



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I write, the 2015 Annual General Meeting is behind us and as most of you know, a family emergency in Edmonton precluded my attendance. However, I've heard nothing but good reports and I owe a great deal of thanks to the members of the Board, in particular, Vice President Gail Revitt and Past President Sheila Puls, as well as the members of St. Helen's ACW for ensuring a wonderful day was had by all! I understand that both Guest Speakers gave us much food for thought as we move forward with our activities in the coming year.

I am looking forward to working towards seeing the initial installation of the new Archival Display Cases in the new Synod Offices. What an exciting project - thank you for your support and encouragement. I am also pleased that the membership has endorsed the Board's recommendations with respect to the new Outreach Projects and we have already heard from Bishop Barbara of the APCI expressing her deep appreciation for our support. Additionally, the National Executive was extremely pleased to hear that we are making it possible for the ACW from the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior to be represented at the National Conference this year - and it has been confirmed by Barbara Coleman (Diocese of BC) that to the best of her knowledge, "the last rep from Cariboo was Shirley Briggs to the Winnipeg gathering in 1981." We know that our assistance to the Diocese of the Yukon over the past 70 years has made a difference and I am so pleased that we are in a position to help another area.

Congratulations and welcome to our new Secretary Alberta Rudolf. Alberta has been the President of the ACW at St. Michael's Surrey for a number of years and now that she has relocated to Vancouver, she has agreed to help us on the Board.

It is with great sadness that I will be saying "au revoir" to Claire Pallen as she moves to the Okanagan. We do hope she will be able to visit us from time to time and we know that our loss will certainly be their gain! Claire's dedication and enthusiasm is going to be sorely missed but I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation and wish her (and husband Rick) much happiness and many blessings in the new venture!

Please mark your calendars for our Inaugural Summer Open House and BBQ which will be held on SATURDAY, June 13th from 11 to 2 at ACW Place. This is an opportunity to show your families and friends just what we do - and don't forget to bring the kids and grandkids too as there will be crafts and fun for them too!

AND - just before you take your break for the summer - why not ensure that you and/or your parish have placed your order for the 2016 Church Calendars. By doing so, you will guarantee delivery for early October! Your support of this initiative helps to defray the shipping costs for the bales we send to the Yukon.

In closing, I wish you and your families a safe and happy summer break.

Your sister on the journey,
Margaret Warwick,
President,
ACW Diocesan Board

As we pray for those affected by the devastating earthquake in Nepal, remember we can donate to PWRDF marked for Nepal The Government have announced that donations will be matched. Every dollar helps!

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the ACW took place on Saturday April 25th at St. Helen's Church in Surrey, chaired by Vice President Gail Revitt in the absence of President Margaret Warwick, who had been called to Edmonton for a family emergency. 73 members, four guests and a baby boy were present.



Learning about El Salvador Photo: S. Puls

The 2015/16 budget was passed including a Bishop's Discretionary Fund of \$5,000. Two resolutions were discussed and passed; one established a 3-year Bursary as an outreach to the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior, to allow one of their leadership to attend the Diocese of New Westminster School for Parish Development. The other authorized the Board to cover the cost of archival display cabinets for the new Synod offices and archives at St John's Shaughnessy up to a maximum of \$25,000.

Members were asked to submit recommendations to the Board for criteria for future outreach projects, to be brought forward to the 2016 AGM for voting. (See page 3)

Elections were held, and the new ACW Board is as follows:

President Margaret Warwick
Vice President Gail Revitt
Secretary Alberta Rudolf
Treasurer Vera Morgan

Area Representatives:

GVNS - Sylvia Enga
NEF - Gail Cadotte
SWF - Paulette Smith
Member At Large - Ann Adair-Austin

Appointed Positions:

Social Action - Beth Fortin and Gail Revitt
Calendars & Vancouver
Council of Women - Marjorie Henry
Chaplain - Rev. Sue Foley-Currie

As our secretary Claire Pallen will be leaving the board and relocating to the Okanagan, Sheila Puls thanked her for her service to the ACW at both Diocesan and Parish level, and presented her with an ACW engraved vase, flowers and a certificate.

Our keynote speaker was Glen Mitchell, Director of Stewardship and Planned Giving and member of

the Board of Directors for the Foundation Cristosal.

Foundation Cristosal is a faith-based human rights and community development organization with Anglican roots that works to strengthen the ability of the poor to act for justice and

development as equal citizens in a democratic society.

Glen gave a very interesting presentation on the geography, politics and dynamics of various communities in El Salvador. Foundation Cristosal operates as a rights-based organization focusing on education, sustainable agriculture, and development of infrastructure while working with the local people (For more information see Topic, May 2015, pages 10 & 11)

Following a delicious lunch provided and served by Semiahmoo House Society, Gail introduced our

second Guest Speaker, Brander McDonald, Indigenous Justice Ministries Coordinator for the Diocese of New Westminster and Indigenous Relations Coordinator with the Mennonite Church of BC/Canada. Brander is also a member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.



Brander's presentation Photo: S. Puls

Brander spoke humbly and eloquently about building new relationships and making connections, the need to have relationships developed, strengthened and nurtured through open dialogue and education. Building relationship and connections builds trust and safety.

He spoke of learning through cultural education, talking with Aboriginal people and walking with native people. He asked for our prayers for the remembering of faces being brought to our Creator and to pray for the TRC representatives.

Our day wound up with a Eucharist service with The Rev. Stephen Laskey.

CRITERIA FOR FUTURE OUTREACH PROJECTS

When the Board first discussed the sale of WA Memorial House, one of the primary questions of the membership was 'what was going to be done with the money?' Once the House was sold, it was the decision of the Board to invest the money and draw only minimal amounts from the proceeds to enable us to continue to operate in our new premises and leave the balance to continue to accrue until such time as we had a comfortable amount to cover future market fluctuations and protect our original investments. It was always the intent to expand our Outreach capabilities beyond our support of the Diocese of the Yukon, but we did not want to rush into anything.

The Board is now satisfied that we have sufficient funds to enable us to establish new ongoing Outreach projects and wish to obtain some indication from the membership as to preferred types of projects for further consideration and a direction to come back to the 2016 AGM with more specifics on identified preferences for approval to establish the new program(s).

The Board requests the Branches to give written suggestions by 27th October 2015 in order to explore the feasibility of establishing a new Outreach Project(s) commencing in 2016 which involves ...???

- * grants for women pursuing religious studies; grants for educational opportunities for individuals within the Diocese;
- * grants for educational opportunities for individuals outside of the Diocese;
- * grants for travel assistance;
- * grants to other agencies/organizations such as the School for Parish Development, Council of the North, Camp Artaban, Indigenous Ministries,

OR ???.

Specifics are to be presented at the 2016 AGM for approval of the membership. All suggestions will be considered.

Please discuss this in your meetings and let the Board have your recommendations.

BLESSINGS

I knelt to pray when day was done
And prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone,
Lift from each saddened heart the pain
And let the sick be well again."

And then I woke another day
And carelessly went on my way,
The whole day long I did not try
To wipe a tear from any eye.

I did not try to share the load
Of any brother on the road.
I did not even go to see
The sick man just next door to me.

Yet once again when day was done
I prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone."
But as I prayed, into my ear
There came a voice that whispered clear,
"Pause now, my son, before you pray.
Whom have you tried to bless today?
Gods sweetest blessing always go
By hands that serve him here below."

And then I hid my face and cried,
"Forgive me, God, I have not tried,
But let me live another day
And I will live the way I pray."

Author unknown

I have been asked about the grace I use before meals - it is based on the World Hunger grace - mine is as follows:

Let us give thanks:

- for food in a world where many are hungry,
- for friends in a world where many are lonely,
- for our homes in a world where many are homeless and
- for a country at peace where so many are at war.

We ask a blessing on the food we are about to eat, on the hands that prepared it and all those who share it. Amen.

Sheila Puls

REPORT TO SYNOD

Every year the ACW Diocesan President is asked to submit a report to the Bishop and Synod of our activities through the year. This is the report Margaret submitted to the 2015 Synod.

I am pleased to report that the Anglican Church Women of the Diocese of New Westminster continue to work tirelessly at both the Parish and Diocesan level - with Area meetings being held three times a year and an Annual Meeting in April each year. We are honoured that another four of our members received the Order of the Diocese this year.

Our "Monday Ladies" continue to meet at ACW Place to sort donations and pack the Northern Bales; while another group comes in as needed to make up Layettes - for the Bales as well as for local distribution. The work of the ACW continues....

- * Supplying/packing the Northern Bales of clothing, household linens and small toys/gifts for parishes in the Diocese of the Yukon
- * Supplying toques and warm (woolen) work socks to Mission to Seafarers
- * Supplying warm clothing to the homeless and others in need
- * Supplying layettes to new parents - especially those with low incomes
- * Collecting "grains of salt" - little items that can make a big difference,
 - * used postage stamps (funds used to support clergy training in the Arctic)
 - * pop can tabs and aluminum foil pie plates (funds used to send children with kidney disease to Dialysis camp)
 - * Campbell's Soup labels (funds help purchase computers for the School for the Deaf in Burnaby)
 - * Travel sized soaps and shampoos for transition houses and homeless shelters

Our Members continue to work in their own parishes in a variety of ways - whether it is as one of our newer Fellowship Branches; or one of the traditional Branches involved with bazaars, teas, fundraisers, and cooking, or by knitting blankets, mittens, toques etc. to name but a few activities - in addition to their usual parish ministries.

We have been very fortunate that our investments are still providing a more than sufficient income to allow us to continue our work - as we watch and compare the market variations which affect both the Consolidated Trust Fund and our own bank at VanCity Investments. Once again, the Consolidated Trust Fund has proven to be the more profitable!

As an extension of our outreach to the Diocese of the Yukon, we again sent their President to the 2014 National ACW Presidents' Conference in Saskatoon. Also, at the request of Bishop Melissa, we provided financial assistance to both the Diocesan Archivist and Bishop Barbara of the APCI to help defray their travel expenses for conferences specific to their work.

Any Diocesan group wishing to use the Board Room at ACW Place for a meeting of 15-20 people should contact us at us at ACW@vancouver.anglican.ca. Suggestions are welcome, so if any Parish knows of a need we can fill, please do not hesitate to contact us.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Margaret Warwick, President*

WELCOME BACK, ST MATTHEWS ABBOTSFORD ACW

We welcome our newest Friendship branch - St Matthews, Abbotsford are back with us! The first "new" branch in some time.

It's great to have you, and your opening project of knitting for the Fish & Chip Baby project was a great start!!!

***Never doubt
that a small group
of thoughtful, committed people
can change the world.
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever
has.***

Attributed to Sir Winston Churchill

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

ALWAYS FORMED

Do Anglican Baby Boomers in Canada and in the Diocese of New Westminster know that they are always formed by God in every stage of their lives? Herbert O'Driscoll in his book *The World Today* noted the importance of remaining in and growing in relationship with God and to live creatively and gracefully.

Boomers, who certainly may know the art of individualism (myself included) may also think that we shall live forever, remain the decision makers and leaders, have endless time and energy plus hardly ever develop a chronic illness/disability. We fill up our daytimers, stay on committees, instruct how to butter the bread for the outreach sandwiches (how it was always done), try and assist with a vision for a future of our parish or ACW that may not be our own while we struggle with external changes, new technology and plan travel into 2020. Sounds like a lot? Not really as *The Economist* just released a survey that USA Boomers lead all of the age groups - in trying to do "more." The quest for "doing more" may not always please the other age groups who may have other ideas about how to live lives and it is a worthy dialogue. My own daughter reminded me long ago that the day does not have to be filled with just accomplishments!

Surprisingly Dioceses and ACWs across the country may not know a great deal about Boomers and the impact they have had and may wish to have or will continue to have - until Boomers have died off as a population segment. The text *Master Your Retirement* by Douglas V. Nelson gives census stats on Boomers that churches and ACWs may wish to ponder. They include, plus a few other stats:

"Boomers are 30% of the Canadian population or those born between 1946 to 1966. The first Boomers to turn 65 years of age did so in 2011. Last year the average age in Canada was 58 years. In 10 years - Canadians over 55 will outnumber children. Today one in seven Canadians are seniors - with two-thirds being female seniors. Sadly most women have fewer savings (and lower salaries) than men and will have

less funds for all of their retirement years. Plus women are still living longer than men. And the very elderly - 80+ from 2001-6 increased by 25%. As well women for the most part are the caregivers which often is a reason for early retirement or retiring at 65 years (and less income)."

So while parishes and ACW groups are working on visioning for the future - have they factored in the individual visions that female Boomers and seniors have for their own retirement years related to their relationships with God and their individual rule of life? And what is the percentage of female Boomers (and male Boomers) in each parish, leadership and in groups and related to activities? Do we have things we would like to do, new things we would like to learn, relationships to start or to mend (not forgetting with God), and new ways of using time and energy in the community life? Have there been or could there be consideration of the "senior 65 years+lifeline" - current, years 1-3, years 4-6, years 7-9 and years 10+.

Seniors, including Boomers, are one of the key branches of the vine of Jesus Christ. We need to safeguard individually and in community with all ages against drying up or withering spiritually. There is still time to bear fruit. And to start again, renew and grow in relationship with God every day until our last breath.

The Rev. Sue Foley-Currie

Signs on How to Know You're Growing Older

*Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
The gleam in your eyes is from the sun hitting your
bifocals
Your children begin to look middle aged.
You feel like the "night before" and you haven't been
anywhere.
You look forward to a dull evening.
Your knees buckle but your belt won't.
Your favorite part of the paper is "25 years ago today".
You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.
Dialing long distance wears you out.
Your back goes out more often than you do.
A fortune teller offers to read your face.
You turn off the lights for economic reasons.,
You burn the midnight oil after 8 p.m.
You have a walk-in medicine chest.
But
Enjoy life.
Consider the alternative.*

THE ORIGINAL PRAYER SHAWL -

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1998 - Written & Developed By Victoria Galo
and Janet Severi Bristow



Cast on stitches in multiples of three - 54, *57, or 60.

For example, if you use size 11 needles and cast on 54 stitches,

3 skeins of 'slightly bulky' yarn is enough.

Some yarns vary in elasticity which will affect your outcome, as will your knitting tension.

If the yarn you have chosen has a multicolored stripe, be careful when tying on a new skein. Make sure the color sequence is correct. Also, tie on the new skein in the body of the shawl, instead of an edge, as the ends tend to show.

* First Row: k3, p3, to end

* Second Row: Always start the next row with the opposite stitch of what you see.
For instance, if the first stitch on the needle is a knit, then start with a purl.

KNIT THE PURLS AND PURL THE KNITS!!!

It should NOT look like ribbing.

*Note: If you cast on 57 stitches you will always start with K3. The same can be said if you make the pattern in multiples of 6's + 3 (add) stitches .

*The Board were asked for a pattern for a prayer shawl - this is a basic pattern, but any shawl knitted with prayer and love, is a prayer shawl!
Wrapped around someone in need gives them the knowledge that they are loved.*



JAZZ VESPERS

Jazz vesper services have made a major impact among church worshippers and jazz aficionados. They have taken root in North America since the 1960s and now established in communities across Canada including Vancouver, West Vancouver and more recently, Surrey.

It was originally designed for those musicians engaged in late night Saturday gigs. It was noticed by some clergy there seemed to be a connection between spirituality and jazz improvisation. Some of the legendary greats in the jazz genre of music, were Duke Ellington, Billie Strayhorn, John Coltrane, Dave Brubeck, and Joe Williams. They became so involved in the jazz vespers movement, they wrote music especially for these worship services.

Vespers is a late afternoon or early evening prayer. It is a worship service with a social component. Jazz and vespers call us to be open and receptive, to reflect and soothe us. To hold back the darkness for awhile.

Northwood United Church, 8855 156 St., Surrey, offers Jazz Vespers September through June on the second and fourth Sundays at 4:00 PM. The minister, Rev. Will Sparks, is the liturgist and a keen supporter of this ministry.

An assortment of talented artists ranging from duets, trios, quartets on up to a big band and always, we have vocalists. It can be described as smooth jazz, gospel, and Dixieland jazz. Spoken word is interspersed with the musical selections and a relationship develops between minister, musician and listener.

They welcome any and all to come and experience this liturgical offering with us. A social gathering happens before and following the service !

**Audrey Hall
Northwood United**

**Jazz tickles your muscles,
symphonies stretch your soul!"
- Paul Whiteman*



FISH AND CHIP BABY SWEATERS



Knitted baby outfits and "Fish and Chip Baby" outfits which arrived at the annual meeting.

"Fish and Chip Babies" is the name given to babies in poor parts of Africa who are sent home after birth wrapped in newspaper because the parents have no baby clothes for them. These simple outfits mean there is a something comfortable to wrap them around them. So what happens to the sweaters when they are sent in to ACW Place? They are forwarded to Colwood on Vancouver Island - and our GVNS area rep Sylvia Enga went to see what happens then!.

A VISIT TO CANADA COMFORTS WORKSHOP AND COMPASSIONATE WAREHOUSE ON TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015

At the invitation of Sylvia Hatfield, I spent an interesting day seeing this organization at work at the Juan de Fuca Senior Centre in Colwood, Victoria. This group has been working for 30 odd years, making teddy bears each with its own bag for children in hospitals and orphanages, many of whom are victims of land mines.

I watched Canadian flags, 1/2 an inch big, being stamped on pockets of skirts and shorts.

I saw battery driven drills outfitted with a device to hold strips of white sheets that were being rolled into various sized bandages and then boxed. Each box could fit into a physician's bag. Can you guess where all the sheets come from? Hotels and motels donate them and a men's group meets on a Monday to cut them into strips, ready for rolling on the Tuesday!

Canada Comforts also manages satellite groups all over the place and much sewing and knitting and sewing up is actually done at home and then brought into the Centre. This organization runs a very strict quality control policy and have been supported with donations by many groups over the years, including the Mennonite Church.

After the Centre, it was over to the Compassionate Warehouse in Esquimalt. What an organization this is, in very limited space. Dell Wergelund's volunteers here, actually mend equipment being shipped, as all items are like new.

On May 1st, a 40' container was packed with the requested list to two orphanages in the Congo. the shipping charges are paid for by the requesting organizations, often Doctors without Borders, service clubs, churches. I should have loved to have seen the truck with the container backing up into the warehouse and the worker bees filling it in a very scientific manner, according to Sylvia Hatfield.

So this is where all the little jumpers start their journey to other parts other parts of the world where they are so very well appreciated.

All in all, it was a day well spent. This group is so appreciative of all the knitting done in the Lower Mainland.

The next shipment of "fish and chip" sweaters will go with Hilary King of "Embrace Rwanda". She will be leaving shortly again. She would like to take an extra suitcase so we are asking for donations to cover this cost, \$200.00.

***Thanks,
Sylvia Enga***

So far this year, the warehouse has sent 40' containers to Guatemala, Honduras, Liberia and El Salvador. This included 411 maternity packs 445 bed packs 45 sewing machines, 80 bikes 51 wheelchairs 132 walkers 10 pallets of tools and 32 buckets of hardware supplies 823 boxes of educational supplies 1355 boxes of medical supplies 523 boxes of household linen 367 boxes of household supplies 457 sew kits Plus we sent boxes and boxes of handmade quilts, blankets, dresses, shorts, teddies, hats, sweaters, scarves; we sent boxes and boxes of toys and child development equipment to set up day cares and play areas in safe homes and orphanages Plus many more goodies.....for more info see www.crwarehouse.ca



OPEN HOUSE
Saturday - June 13
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 7012B Merritt Avenue, Burnaby

Come and see what is done at A.C.W. Place
 (the warehouse with the heart of a house!)

Come get a tour, see what we do, and who
 we help!



Bring the children, and grandchildren!
 Face painting and activities for children.

Hotdogs and refreshments by donation.

Strawberry Tea
Saturday June 13th, 2015
11 am - 2 pm

Raffle, Silent Auction, Bake Table

\$8/adult, \$5/children



HOLY TRINITY, WHITE ROCK
 Roper @ Foster

**Spring Luncheon
 & Sale**

Saturday May 30th, 2015
11 am to 2 pm



ST MARK OCEAN PARK ANGLICAN CHURCH
 129 20th Avenue
 Surrey
 Phone - 604-535-8841

Strawberry Tea
Saturday June 20th, 2015
1 pm - 3 pm



ST HELEN'S CHURCH
 10787 128th Street
 Surrey

MOTHERS AND GRANDMOTHERS TEA
Tuesday May 19th 2015
2 pm to 4 pm



ALL SAINTS CHURCH
 33070 Second Avenue
 Mission

**Annual Redwoods Dinner,
 entertainment &
 Silent Auction**

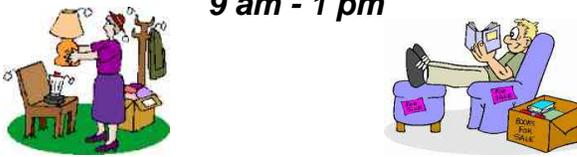
St George's ACW
 Fort Langley

Sunday May 31st, 2015
6 pm



REDWOODS GOLF COURSE
 88th Ave, Fort Langley
 Tickets \$30 - 604-856-7534

GARAGE SALE
Saturday June 6th, 2015
9 am - 1 pm



ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,
 23500 Dewdney Trunk Road
 Maple Ridge

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN, DIOCESE OF NEW WESTMINSTER
ACW Place
Unit B - 7012 Merritt Avenue, Burnaby, BC V5B 5A1
ACW@vancouver.anglican.ca

CALENDAR ORDER FORM

Please make cheque payable to **ACW Diocese of New Westminister**
[If using a personal cheque, please identify your parish on the cheque]

Name of Parish: _____
President/Contact person: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____

Number of Calendars ordered _____ @ \$ 4.60 each

Cheque Enclosed # _____ Amount \$ _____

Deadline for orders: July 15th

CLIP & RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS		
Number of calendars ordered: _____		
Cheque sent # _____	Amount _____	(\$ 4.60 per calendar)
Please phone ACW Place 604-876-3720 for pickup of your calendars mid September		

We appreciate your support of ACW Place