

# grapevine

ST. STEPHEN'S  
NEWSLETTER

Editor:  
Betty  
Schellenberg  
Design:  
Antoine Giraud  
Production:  
Joan Seeton



## A word from your Wardens

First of all, Val and I would like to thank all of you who attended this year's Vestry – A Celebration of the Parish. We felt it was a very good meeting and I hope you did as well. If you have any questions you thought of when you went home, please do not hesitate to approach one of us and hopefully we can help you.

The Vestry agenda was packed full this year and there are some very exciting things projected for our parish of St. Stephen the Martyr. We

discussed the expected path that our new ministry with the Korean community within our Parish and its surroundings will take. And we will have a new Korean minister to help us along the way. You will hear more about the direction of this new Ministry in the coming months.

Another exciting event that we are planning and looking forward to is our 100th Anniversary celebration. Our church was dedicated on September 28th, 1913, at a cost of \$2,870 for a building of 54.5' x 24' plus a 6' x 9'

vestry. There were 17 pews, with a seating capacity of 85. The furnace was installed in 1936 and in 1958 the building was lengthened by 26.5' to 81' with the same width. The first parish hall was built in 1931 with volunteer

labour, and when the hall burned down on April 1st, 1982, it was rebuilt in 1984. We have formed a Centennial Committee that will be working on events of celebration. Some suggestions are a 100th Anniversary Banner, a wine and cheese reception combined with a concert, a dinner, a Church picnic or box lunch, and a tree

planting by the Bishop when he visits us on September 29th, 2013. We can hardly wait! We are anticipating a lot of parish participation in these events. If you have more suggestions, please talk to one of the members of the committee: Joan Hobson, Sara Pridy, Colleen Butterley, Elaine Renforth, Desiree Gore-Lindemere, and Mavis Johnson (not yet committed).

We are also looking for parish participation in additional ideas for our Fund-Raising efforts this year. We are hoping to have another successful Thrift Shop Fashion Show, and →

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## Call for Nominations

The parish council is looking to nominate a long-time parishioner who has served for many years in the church, the community, and the diocese to membership in the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster. Nomination forms are available on the side table; nominations are due to Elaine or Val on March 10th, for consideration at the March 18th vestry meeting.

→ another Caribbean night but would like to throw other things into the mix. All suggestions will be considered – put your thinking caps on!

Val and I would like to thank all those Parish Council members who are returning to Parish Council this year. We have a very strong Council again this year. We welcome members of the parish who would like to attend any of our meetings, held every third Monday of the month starting at 7:00 PM. Come and be our guest.

As you know, we have a website – [www.ststephensburnabybc.com](http://www.ststephensburnabybc.com) – and we welcome Sara Pridy's offer to take on the job of upgrading and making our site one of the best in the Diocese. We would like to thank Joan Seeton, our office assistant, who has managed this site for a few years and has done a wonderful job. Sara will be working on the site as soon as she can.

Please try to attend as many Holy Week and Easter Services as you can – see the back of your bulletins for times and dates. We are excited that Brenda and Colin MacDuff have agreed to host the Seder Supper on Maundy Thursday, March 28th again this year. A sign-up sheet will be available for those interested in coming – this is a Parish event not to be missed.

There is a lot going on in our Parish this year, and we hope you will take part in the many events planned.

Your Wardens for 2013,

*Val Krause and Elaine Renforth*

## Interview with Reverend Gary Hamblin

***The Grapevine brings you an interview with St. Stephen's new half-time Priest-in-Charge, the Reverend Gary Hamblin:***

***GV: Where did you start life, and how did you become part of the Christian Church?***

I was born and raised in Regina, Sk. I first became part of the Christian Church when I was 14 and I joined an Anglican Young People's Association (AYPA). I was attracted by a young woman who was part of the group. My wife, Joy, says that that is something I have in common with King Henry VIII – we both joined a church for the sake of a woman! I was baptized and confirmed that same year.

***GV: What brought you to the priesthood?***

Thanks to two Anglican priests, with whom I became friends in my teen years and early twenties, I felt God's call to become a priest when I was in my first year of university.

***GV: Where did you study/train for the priesthood, and what are some of the roles you've played since your ordination?***

After I received my BA from the University of Saskatchewan I spent a year studying theology at St. John's College (University of Manitoba in Winnipeg). However, I realized that I needed to explore Canada and earn some money before continuing theological studies, so I worked as a child care worker with emotionally disturbed boys in Toronto. Then I enrolled in the Anglican Theological College (later named the Vancouver School of Theology) at UBC

where I received my theological degree. Joy, my wife, came into my life at that time and we were married at St. Anselm's Church at UBC and went off to 'save' the world in Winnipeg.

After two years as a curate in two churches in Winnipeg, I decided that working in the church was not my 'niche' in life, so I went to work for three years as a parole officer with the National Parole Service, and then at Selkirk Mental Hospital for six years after receiving my Masters' of Social Work degree at the University of Manitoba.

Then Joy and I returned to Vancouver (together with our three children), where I worked for 12 years with the Ministry of Human Resources, first as a community developer, then as a District Supervisor and then a Manager of User Support in the Ministry's Systems Division. During those years I served as an Honorary Assistant Priest at St. Matthew's in Abbotsford and Holy Trinity Church in White Rock, followed by several years of no church participation. For several years I was Executive Director of Delta Youth Services, a nonprofit social services agency serving children, youth and families in Delta, taking an early retirement from that in 2002.

In 1996, I again felt God's call and approached Bishop Michael Ingham for permission to once again practice as a priest. After three years of part-time studies at VST I obtained permission to once again practice as a priest and provided Sunday supply at St. Monica's Horseshoe Bay. →

## Mark your calendars

The date has been set for the Spring Tea. It will be Saturday June 1st from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. We hope to have a "special" theme for this year's tea. There will be the usual array of tables inviting you to buy awesome baked goods and homemade crafts as well as some great gifts. So set aside the date and come and join us for an exciting afternoon of delicious sweets and sandwiches, and as always, an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

→ ***GV: Can you briefly describe the work you have done since your “retirement”?***

When I retired from Delta Youth Services in 2002, Bishop Michael asked me to serve as Intentional Interim Priest at St. Bartholomew’s and St. Aiden’s in Gibsons (2.5 years), then Interim priest at St. Dunstan’s Aldergrove (8 months) and then at St. John the Evangelist in North Vancouver (3.5 years). Each of these postings was to provide a ‘transitional’ ministry in parishes that were undergoing change.

***GV: Can you explain the process behind your coming to St. Stephen’s?***

Bishop Michael phoned me and asked if I was interested in ‘an adventure’ to mentor a newly ordained Korean priest as she begins her ministry at St. Stephen’s with the special task of working with the Korean population in Burnaby. After discussion with Joy, I agreed and then met with Valerie and Cynthia, the St. Stephen’s Wardens, and started my new assignment a week after Bishop Michael first phoned me.

***GV: How do you understand a half-time ministry to work on a weekly basis?***

Fortunately many lay members of St. Stephen’s are active in the parish, which means that my responsibilities will focus on working *with* them in our ministry, both supporting them and working with people directly as well (e.g. pastoral care, Christian education, worship). I am half-time (20 hours per

week) and I have set Thursdays and Fridays as the days I will work from my church office as well as Sunday morning. I will participate in meetings and pastoral visits on the other days of the week, as required.

***GV: How do you expect the transition to the shared ministry with Ka-Hyeon, the other priest, to unfold?***

Her name is Ka-Hyeon and she will begin her ministry after she is ordained a deacon in April or May. We will each

work 20 hours per week and I expect that during the first three months we will spend approximately four to six hours per week together, two of them on Sundays.

After three months, we can evaluate how much time we will need to spend together in mentorship. The mentorship will have two main foci: learning her role as a deacon and then as a priest for all people

in the parish; and, accessing and working with people of Korean ancestry.

***GV: How would you like people to communicate with you?***

Freely! I can be contacted anytime by email or phone. I love to have coffee/tea and conversation with anyone who wishes, preferably but not exclusively on Thursdays and Fridays.

***GV: Ok, let’s shift to some more personal subjects. What’s your favourite hymn?***

“I the Lord of Sea and Sky” (usually called, “Here I am, Lord”)

## Looking backward

Those of us who attended already know that the cooking class “Making Sausage Rolls - Peggy’s Way” was a sizzling and succulent success, blown fuses and all. Here’s a note from the chef:

“I was so pleased it went well and so many good people participated and I hope had fun. What a team and organization—the shopping, planning, and cleaning up. You are unbelievable!”

Grateful thanks,

*Peg Rockcliffe*

***GV: What do you like doing in your downtime?***

Hang out with Joy, work out at the Trevor Linden gym, read, take singing lessons, research genealogy, walk, and travel.

***GV: Would you like to tell us a little about your family?***

Joy is from the West Indies (Trinidad), where her ancestors from India settled in the nineteenth century. She trained and worked as an elementary school teacher in BC. She is very talented, especially in knitting, cooking, fabric arts, and editing my sermons. She volunteers with the Surrey Hospice and is the Coordinator of the South Fraser Gogo’s, a branch of the national group who raise awareness and money on behalf of the Stephen Lewis Foundation for African grandmothers who care for grandchildren orphaned as the result of HIV/AIDS.

We have three daughters, all of whom live in BC: Tara, married to Bill with Olivia (8), Spencer (18) and Aaron (18 year old step-son); Natasha –still →

→ single and living in Whistler; and Shireen, married to Vince with Maeryn (5), Chelsea (17 year old step-daughter) and Devon (19 year old step-son).

**GV: What has been your most life-changing experience?**

Meeting and marrying Joy!

**GV: What message would you like to give St. Stephen's?**

God is a mystery, full of wonder and awe, whom we experience knowingly or unknowingly every second. We experience Him/Her mainly, but not exclusively, in our relationships with others. Our "story" to live by, and share with others, is the life, love and compassion of Jesus.

## St. Stephen the Martyr Parish Council 2013

Priest-In-Charge	The Rev. Gary Hamblin
Wardens	Valerie Krause, Elaine Renforth
Treasurer	Bob Rusch
Secretary	Elaine Renforth
Lay Delegates to Synod	Colleen Butterley, Heather Doherty
Alternate Lay Delegates	Desiree Gore-Lindemere, Janet Pavlakovic
Youth Delegate	Ryan Funk
Stewardship Chair	--
Members at Large	Bobbie Carter, Cynthia Collins, June Garrett, Brenda MacDuff, Colin MacDuff
Church School Rep. (ex officio)	Betty Schellenberg

## Report on the Annual Vestry Meeting

St. Stephen's annual vestry meeting was held on Sunday, February 17, after a 10:00 a.m. service. Attendees were invited to think of the meeting as a "Celebration of the Parish." Despite the recent loss of our priest-in-charge, the Rev. Paul Bowie, and his family, there certainly were reasons for celebration and thankfulness. One of these, of course, is the appointment of a new half-time priest-in-charge, the Rev. Gary Hamblin. Another is the election of a nearly full slate of parish council members, headed by Valerie Krause, who continues as warden, and Elaine Renforth, who returns to this position after a one-year break. Thank-you to all who served on last year's council, all of whom are continuing in some capacity this year, and welcome to Brenda Macduff, who joins this year as one of the members at large.

Another cause for celebration is the slightly improved financial picture of the parish overall. We are in a net

surplus situation, mostly because of improved investment returns, but also in part because of our deficit fundraising total of \$7,452 in the past year, which offset a decrease in rental donations from groups using our building. The bottom line is that last

**"Thank you to all who served on last year's council, all of whom are continuing in some capacity this year..."**

year's operating shortfall was slightly lower than expected (\$3800 rather than \$4500), and was more than covered by a net increase in our invested assets. Next year's budgeted operating shortfall is \$7,285. This takes into account an expected increase in building rental donations of almost \$5000, and a decrease in budgeted

rector's costs of about \$10,000 and in building costs of about \$5000. We are looking at some unusual expenses related to the expected start-up of the Korean ministry (St. Stephen's is responsible for about 25% of the total start-up costs) and our centennial celebration (\$2000). The shortfall is slightly less than what we raised in our special deficit fund-raising last year.

Of interest was the final report of the Regional Ministry Assessment Process (MAP), presented by Geri Grigg with the assistance of Colleen Butterley. Although all four parishes involved approved the proposal for a blended model of ministry at their 2012 vestry meetings, the process has stagnated subsequently. It is Geri's and Colleen's view that this was partly a result of the 4 parishes involved undergoing leadership transitions at the same time, which made it inappropriate to undertake major new projects. There was also fatigue from the long-term →

→ MAP, and a lack of clear leadership going forward. However, the group will be meeting again in September, and there is agreement that the four parishes need to continue to look at pooling ministries and strengths. It was also clarified that the three focal points identified in our own parish's MAP—worship, hospitality, healing—can continue to be our emphases. These are not related to the regional MAP.

The proposal that our parish partner with the diocese in developing a ministry with the Korean-language community around St. Stephen's was brought to the meeting for discussion and vote. The proposal covers five years, with a plan ultimately to have two services, one in English and one in Korean, each Sunday. (This proposal does not involve the Korean Methodist Church which is currently out tenant.) The forms of support from the diocese will be not only financial (payment of the curate's salary, etc.), but also in areas such as needs assessment and communications. It was mentioned that the diocese will need to recognize that this ministry can only be grown slowly; our new priest-in-charge has training and experience in community development, which will be helpful here. It was also noted that the parish community must understand this new direction as creating a new "we," not as an "us" vs. "them" situation. The vestry members voted unanimously in favour of the motion.

Other items of discussion included the upcoming centennial celebrations, the future of St. Margaret's, the need for a parish webmaster, and the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster, to which we are invited to nominate long-term parishioners. A committee of volunteers was formed to plan the centennial, and Sarah Pridy volunteered to serve as parish webmaster.

*Betty Schellenberg, Grapevine editor*

## Mission and Ministry

*This article is the first in an ongoing series ....*

What is God calling us to do in the coming year? You will be hearing this question asked at our Parish many times over the next weeks.

Everyone at St. Stephen's needs to ask themselves this question - as it relates to you personally and as it relates to your commitment to St. Stephen's.

In his book *The S Word, The Most Reverend Douglas Hambidge* says, "We are called to be stewards of God's future: not just collectors of money, not fund-raisers, but stewards entrusted with God's agenda with which to shape the future for God and for the Kingdom." We all have a place at St.

Stephen's. As Hambidge explains, "All are welcome, all have a place, all belong, because we are at the table by invitation [of] Jesus himself. We are at the table not because we are good and kind and friendly or even religious. We are certainly not there because we are perfect. We are invited to the table because this is one of the ways that God says to all of us, 'I Love You!' There are no first class or second class guests. We stand or kneel together. We do not choose who our neighbour might be, nor is anyone singled out for special treatment. We are simply invited to share 'the gifts of God for the people of God.'"

Thanks be to God!

*Colleen Butterley and Elaine Renforth*

### The Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table Presents:

Community Dialogue Session 3: Living Our Faith in Burnaby

- Date:** Wednesday March, 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
**Time:** 6:30-8:30 pm (registration & refreshments at 5:30 pm)  
**Location:** National Nikkei Heritage Centre (6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby)  
**Topic:** **Living our Faith in Burnaby**  
**Registration:** This session is FREE, and everyone is welcome BUT pre-registration is required and early registration is strongly encouraged.  
**Who should attend:** The **Strengthening Bridges in Burnaby** project hosts a series of community dialogues to discuss ways that faith and inter-faith (different faiths working together) can make Burnaby a more welcoming and inclusive community. If you are interested in this topic, and in learning more about Burnaby's diverse faith groups, please join us for this important conversation.

For more information about the Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table, please visit [www.bipt.ca](http://www.bipt.ca).

To register go to: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Register2InterFaith\\_3](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Register2InterFaith_3)

## St. Stephen's Lending Library

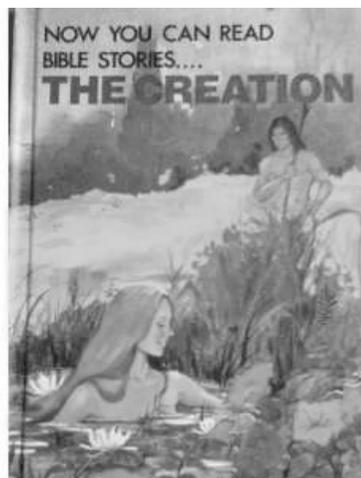


This report will focus on two series of children's books, although the second will be of interest to adults too.

### Now You Can Read Bible Stories

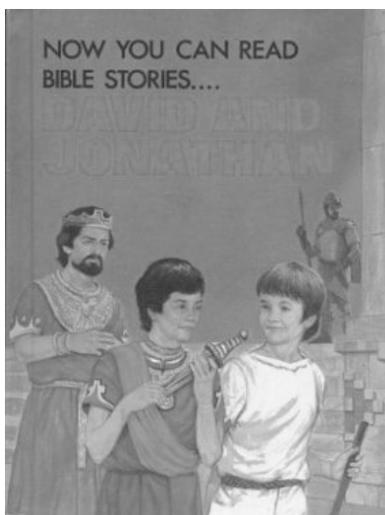
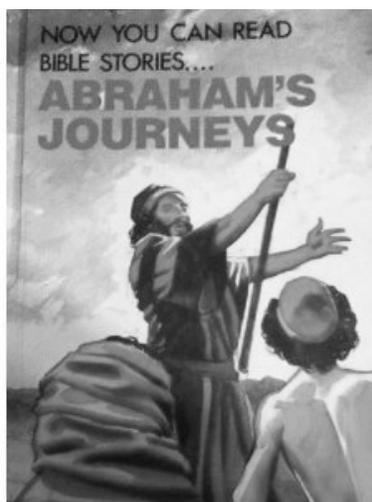
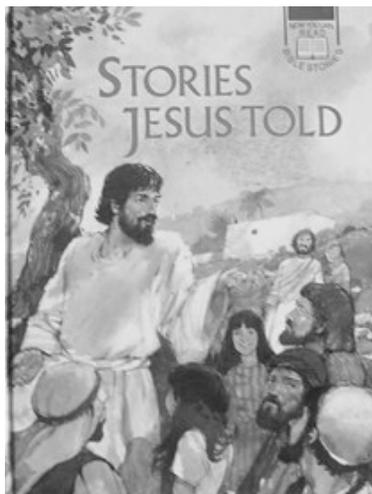
This is an easy to read, beautifully illustrated series. The individual books include the following Old Testament stories:

*The Creation; Moses in the Bullrushes; Jonah; David and Jonathan (with the story of Goliath); Abraham's Journey; Joseph and His Brothers; Samuel; A Cure for Naaman; and Elijah*



For the New Testament, there are:

*Stories Jesus Told; Peter and John at the Beautiful Gate; Mary and Martha*



These 12 books will be on display for you or your children to sign out, take home, and enjoy.

### *The Bible in Pictures*

This series of three purple or mauve binders offers pages enclosed in a clear plastic slipcover, each with a finely detailed pencil drawing and an excellent short description or explanation of the picture. They collectively tell the story of the Bible under these three categories:

*The Bible in Pictures Part I – The Story of Jesus*

*The Bible in Pictures Part II – The Story of His People (primarily Old Testament stories)*

*The Bible in Pictures Part III – The Story of His Church (mostly St. Paul, the Apostles, and others spreading the Good News)*

These three binders of stories will likely appeal most to older children (aged 8-11), but teens wanting to get a "Coles notes with pictures" version of the stories will enjoy this series as well. Adults young and old will also enjoy them.

The binders will also be on display on the Lending Library table when it is set out on the east side of the church hall.

*Rosemarie Bell, Librarian*

*(Editor's Note: Rosemarie informs me that this will be her final book report for the newsletter. We'll miss her vivid descriptions of the books in our church library—thank-you, Rosemarie! Reports on books, movies, CDs, art exhibits, or concerts of interest to our parish are always welcome from any parishioner.)*

## Choosing a Career: Money versus Interest By Kevin Funk

*(Editor's Note: This article appeared in the Coquitlam Now for February 8, 2013, and is reprinted by permission. It is hoped that it might be the first in a Grapevine series of articles contributed by youth columnists.)*



It's become common knowledge by now that if you're unsure of where to go career wise, you should find out what you would like to do the most. High school is nothing if not a template for finding out just that. I'm sure my brother would have been introduced to his love of photography years later in his life if it had not been for his high school photo class.

But what do you do when what you want to do clashes with what you want from it?

For years journalism has been my primary career choice. I love how a job as a newspaper columnist or reporter would not only keep me in the know but grant me the honour of keeping my readers in it.

But although I like knowing what road I'm heading down, I know that I've chosen an unpredictable one. Let me sum up what I mean for you with the oh-so-optimistic words of one of my friends: "There's no money in journalism."

This is one of those unwritten facts that is only half true. A Canadian census in 2006 shows that journalists make about \$54,335 a year, which is well above the national average of \$36,301. So our reporters aren't quite famished and living in cardboard boxes.

But this does raise a question. What do you do when what you love pays significantly less than what you can tolerate?

The idea of being an electrician has never crossed my mind as something I'd like doing, but its pay is usually higher than the low level journalism work of a local paper job. Both take years of post secondary education before any respectable employer would consider you ready for the work.

So why should I settle for the one that's likely to pay me less? I suppose in my case money simply isn't something I value over enjoying what I do. But not

every student on the edge of their education is so decided.

If I had a quarter for every kid I've met who doesn't know what he or she is going to do after they graduate, I'd

never need to make a lunch before school again. But their decision, at least in many of the minds of their parents, must be made - and soon.

And so to those uncertain souls I say: look both inwards and outwards to help make your decision.

Find out about yourself the things in a job you find appealing, then use the Internet or talk to someone you know in the field you're

researching to find out which one is for you. Compare the financial and non-financial benefits of the jobs you've looked into. The choice can only become clearer from there.

Of course there are other issues that can keep clarity just out of your reach. How much time you want to spend studying before you can actually do your job probably comes to mind. This is just as important as other career questions one might have, but it's a lot easier to answer.

Do you think you can keep your sanity after six more years of school?

If not, then for the safety of those around you don't try to be a doctor or a teacher.

*Kevin Funk*

**"If I had a quarter for every kid I've met who doesn't know what he or she is going to do after they graduate, I'd never need to make a lunch before school again."**