

# Steeple talk

Summer 2011

**Welcome to St Mary Magdalene Church!**

## **RECENT CHURCH EVENTS**

### **THE BISHOP'S VISIT**

On May 15<sup>th</sup> Bishop James Cowan presided at the Sunday service, followed by a luncheon held in Church House. It was a great pleasure to have the Bishop present on Mayne Island and to share the news of the Diocese. We look forward to his next visit.

### **CHURCH FAIR**

July 9<sup>th</sup> celebrated this year's "Summer By The Sea" Church Fair – another great success. The weather was perfect and it was a day for everyone to have fun playing games, eat good food, and buy up all the wonderful items at the various booths. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this "23rd" Church Fair most memorable.

A very pleased Treasurer reported that the Fair's net proceeds totalled \$13,105.60. A copy of the final financial report is posted in Church House. Thank you to TruValue for their Community Spirit program, which earned a credit of over \$650 to reduce the food, costs for the fair. Thanks also to all of you who contribute to this program at TruValue - it certainly makes a difference to the Church's overall expenses not only at fair time but throughout the year. Please support the local businesses that contribute so generously to the Fair, in particular to the Silent Auction.

The Church donates at least 10% of the Fair's net proceeds to various societies and groups on the Island. Parish Council will be making this decision at its August 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **FAREWELL TO MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION**

It was with sadness that we said goodbye to Carol & Larry Barker. Carol "played" a key role in providing music for the St Mary Magdalene church services - playing the piano and harp in accompaniment with Shirley Heslip on the Organ. Carol also took time to play the piano for the Sunday school at the beginning of their classes. Carol also played at special services including the yearly Taize service. Larry had the roll of organizing the Ushers and Liturgy readers each Sunday and was also a constant Grounds volunteer on Thursday mornings. We had a very nice farewell luncheon on July 17<sup>th</sup> for Carol & Larry and they were presented with a framed Toby Snelgrove photograph of the Church. We wish them good health and happiness in their North Vancouver home.

## **DEDICATION SERVICE**

A special service on July 10th to express our gratitude was held for the benefactors: Frank Birch, who made the cross in the church in memory of his late wife, Pam; Lorna Kirby & Elaine Campbell, who donated the pulpit bible in memory of Don; and to Jeanne Lewis, who created the fabric art in the rededos behind the altar. We set these things apart to the glory of God, and in gratitude for their generosity.

## **WOMEN'S AUXILLIARY**

The W.A. continues to be active in the Church. They provided a luncheon for Betty Taylor's funeral in May. Kathy Bradley, a long-time member and Treasurer for the W.A. moved to Quesnel with her husband Gerry. Kathy had been active in the W.A. for many years and will be missed. We wish them well in their new home in the BC Caribou.

## **OFFERING ENVELOPES**

If you would like to obtain weekly offering envelopes, please see the Usher at Church, a supply of envelopes are on the counter at the back of the Church, or contact Barbara Hughes the Envelope Secretary. If you do have envelopes, please use them as it assists the Treasurer.

## **REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND ONGOING UPKEEP OF THE CHURCH**

We have been very busy the first seven months of this year. A number of major renovations have been carried out.

### **New flooring in Church House**

The day following the Federal Election polling stations in Church House, the Lion's Club members under the organizational skills of Ed Merinuk, Alan Guy and Steve Pike, removed bathroom fixtures, appliances and furniture. A new sub-floor was laid and installers from End of the Roll in Victoria placed new vinyl flooring and carpeting throughout Church House.

The cost to replace the flooring amounted to approx. \$9,700 which was covered by an investment of \$10,000, funds saved by the Church to cover such a capital expenditure, and therefore, no debt was incurred.

### **New Cedar Split-Rail Fencing - Cemetery**

Fronting the church cemetery alongside Georgina Point Road, Naidae Betker donated dead or downed cedar trees from her property for this project.

### **New Bathroom Fixtures**

The Mayne Island Integrated Water Society donated two new raised toilets for the washrooms that Ed Merinuk connected, and Dennis Watts installed new safety bars. All in all, the washrooms are now a little more user friendly.

### **Painting**

The Sunday School room, hallway and Rector's room were all given a fresh coat of paint, thanks to Ed & Jeannine Merinuk and Sue Atha.

### **Outside Window Trims & more....**

John Larsen is now in the process of painting all the outside wood trim around the windows and doors of the Church.

Thanks to all who volunteer so much of their time to keep the Church and its grounds in top shape. Over the last couple of years, we have completed several major renovations, thanks to the contributions by the Congregation and the Community-at-large.

## **LYCH GATE**

The flower boxes at Lych Gate are in full bloom again this year thanks to Marion Worrall's green thumb and weekly watering.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

For the month of June, we have an excess of receipts over disbursements of \$1365, however, the year-to-date figures reflect a deficit of \$11,755 which was the Capital Fund expenditure for new flooring (\$9683) and electrical upgrades (\$1440). A \$10,000 GIC was redeemed in order to cover this expenditure, but it will show as a 'book deficit' in terms of recording it. On the positive side, the church received \$2,832 in donations so far this year towards rebuilding the Capital Fund.

Some notes: \$670 was donated to the PWRDF- Japan Relief Fund; Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner totalled \$270; the Coffee Tin accumulated \$122, and Elections Canada rented Church House for the Federal Election, bumping up rental income by \$907.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday school classes will continue during the summer months as we enjoy seeing a number of children who are here visiting family. And, in August, five children will be attending Camp Columbia, benefiting from our church outreach program. Three children attended last year and thoroughly enjoyed the camp on Thetis Island.

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP**

The Men's Breakfast is held at 8:30 a.m. on the second Friday of the month at Church House. This has been a long-standing event where old and new comers meet to partake in a great breakfast and solve the problems of Mayne Island. All are welcome.

## **COFFEE HELP NEEDED**

Please volunteer for coffee hour and sign up on the sheet posted in Church house. Help is gratefully appreciated in the kitchen every Sunday.

## **† REMEMBER †**

Those who need your prayers of support in their time of need, and pray for the dearly departed who are buried in the church cemetery.