Harvest Project and Northshore Youth Safe House. Invite friends, neighbours and relatives! We thank-you for your support of past events.

Audrey Haigh

Friday 17 April
Saturday 18 April
Saturday 2 May
Friday 9 May

Report from the Incoming Editor

Why do we trouble to issue the Gazette? What should the Gazette aim to fulfil? Is it a reflection of what we have done and plan to do at St Timothy's? An upcoming calendar of events? A place to share the experiences of our faith? I trust it is all of the above and more. Above all I see it as OUR church magazine, where we can share our journey with each other and – because we publish it on our Web site - with the world. So please do share your faith journey highlights with us, and perhaps in some small way we will share the warmth of our weekly meetings with others. A great debt of gratitude is due to Florence, who has filled the role of Editor for the last 10 years in our old church and our new. Florence, you have left big shoes to fill! Please stay close for consultation and direction. I have taken liberties with my new position, in formatting and content. Let me know if you don't like it – please. All relevant articles welcomed.

Peter Haigh

Glorify Report

Glorify God in Worship

ALTAR GUILD

Corinne Burns reports

The Altar Guild sets the tone for our worship services, by preparing our "Sanctuary" appropriately. We need and would be delighted to receive new members. This is not an onerous experience, but rather a privilege and honour to serve in such an important aspect of the service.

Four members are required for each service, two to prepare the Eucharist and two to set up the Altar and flowers. Normally the polishing and preparation of the altar vessels would take place Saturday morning but at present can only be done Sunday morning at 9 a.m.

We have meetings twice a year.

Our members are very dedicated and love our part in the service. Altar Guild members are: Carol Anderson, Corinne Burns, Pres., Joan Buss, flowers, Norma Johansen, Jennifer Kincaid-Smith, Lois Knight, Sarah Lucas, Vice-Pres., Bea Messinger, Myrna Teskey, Marion VanDusen, Ursula Vondette, Secretary and Paddy Donaldson who kindly assists when needed.

Thank you to those who supplied flowers for the altar during the year, poinsettias at Christmas and lilies at Easter, and a special thank you to Audrey Haigh and Joy Hopkins who bring flowers throughout the year.

If you are willing and able to assist in the preparation of the Altar at least one Sunday in the month, or if you are interested in finding out more about the role, please contact Sarah Lucas 604 986-5451 or Corinne Burns 604 985-6820.

How well do you know your hymns?

Name the:

1. Dentist's hymn
2. Contractor's hymn
3. Tailor's hymn
4. Golfer's hymn
5. Income Tax hymn

Answers to the right→

- | |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Crown Him with many Crowns2. The Church's One Foundation3. Holy, Holy, Holy4. There is a green hill far away5. I surrender all |
|---|

Grow Report

GROW: to become more like Jesus Christ

Sarah Lucas

Nursery:

Sonya Bell reports:

Christmas was exciting anticipating the arrival of baby Jesus. The children were given a magnetic advent alphabet to post on their fridge at home. Each letter represented a part of the Christmas story. Since Christmas, we have around 11 children regularly attending Sunday school. We are enjoying having our youngest members Alea Nader and Naomi Seiki join our group. We welcome and thank Lucy Collings for helping out in the Sunday school.

After Christmas, we started to learn about John the Baptist, Jesus' baptism, and Jesus teaching in the temple. We had our first food craft of making locusts out of bread, pretzels and honey. The locusts were eaten swiftly...John would have been proud. Now we will be learning the Easter story until the end of April. In May we will be focusing our attention on Noah's ark. Some fun crafts for Lent are the last supper placemats, foot imprints and an Easter mobile. We had a foot washing service after learning about the Last Supper. Please pray for us as we begin to understand the sacrifice Jesus made for us all, so we can celebrate the joy of Easter.

Sunday School and Youth:

Eric Park reports:

The last couple of months with the youth have been good; the Christmas season was especially a lot of fun. We had a lot of fun at our joint Christmas gathering with Sutherland church. We had a Mexican fiesta Christmas dinner. As last year we put together a Christmas drama

with the youth, it was unfortunate that we could not perform it, despite the snow we had a great time rehearsing our parts and working together. Amy, James and Riley were amongst the new faces we had join us in our drama Endeavour. It was especially great to see Meredith. I hope next year we will get an opportunity to perform the drama we work on.

As for the youth group on Friday's turn out has been up and down, consistently we have Ryan, Andrew, Phil, Greg, when Richard isn't playing hockey he likes to join us. In the past month we put on a themed gym night where we invite other youth groups to the event, it was a great success and it was great to see Ciera and Ryle out to join us in these larger events. Since Christmas we have joined Valley church with their swimming and bowling event, Andrew, Ciera, Lili, Greg had a great time. It was fun to see Ciera bowling with us. The Weekend of March 20-22 we joined Lynn Valley and went to manning park for a retreat, Andrew, Ryan and Greg where there participating in the event. We had a great time and we really enjoyed the guest speaker Tim Row from Fusion.

Sutherland Soccer has now started, we have had a couple of exhibition games and it looks like we are fielding a strong team. We are unfortunately missing the defensive expertise of Ryan Barrett and we look forward to his return in the following seasons. I am looking forward to the next couple of months as we meet again with Sutherland and Lynn Valley Church and join them as we go to events like ONE point three which is put on by Hope Network Vancouver.

Adult Education:

Sarah Lucas reports:

Six small groups are meeting weekly, with about 25 people involved in this ministry. In addition, a Lenten Awareness Program led by Peter Turner (St. Simon's) and John Collings is now taking place on Monday evenings at the Collings's, in preparation for Easter. We would like to start small groups for the Film Ministry. If anyone is interested in a group viewing of a film from our Church Library with a subsequent discussion on the film's contents, please let me know. Meetings for this would likely be on a once a month basis.

If you have any topic for small group discussion/Bible study that you would like to see explored, please let me know. We want to provide topics you feel would be helpful to your spiritual growth.

St. Timothy's Film Ministry:

Patricia Young reports:

The purpose of St. Timothy's Film Ministry is to help people engage with God through the medium of film. Even though the story of Jesus Christ and his people may not even be in the mind of the director, writer or producer they cannot help but tell the stories of temptation and sin, death and new life, love and joy, grace and

forgiveness, salvation and redemption. The ministry desires to make use of popular, wide release (Hollywood) films to help people encounter these ideas and truths in a way in which they did not expect but also in a way, which is safe and accessible.

New films:

The Bucket List: This film starring Morgan Freeman and Jack Nicholson strikes a nice balance between comedy and drama, favouring humour and poignant conversations over weepy developments. Morgan Freeman is a car mechanic and a loving family man with a penchant for trivia. Jack Nicholson is a billionaire with an appreciation for the finer things, but with an unsympathetic, boorish attitude (a character that is perfect for Jack Nicholson!) In spite of their obvious differences, the two men share something important in common, both are terminally ill with the prognosis of mere months to live. As they endure chemotherapy treatments together, Carter and Edward forge a friendship and begin talking about life and death. Recalling an assignment from his college philosophy class, Carter begins to write a "bucket list" of things he'd like to experience before he kicks said bucket. Staring at mortality, their deadlines looming, wealthy Edward makes some additions of his own and proposes that the two begin fulfilling their checklist, a journey that takes them around the world despite the protests of Carter's wife Virginia. From there it's pretty obvious where this movie is headed. There are laughs to be had as the men live out some of their childish fantasies. Tears are shed, lives are changed. One man learns that in spite of what little he's experienced in his life, he's always had all he ever wanted. The other has



everything, only to discover he has nothing. Predictable? Perhaps, but if nothing else, this movie reminds us of the importance of the journey.

The Express: If you enjoy “sports films” you will enjoy this film which is based on the incredible true story, of college football hero Ernie Davis, the first African-American to win the Heisman Trophy. Raised in poverty in the Southern Tier of New York State, Davis overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles to become an unstoppable running back for the Syracuse Orangemen. Under the guidance of Coach Ben Schwartzwalder - a hard-nosed surrogate father with an obsession for winning a national championship - Davis would develop from an impressive high-school athlete into a legend. While everyone agreed Ernie Davis was a miracle player, few thought this quiet young man would become an icon for the burgeoning civil rights movement dividing America in the early 1960's. Refusing to play by the unspoken racist rules of the day, Davis broke through one barrier after another to alter the way fans looked at men of his color. Though struck a terrible blow in the prime of his life, his spirit soared when most would crumble. Forcing his bull-headed coach to re-examine a life lived in color-based privilege, Davis would join the ranks of black pioneers



who inspired a movement that smashed barriers on and off the playing field.

Fireproof: Although I don't normally include what might be called, “Christian films” in this collection, I have decided to include, “Fireproof” because I believe that this film will provoke some very interesting discussion. This film, which is entirely directed, written and acted by members of a Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia is in many ways similar to their other film, “Facing the Giants” – which is also in our collection of films. Even if the marginal acting and the predictable ending “put you off” it is worth watching this film. Post-film discussion could focus on whether or not films like these have a positive or negative impact on sharing the gospel. In fact this film and “Facing the Giants” provoked outrage from Christians when the films received PG ratings, not because of any profanities or violence, but because of its spiritual content! Also it might be worth talking about why some Christians praised the film for its positive, family-friendly values, while others condemned it as bad art, a bad story badly told that would only encourage the worst artistic instincts of the evangelicals who saw it.



The story this time concerns a firefighter whose wife of seven years wants a

divorce. He is ready to give up on the marriage altogether, but his father gives him a book called *The Love Dare* and challenges him to follow its steps before throwing in the towel. Since *Fireproof* has been endorsed by a plethora of marriage ministries, you can pretty much guess how things will turn out. But the directors *earn* their resolution this time; instead of dropping miracles and messages from God on their characters, they keep the story focused on the Holts and driven by the choices that the Holts make. Put simply, it no longer feels like the filmmakers are "cheating."

From the Church Library:

Monica Craver reports:

Little did a Sunday School teacher realize how far the "ripple effect" of her evangelism would reach. It started with J. Wilbur Chapman (1859-1918), an American evangelist, revivalist and pastor, who wrote some of our well known hymns; He was helped during an invitation time, by his Sunday School teacher, Mrs. Binkley, who, "putting her hand under my elbow... I stood up with the others...it was the day of my acknowledgment of Christ". The ripples that emanated from Chapman's evangelism included the conversions of Billy Sunday, then Mordecai Ham, who brought the great evangelist, Billy Graham, to Jesus Christ, in 1934. This tremendous impact of evangelism began out of the humble efforts of a simple Sunday School teacher. Everything we do in the name of Jesus Christ has an effect that will be viewed through Eternity. "We may never live to see the full fruits of our labour, but the "Glory of God" will shine on through your evangelism, in life and

death." (See "Catching Fish in the 21st Century" in this newsletter).

We have a couple books about, and by Billy Graham in the Church Library:

A very colourful pictorial biography: **"Billy Graham: God's Ambassador"**, by photographer Russ Busby -- Billy Graham was the driving force behind the evangelical movement of the 20th Century.

This book begins with a quote from Daniel Webster, in fitting with the theme -
"If we work on marble, it will perish; if on brass, time will efface it; if we rear up temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds and imbue them with principles, with the just fear of God and the love of our fellow men, we engrave on those tablets something that will brighten all eternity."

The other book: :
"Approaching Hoofbeats: The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse", by Billy Graham, sends us the warning message of Revelations to the Seven Churches, and the church (believers in Jesus Christ), that we must not forsake our "first love", nor diminish the message of the Bible, in particular, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Billy Graham states that those who "water down" the Bible's message simply are leaving the doors open to the four horsemen of the apocalypse, in the end (Ephesians 6:12). A very powerful book, with a sobering message to us all. This is a "must read" for those studying "Revelations" in our Bible study home groups.

Notes from "Catching Fish in the 21st Century" (22nd Anglican Renewal Mission, March 2009)

Many Anglican congregations and other churches were represented at the 22nd Annual Renewal Mission in March. The theme was "Catching Fish in the 21st Century" (Luke 5:10). There were four very inspirational talks by guest speakers, the Rev. Gabe Garcia and Rev. William Beasley.

The Rev. Gabe Garcia began his first talk, citing Acts 2:42-47, with verse 47 being the "key to God". We have to ask ourselves, "Are our eyes on ourselves or on God?" If they are on God, then God's glory will be made manifest in us. All believers will also enjoy the goodwill of the church (other believers). We will become successful fishers of men. God wants His church lead by believers. Ongoing communion and celebration is what unites us (the church). In Matthew 4:18-20, Jesus Christ calls on a few ordinary people to "Come, follow me". Jesus will fulfill our destiny. Those of us called by Jesus will find our identity "claimed" by Christ -- "I will teach you to become fishers of men". Jesus must remain our "First Love". Many of the churches of Revelations had become self-absorbed. They had lost their first love -- following our Lord. We need to diminish ourselves in order for the glory of God to shine through us. We are used to being in charge, but we will not remain in charge when we invite God to take over our lives. It is of utmost importance to follow God's lead, not our own. In Matthew 4, Jesus Christ gives us both a Commandment ("Follow me!") and a Promise ("I will make you fishers of men!"). This is our Mission on Earth. When we become open to God's lead, Jesus will always put us in situations where our light can shine. In any case, Rev. Garcia tells us that we will

never find the perfect church; after all we are only human. We need to take the focus off ourselves, and place the focus onto a perfect God, Jesus Christ. We have not been created to create a theology, but to follow Christ, Himself. Luke 5: 1-11 is considered to be "The Missiology of the Church", where our soul yearns for Christ. The command to follow Christ is made manifest in this chapter of Luke. The promise is fulfilled. The church of Christ cannot afford to be prideful. We need to practice humility in order to "fill both boats" (churches).

"Lord, I will follow you".

The Rev. William Beasley, in the second talk, spoke about the Obedience required of "Fishers of Men". In Matthew 14:22-36 Jesus' message to them is "Take courage" and "Don't be afraid". Peter used discernment when he first saw Jesus walking on the water during the storm. He asked, "Is this really you, Jesus?" It was, and Peter obeyed Jesus when told, "Come". We need learn to discern, first, if it is really Jesus who calls to us, and then when confirmed, we need to be ready to obey Him. We need to focus on Jesus Christ who is the Head of the Church. The adjustment to complete obedience in Christ is a cross which believers of Jesus must bear. Doing God's will is a decision we must make; one we will have to choose, alone. It is difficult, because our vision is not always God's vision for us. It will be a major adjustment for us to obey God, alone. It is not an easy thing to "trust and walk toward Christ". Once our perspective changes with Jesus, we will no longer be looking at each other (man). We will look only at Jesus Christ, in complete obedience. We then are able to break the bonds of spiritual bondage (slavery) when we focus on Jesus Christ, calling on the Holy Spirit for strength.

The Rev. Garcia, in the third talk spoke about "Fearing Not", as our Lord is both merciful and wonderful. The call to be an evangelist is given to everyone in the church. We are to obey and acknowledge this command, becoming a "tool for the Lord." But our Lord always gives us freedom of choice (see Deuteronomy 30:19, 20). God's desire doesn't force us into slavery but guides us into freedom. The Book of Galatians talks about the freedom of God not slavery. God's way goes against the grain of much theological thought of man. Galatians 3:26-29 tells us that we are all equal in Christ. Everyone who believes in Christ (John 3:16) will become clothed in Christ. Clothes usually represent our status. Being "clothed in Christ" makes us all equal. The only thing that matters is what "covers" you. We need to submerge ourselves into Christ -- nothing else matters. All believers are one in Christ. That is the reality. In Genesis 12:1 we find an ordinary human (Abram) turned into someone special for God. In verse 2, God promised Abram a new lifestyle -- the call to evangelism -- and many blessings for his obedience to the call of God. We are blessed by God so we can take the blessing to bless the world.

In Galatians 4: 21-31, Rev. Garcia continues, because we are all brothers and sisters in Christ, why do we wish to be subject to the Law (slavery)? The story describes Abraham's two sons -- one by a slave-woman, Hagar, and the other by a free woman, Abraham's wife, Sarah. The symbolism of the two women represents two covenants: Hagar symbolizes the covenant made at Mount Sinai in Arabia, representing Jerusalem on earth, in slavery to the law. Sarah symbolizes the new heavenly Jerusalem that is free of enslaving law. How do we choose to walk? We need to wait on the Lord and let the Holy Spirit do its work in us. We need to learn to be patient. We cannot gain God's favour without immersion in

Jesus Christ. As we learned from the story of Abraham's impatience, we are not always "right". It is not always about righteousness and truth, but about waiting on God. God's truth cannot be compromised. It all comes down to our ego vs. the Holy Spirit. (Please read about what wonderful things our patience in the Lord can do with our evangelism in the "Grow section: Church Library" news.) We need to pray in order to be sure the decision comes from God and not from ourselves (Read Hebrews 11 and 12, together). Hebrews 11:39, 40 and 12:1, 2 tells us to keep faith and to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ, alone.

Sometimes people will come to Christ in one congregation of the church, do good works, and then may leave that congregation for another one, for whatever reason is God's. Many would ask why did they leave, and feel somewhat rejected. God is in charge, not the church, we need to be reminded. The problem is that not so much that people may leave/switch churches, but whether they have left the "Kingdom"? Instead of becoming jealous that a good person/family have left our congregation, we as a Christian family should be proud for the fact these good people will be planting the seeds of evangelism, elsewhere. Christians all need to rejoice together on the throne of God. Only our belief in Jesus Christ matters, not what congregation/denomination we may belong to. As it is not us who bring people to Christ -- God alone has the power to do that -- we can only plant the seeds of faith and then pray for those who have not yet found their Saviour, Jesus Christ. We may never even see the fruits of our evangelism, but be assured that the "Glory of God" will shine on through our evangelism, in life and death. People need SAVING GRACE, more than miracles. Through our evangelism, many can receive the blessings and grace of Jesus Christ. It is a Privilege from God.

In the fourth and final talk, Rev. Beasley speaks on the whole "Body of Christ" and its importance to Christians. He began by asking us to insert our own names into Luke 5:10: "From now on, _____ will be a fisher of men." 1 Corinthians 12:7 informs us that no one person can become the whole body of Christ. All of us working together, manifest in Christ, can only become the whole body of Christ on earth. Rev. Beasley informed us that those Christians that do not go to church have become disconnected Christians. It is usually "pride" that keeps these Christians from church involvement (Read 1 Corinthians 12 - Whole Body of Christ is His Church). We need each other. Ephesians 4 speaks about the importance of having the Unity in the Body. In Africa, we see this manifestation in the gift of evangelism: "Lay Evangelism" in Kenya; the "Integrated Church" in Rwanda -- where there are lay people and priests, preachers, etc. all working together from many congregations for the

common goal which is Christ and the Kingdom of God. These interdependent churches have become a whole community, supporting each other as needed. Somewhere in America, there is a "mega-church" in with over 20,000 members. This church is humble enough to turn to spiritual support from a very small congregation, it has partnered with. Other churches that only rely on a preacher or priest, alone, usually find themselves "shut down" without their "leader". Rev. Beasley then presented a working model of an integrated/interconnected church (at Northwestern University, in Chicago): the "New" Revival Anglican Church where the Rector, Lay Pastors, Catechists, Lay Catechists, Lay Evangelists, etc. all work together for the common goal, with the blessings of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Monica Craver

Upcoming Events (Mark your Calendars)

10 May - Mother's Day 10am - Lynn Valley Recreation Centre
Rev. Andy, Katie and Savannah will join us!
Please plan to stay for the Farewell Reception

22 May – Games Evening at Churchill House

14 June – St. Timothy's 5th Anniversary Barbeque after 10am Service – LVRC

12 September – St Timothy's Annual Garage Sale

3 October – Joint St. Timothy's and St. Simon's Thanksgiving Dinner & Auction

Prayer for Today

Canon Stanley Smith, who died about 10 years ago, worked for many years in South Africa and Vancouver with Missions to Seamen (as it was called then) and spent part of his retirement as an Associate Priest at St. Martin's, used to use this prayer every morning when he woke up. Would you like to adapt it to your life?

O God:

Give me strength to live another day;
Let me not turn coward before its difficulties
Or prove recreant to its duties.
Let me not lose faith in other people;
Keep me sweet and sound of heart, in spite of
ingratitude, treachery or meanness;
Preserve me from minding little stings or giving them;
Help me to keep my heart clean, and to live so
honestly and fearlessly that no outward
failure can dishearten me or take away the
joy of conscious integrity;
Open wide the eyes of my soul that I may see
good in all things;
Grant me this day some new vision of your truth;
Inspire me with the spirit of joy and gladness;
and make me the cup of strength to suffering
souls; in the name of the strong Deliverer,
our only Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen

New to St Timothy's

We are delighted to report the following recent additions to our congregation:

8 March Mary Jacqueline Buhler at 8lbs 4 oz
26 March Savannah Kate Withrow at 6lbs 11 oz and with red hair!
28 March Andreas Michael Larsen at 8lbs

Congratulations to all the parents!

Parishioner Profile: Nancy Vondette

Florence Wilton

Nancy Vondette was born in Victoria and lived there until October of Grade 1. Her younger brother, Timothy, was born there too, but older brothers Michael and Christopher had been born in Halifax and England. Because of their father Hank's work in the Royal Navy, moves were frequent and Nancy was in ten different schools during her twelve years of schooling that saw the family in Victoria, Halifax, Cornwallis, Newport Rhode Island, and then back to Halifax. She never found it difficult to settle into a new location, get to work and make friends. When they moved from Victoria to Halifax two months into Grade 1, the new teacher predicted Nancy would have to repeat Grade 1. That was before she discovered that Nancy was already reading at a Grade 5 level.

She attended King's College, Halifax from 1974-79, graduating with a B. Sc. in Biology and Chemistry. She followed this with a Masters in Microbiology from U.B.C. in 1981. In 1982, she was a lecturer at U.B.C. which meant organizing and teaching lab work and marking for professors (who did the lecturing). Her mother had always been convinced that she would be a teacher, because, when getting home from school in Grade 1, Nancy would sit Tim down and proceed to teach him all she had learned that day. Nancy was offered

a post at UBC for the following year, was pleased to accept as she enjoyed teaching labs and went off to Europe for a long, celebratory holiday. On her return, when she went to UBC to learn the details of her particular assignment, she found that funding was not available and the post had been cancelled. Fortunately the Faculty of Education, on learning of the situation, accepted her as an extra student for Teacher Training.

The year she became qualified to teach, it was difficult to find a job as, due to the Teacher's Credit Union failing and the first round of major cutbacks happening, teachers planning to take early retirement felt the need to teach many more years, so Nancy was a busy substitute for seven years. One assignment she remembers well was subbing in a secondary school in West Vancouver – initially for a physics teacher, then a chemistry teacher, then a biology teacher, then a math teacher. The students hoped to catch her out in each successive role, having decided that what she had just taught must be her specialty, but found each time she was well qualified! The final straw for them was thinking that it was all very well to be able to teach all the sciences and math, but pointing out that the math teacher also taught Latin. They gave up when she told them she had 4 years of Latin

training. That was the limit of what she could handle. She eventually got a full-time math and science teaching job at Carson Graham School and has been there ever since.

As a youngster she enjoyed swimming, reaching the Bronze Cross level, which enabled her to be in charge of the waterfront at Camp Artaban for many years. She particularly enjoyed long swims but especially remembers the Bronze Cross test in which she had to repeat 14 lengths of the pool during the test as the first time she did a scissor kick leg movement called trudgeon, which had been acceptable at each level up to then, and then having done the 14 lengths was told it was not acceptable and that she would have to do them again the "right" way. Immediately afterwards was a floating test where she had to float without moving for 5 minutes during which she fell asleep. When she had passed the test time limit, someone was sent to wake her up.

Nancy has sung in church choirs since the age of seven, singing solos at every church she has attended. At about age 10 in Cornwallis, she and Timothy had voice lessons for two years. She remembers an exercise in breath control in which one had to blow on a candle flame so that it would flicker but not be blown out. It has enabled her to sing long hymn verses without snatching breaths! She enjoys telling people she sang in King's College Choir – and they assume she is talking about England

when in actual fact it was the University of King's College in Halifax. It was a very good choir but not quite as good as King's College in England. Her other singing asset is range – she can sing soprano if necessary, but prefers tenor, usually settling for alto at St. Timothy's as that is an area of need. Starting in Grade 10 in school she began piano lessons and reached Grade 8 in the Royal Conservatory but she now plays strictly for herself.

In 1984 a fellow member of St. Stephen's Church Choir appealed to Nancy to help out with the North Shore Light Opera Society, which was desperately short of tenors. Although a bout of laryngitis meant that Nancy had no voice at the time, she went for an audition and was accepted – clearly they were desperate! However, when her voice returned, they greatly approved their choice. Nancy remembers a part of the "Desert Song" that year in which she had to exit one side of the stage at Centennial Theatre, go down the stairs, cross under the stage and return up stairs on the far side while changing from a costume of an Arab, including a turban and jelaba, into a soldier's outfit all within 90 seconds. It helped that the soldiers entering were supposed to be out of breath! Invited to be on the Board of Directors, Nancy became the Social Convener and has been on the Board, in one capacity or another, ever since. Her duties have included (often at the same time) being president, treasurer, set designer and maker,

costume designer and maker, program designer and producer, ticket seller and, of course, performer in the show. This Spring Break, Nancy was busy making costumes for Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe* which opens at Presentation House on April 9 and runs until April 25.

After many years at St. Stephen's in West Vancouver, Nancy decided to attend St. Timothy's during the Harvest Project time. She has not regretted the switch and continues to appreciate services and sermons.

One area in which she has contributed to the church is in ecclesiastical embroidery. During her time at university in Halifax, she had the opportunity to go to Boston on choir trips. Staying in a convent, she saw the beautiful embroidery which some of the nuns were producing and became interested in the art. Later, while at U.B.C., she had the opportunity of attending, with her mother, a group at St.

Mary's, Kerrisdale which embroidered linens, silk vestments, altar frontals and burses and veils for priests and churches. She has produced burses and veils for communion use at St. Timothy's as well as two stoles for Paul and she and her mother are also responsible for the hangings behind the altar which help a Recreation Centre look even more like a church. Other tasks Nancy undertakes are assisting with the counting and making the delicious mulled wine we enjoy on Christmas Eve.

While she has been on several church councils in other capacities, Nancy recently started serving for the first time as a church warden. She feels that our ongoing challenge is to find ways of increasing our membership and hopes that during her two years' tenure a possible permanent facility may become available. We at St. Timothy's are most appreciative of her many talents and thank God for attracting her to our church.

St Timothy's Church Calendar

Please join us!

Holy Week

April 9, 7.30pm Maundy Thursday— Lynn Valley Recreation Centre

April 10, 11am Good Friday—Lynn Valley Recreation Centre

Easter

April 12, 10am Easter Celebration— Lynn Valley Recreation Centre

Easter 1

April 19, 10am Baptism — Lynn Valley Recreation Centre