

# The Grapevine

April 2011

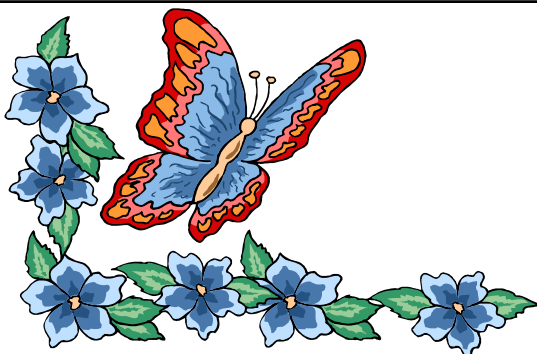


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## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

I was speaking to the men's Cursillo team a couple of weeks ago about a recent Facebook status of a pastor friend of mine from BC. Mike and I studied together at seminary in England nearly twenty-five years ago. His status read as follows,

*"Put in my place by my son Malachi today as told me about his day at school; 'Dad, with you it goes in one ear and out the other, whereas with Mum, it goes in one ear & hits her brain & she remembers it."*

I was telling the Cursillo team that there have been times when I have felt as though things are going in one ear and out the other. Sometimes there is so much going on that my head feels like it has reached its capacity. There doesn't seem to be any more room for anything else. But busyness isn't always the only cause for things going in one ear and out the other. Sometimes the cause is familiarity. There are times when something seems so familiar that we fail to give it the attention that it deserves.



I think that can be one of the dangers when it comes to Bible stories for many Christians. There are times when we can think that we've heard it before. The result is that we let things go in one ear and out the other without really thinking about. Take the stories around Holy Week for example. There are people who think that preaching at Easter or at Christmas would be easy for more pastors—after all, the stories are such powerful stories. But something I have found is that those times of year are often the most difficult times to preach, because the stories are the same year after year. It is so easy for us to think that we know the story—that we've learned all there is to learn. Perhaps one of our problems is that for many of us we tend to leave the story as something to know in our heads. But what if we were to allow the story to sink into us deeply?

What if we were to allow ourselves not only to listen to the story, but to enter into the story? What if we were to allow ourselves to become more than simply hearers, but even more so, become participants of the stories? Might the stories speak to us in a deeper way? I believe they would.

It is for this reason that I encourage you to participate in Holy Week this year. Too often we allow ourselves to enter into only a part of the story. We come on Palm Sunday and return a week later on Easter Sunday and fail to allow what Jesus experienced between those two days, speak to us in any meaningful way. Participating in the whole story opens things to us in a brand new and more powerful way. Our services aren't simply for the mind, in them we are invited into an experience. We are invited into the story so that we might become part of the story and might experience the touch and the presence of God in a more meaningful way. This year we will be having a service on Maundy Thursday as we remember the night Jesus served his disciples by washing their feet and how he shared the Last Supper with them. On Good Friday, we will be having a Procession of Witness as we quietly carry a cross through the community remembering the journey Jesus made to Calvary. Following the Procession of Witness we'll be having our Good Friday service—again, not just hearing the story, but being invited to enter the story—and then on Easter Sunday we'll gather together to celebrate the glorious resurrection. Yes, you know the story, but is there any possibility that God wants the story to work in you any deeper than it has before? I pray that this Holy Week will see each of us take some further steps on our journey with Jesus. May we experience all that we can, and may we come to know, deeper than we've know before, the amazing depth of God's love.

Yours in Christ,

*Stephen*

## HOLY WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Here is a listing of some of the upcoming events and services at Holy Trinity leading up to Easter:

### **Maundy Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.—Service of Holy Communion & Washing of Feet**

At this service we will remember the night that Jesus met with his disciples in the Upper Room the night before his arrest. It was on this night that he demonstrated his commitment to serving others as he washed the feet of his disciples. It was also on this night that Jesus first shared the Lord's Supper with his disciples. Please join us as we remember these two practices of Jesus.

### **Good Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m.—Procession of Witness.**

Please join us on a short Procession of Witness on Good Friday as we carry a large wooden cross through part of the community of Hanson Ranch. This will be a quiet reflective time as we remember the journey that Jesus made carrying his cross on his way to Calvary. We will start the Procession of Witness with a prayer at 9:00 a.m. at the church parking lot and will return to the church in time for the Good Friday service at 10:00 a.m.



### **Good Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.—Good Friday Service**

Many people often report getting more out of the Easter service when they have attended a Good Friday service in the same year. Please join us for this powerful service as we reflect on the sacrifice that Jesus made for us.

### **Easter Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.—Easter Sunday Celebration**

Please join us as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at our regular Sunday morning service. This will be a service for the whole family at which there may be many people who don't regularly come to church. Let's welcome everybody and give God praise for all that He has done!

## MAINTENANCE DAY

Our annual Maintenance Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 11th. Please come and help complete some annual cleaning and general maintenance jobs to keep our facility functional and attractive. Look for future announcements and sign-up sheets for times and event details.



## MISSION TO SIERRA LEONE

The mission team to Sierra Leone is pleased to report that plans are going smoothly as they continue to prepare for their departure in a couple of weeks. The mission this year will once again be partnering with Mission Direct—an outreach group based in the UK—in the ongoing construction of the *City of Rest* on the outskirts of Freetown. The City of Rest is a drug rehabilitation and healing centre that was originally started to minister to child-soldier from the civil war than ended in 2002. Last year's team helped with the construction of the walls of the new facility and this year's team is going to help the construction move closer to its completion. The team consists of three people from last year's team: Ryan Collyer, Dave Matthews and Stephen Hambidge along with five new members: Jay and Erica Lang, Nathan and Kendra Miller and Vince Pang. The team will fly out of Calgary on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be returning to Calgary on May 14<sup>th</sup>.



There have been a number of fund-raising initiatives and these have been well supported by the people of Holy Trinity and others from the wider community. A Hunger Lunch followed by a head shave for Pastor Stephen and Mike Wall was a highlight for many as was the recent African Supper and Silent Auction. The team is pleased to report that the funds that were needed have been raised and that they will be taking additional funds to give directly to the City of Rest project. At this point, approximately \$11,000 will be taken for the project and any other money that is given to the mission will be added to that total. The team is still receiving donations which are tax deductible. Cheques can be written to "Holy Trinity Anglican Church" with "Sierra Leone Mission" in the memo field.



The team would appreciate it if you would keep them in your prayers while they are in Sierra Leone. To help ensure that the team is prayed for each day they are gone, we have printed a prayer sign up sheet and placed it on the mission table. It is our hope that there will be at least two people each day (perhaps more) who will commit themselves to pray for the team while they are away. If you would like to participate in this prayer support, please sign up on the sheet provided in the foyer.

The mission team is grateful for all the support from the people of Holy Trinity. This truly is a mission of our church as we reach out beyond our borders with the love of Jesus.

## HOLY TRINITY BRIDGERS SLO-PITCH TEAM

The boys and girls of summer.....



We are now entering into our 9<sup>th</sup> season with team in the CCMS (Calgary Christian Mixed Slo-Pitch) League. Time sure flies when you are having fun.

Our first team, 9 years ago, consisted of 28 players and we ended up in 5<sup>th</sup> place. It was a great summer of ball, we all got to know each other very well and some close friendships were developed. Over the years we have had a few people retire from playing and every year we get a few more new players.

We never turn anyone away and so we always have more than enough players each year. There is a varying degree of experience on the team; from beginner to those of us with many years of experience. The ones with experience are always trying to help those with little experience. Each year those with a little experience grow more confident and then the next year get even better. We have tried to make it fun rather than focus on the competitive side. We are always in the lowest division and have placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in a couple of years in our division. We have even placed 1<sup>st</sup> in one of the spring tournaments. Not too bad for a little team from the church.

The CCMS is a great league to play in and their mission makes it a fun environment for all:

*CCMS Mission: To provide Christians an opportunity to use slo-pitch as a means to build community and friendships between fellow believers and as a form of outreach to friends and co-workers.*

To fulfill this mission the CCMS strives to:

1. Glorify God in all that we do.
2. Bring together believers to reach Calgary and beyond for Christ.
3. Connect non-believers with Christ and the Church.

Provide a quality Slo-pitch experience.

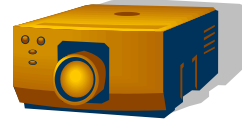
We encourage those that play with us to bring friends and co-workers so that they can play in a fun and Christian environment. We always pray before and after all games for all regular season and tournament games.

So we look forward to again another year of some great times on the diamond. Maybe we will see you there, even if it is to come and watch. We are always excited when we see other friends from the church that come out to watch.

Dwayne White and Rob Lendrum

## PROJECTION MINISTRY —New Members Needed

At Holy Trinity we would like to increase the size of our Projection Ministry. Currently there are two people who serve in this ministry and we are looking for more. The Projection Ministry is an important Sunday ministry as it helps our worshipping community participate in our liturgy. The software that we currently use for our services is called MediaShout—a presentation program designed specifically for churches. With this program we can import songs (there is a huge song library), passages from the Bible (from a multitude of Bible translations) and we can add parts of our own liturgy as text files. Full motion backgrounds can also be added as a way of enhancing the presentation on a Sunday morning.



MediaShout is not a difficult program to use and in fact the only files that the Projection Ministry people add to a Sunday Service presentation are the songs that have been chosen by the music team. The rest of the service (responses, readings, announcements, etc.) have all been added to the Sunday presentation prior to Sunday morning. Training will be offered to anyone interested in joining this ministry so that you feel confident and comfortable before you offer yourself for your first service.

If you are interested in assisting in this ministry, please talk to Michael Hoskin or let Pastor Stephen know so that training can be arranged.

## NEW PRAYER ROOM

We are excited to have a new location to hold the Prayer Ministry on Sunday mornings! It is a small room next to the Baptism Area, a quiet and more private location. There will still be the option to receive prayer in our former location, if you prefer. Watch for the Name Badges as Prayer Ministers will be wearing these to identify themselves. As of April, a couple of prayer stations are now available. The new Prayer Room, and the former prayer area as well. Prayer Ministers will be available in these locations to pray with you. It is the hope that these changes in the prayer Ministry will make Prayer accessible to more people at once and in the setting that you prefer.

Jesus said “The thief comes only in order to steal, kill & destroy but I have come in order that you might have life...Life in all its fullness.” John 10:10. One purpose of the prayer Ministry is to minister in the name of Jesus Christ and bring healing and wholeness to peoples lives. Issues of unforgiveness, fear, addictions, illness, broken relationships, etc. Are burdens that steal our joy and keep us in bondage. This is not God’s plan for His people. Jesus wants EVERYONE TO BE SAVED from the enemy. He came that we may have life...Life in all its fullness. The Prayer Ministry is highly confidential and ministers in the name of Jesus. When you feel the need for more “life in all its fullness’, come for prayer. It is a ministry available to everyone, each Sunday morning, following Holy Communion. Have a blessed Easter !



*“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”*

*Psalm 51:10*

Upcoming Events :

Holy Week April 21-24th

May 1st Gary Woosley will be taking the Service.

May 2nd Holy Trinity will again be polling Station for the Federal Election

## Vestry News

April 2011

### What's in your basket?

Dust off your picnic baskets and mark your calendars! Holy Trinity is having a church picnic at Picnic Site: #7 in Edworthy Park on June 5<sup>th</sup> after church.



Come and enjoy some fellowship and relaxation in the park. We hope to have fun activities for people of all ages – the details are still in the works.



If you would like to help organize activities for the church picnic, please speak with a vestry member

### Finances



For the month of February, income was \$2700 more than what was budgeted.

The Holy Joes are doing a great job of repairing and completing upkeep jobs around the church resulting in reducing our expenses!



A quick snapshot of the year to date: overall our income is over our budgeted amount by \$6000.

For further detailed information about the financial situation of the church, please ask one of the vestry members. Also, please look for the quarterly financial report at the end of April.

### Tithe Update

During the month of March, \$1000 of the tithe was given to each member of the Sierra Leone Mission team to help pay for the costs of sending them on the mission.

The Vestry felt called to again allocate the tithe for the month of April to the Sierra Leone Mission team. \$5000 from the tithe fund will be given to the team to take to Sierra Leone to help fund the building initiatives (such as the City of Rest) through Mission Direct.

If you have any questions for Vestry please contact us at [vestry@holytrinitycalgary.org](mailto:vestry@holytrinitycalgary.org)

## Pre-Authorized Donations Authorization for Bank Withdrawal

**Please check one:**

- I hereby authorize The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada (the "Diocese") to start withdrawing the amount indicated below from my bank account and transfer it to my congregation (which is registered with the Diocese to use this service) on or about the 16th day of each month beginning with the month shown below until I cancel or change my instructions in writing.
  
- I hereby authorize The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada (the "Diocese") to change the monthly withdrawal from my bank account in accordance with the information provided below.
  
- I hereby cancel my authorization for The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada to withdraw a monthly amount from my bank account on behalf of my congregation.

**Please return the completed form (signed and dated) and any subsequent instructions to the parish official that is administering this program (usually the Envelope Secretary or Parish Treasurer).**

**Donor Information:**

Name	E-mail Address	
Address	Telephone Number	
City	Province	Postal Code

**Bank Information:**

Name	Address	
City	Province	Postal Code
Account No.	Branch No.	Institution No.

***For verification, please attach a blank cheque, marked "VOID", to the completed Authorization.  
Thank you.***

**Withdrawal Information:**

Monthly Amount	Starting Month	Starting Year
Parish	Location	
Authorized Signature(s) of Account Holder	Date	

**NOTE: 30 days' notice required for changes to the Pre-Authorized Donation service.**

**For Parish Use:**

Donor Code:			
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