



ST. DAVID'S
UNITED CHURCH

The Shepherd

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November, 2011

*Our Annual Advent Retreat
December 2nd to 4th (Friday to Sunday noon)
Rivendell Retreat Centre on Bowen Island*

See page 11 for more details

*10,000 Villages @ St. David's
Sunday, November 20th*

See page 13 for more details

Passage to India

See page 5 for details

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Reflections...

*Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.
Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.
Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.
Blessed are you when people hate you,
and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you
on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap
for joy,
for surely your reward is great in heaven...*

In the upside-down, inside-out world of the kingdom of heaven, Jesus names those who, in God's eyes, are blessed. Those same people we would likely consider most unfortunate (those who are poor, hungry, those who weep...), those we would more likely offer pity than headline status, Jesus sees differently. Jesus articulates the vision of heaven and calls them "blessed."

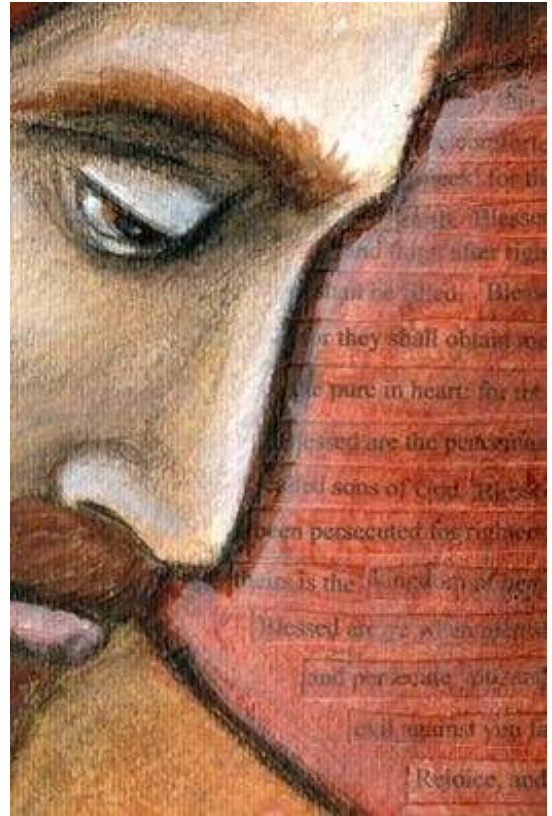
Another nuance for the word "blessed" is honourable. The poor, the hungry, the grieving, are to be honoured. Remember, while Occupy Wall Street draws attention to the 99% in North American society, Jesus was drawing attention to the vast majority of the Jewish population who lived in abject poverty. Yes, our middle class is shrinking, but there was no middle class in first century Palestine. You were rich or poor, or very poor. Being poor had nothing to do with laziness. They were poor because the wealthy took from the impoverished. No doubt most peasants detested this system but felt powerless to change anything. They had no vote, no police, no system of justice, no recourse. So for Jesus to claim that the poor should be honoured was even more surprising than it is now.

Yet another translation of the word "blessed" is "Congratulations!" The same kind of congratulations we might extend to a friend who won the lottery or to one who is able to retire early or to the Canadian baseball team who just won third place in the Pan American Games – Congratulations! You're a winner!

Inherent in Jesus odd list of those who are blessed is courage. Those who have been pressed down by circumstances, those who have had the chair pulled out from under them, are not forgotten by God. They are beloved. They are cherished. In God's eyes, those who have suffered are given first place. Congratulations, you honourable and courageous people!

Considering our situation at St. David's, I'd like to say, "Congratulations!" to all you who are willing to engage the challenges before us. You are honourable!

Congratulations! to you who love the church so much you keep supporting it and you faithfully show-up even in uncertain times.



Congratulations! to you who can disagree without belittling or vilifying each other and show us how to disagree with respect and perhaps even with love.

Congratulations! to you who suffer the gossip of community and hear things said about St. David's in the isles of Safeway or your neighbourhood cafes. Rejoice and be glad, for you are embraced by a Love beyond all specious opinion and chatter.

You are honoured. You are a blessing to this beloved community. "You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world." In these days of hope and expectation, may you drink from the everflowing streams of God's surprising grace.



Blessed to walk this journey with you,

Dan

Worship in November: Each Sunday, Something Special

(Wow, what a month!)

November 6 Remembrance Day service and communion.

November 13 Some of the youth from the BC Conference Evolve event will be staying at St. David's and joining us for worship this day. Our children and youth will help lead worship and Dan's reflection will be on authenticity: the courage to be who you are.

November 20 *Possibly*: Bruce and Cheryl Harding may join us for worship offering their beautiful and exuberant music steeped in tradition and inspired by music from around the world.

November 27 The First Sunday of Advent! Music! Banners! Candles! The season of great anticipation. (Lighting the Candle of Hope)



What's Happening...

Bible Study

Each Thursday you're invited to wade into, splash around and dive into the scriptures as we explore their meaning in our everyday challenges and delights of living. A small group meets from 11:30 – 12:30 in the Lounge to listen to the wisdom of these ancient texts. Feel free to drop in when you can.

breathing lessons contemplative retreat

time spent attending to you, to God and to others.

Saturday November 5th from 9:30am to 3:00pm (with lunch break)

Registration: \$30 suggested donation

includes coffee, tea, snacks)

Register by Wed. November 2 to donnadins@gmail.com

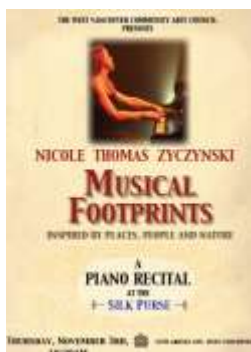
or by calling **604.961.1957**

Bring: a bag lunch and a journal

Facilitator: Donna Dinsmore www.donnadinsmore.com

Passage to India

In October, Janet Gear (St. David's member and faculty at VST) had the opportunity to attend the Mind and Life Institute's Conference with the Dalai Lama on *Environment, Ethics and Interdependence*. For over a week, Janet stayed with a small group of scholars and philanthropists at the Dalai Lama's compound in Dharamsala, India. On **Sunday, November 20**, she'll share stories and photographs of her trip in the sanctuary from **11:30 - 12:15**. Imagine: you can do some Christmas shopping in the Lounge with beautiful Fair Trade items from 10,000 Villages, then bring your coffee or tea into the sanctuary for a trip to India with Janet, all in one hour!



Nicole will be performing a selection of her recent compositions at the Silk Purse on Thursday, November 3rd at 10:30AM. CDs are also available for sale in the office, please inquire. Your support will be appreciated.

A copy of the poster is on the landing.

Music at St. David's

SINGERS AND MUSICIANS WANTED!!!

A warm invitation to all those who are interested in sharing their music (voice/instrument) with us in this upcoming season of Advent/Christmas. Please contact Nicole ASAP as she will be planning the music accordingly. Phone: 778 926 4286 or Email: nicole@stdavidsunited.com"

Children Youth and Families

Children Youth and Families

It's that time of year when we're surrounded by the decay of leaves, plants and gardens that just a short while ago were beautiful and productive, and I am reminded of this time two years ago when I put out a request for autumn leaves. I had decided to make a lasagne garden. No...not a vegetable patch devoted to oregano, basil and tomatoes, but a vegetable box built on our lawn, with layers of organic materials, eg. Newspapers, Coffee grounds, kitchen compost materials, leaves, and a bit of topsoil. And similar to an edible lasagne, the layers are repeated and meld together to create something rich, and if you're a seed or earthworm, delicious! So with your donations of autumn leaves and the assistance of family members, a lasagne garden was created 18 months ago. In the two summers since, from decayed leaves and recycled food and paper scraps, we have harvested an abundance of vegetablescucumber, squash, lettuce, beans, leeks, spinach and joy. We've fed ourselves, our neighbors and friends and contributed fresh produce to the food bank. Thank you for those leaves!

This is the perfect time to build a lasagne garden and to bring forth life after death....and to witness for yourself and your children, new beginnings from sad endings. If you are interested and need resources, be in touch with Colleen and let Leanne put out a call for autumn leaves!

Blessings,
Colleen



Youth Events

Thursday-Sunday, November 10-13 Evolve Youth Conference The B.C. Conference youth event, Evolve, will be here before we know it. This year's event will be held close by at Highlands United Church, in Edgemont Village. Youth from grade 7 up to young adults, will come from all over the province for this event which has been in place on the second weekend in November, for decades! St. David's is a host sleepover church for the grade 7-9 group, (although some of our youth who live locally, may choose to stay home in their own beds).

Register now and come for community, amazing worship, dynamic speakers, a dance, spiritual practices, socializing and gathering as a community of faith. As I write, there are six youth from St. David's registered with more to come, and Colleen Blair is registered as well to take advantage of the youth ministry component of the event. For information or to register, contact

colleen@stdavidsunited.com or go directly to www.surveymonkey.com/s/evolve2011

Friday, November 18 Out of the Cold High School youth are invited First United Church to join with other members of the congregation in serving a hot meal to people in the Downtown Eastside. Watch your email for details!

Friday, November 25th Bowling Junior and senior youth are invited to come bowling!

Junior Youth: Meet at St. David's at 4:30 and Colleen along with a parent, will drive the youth to the bowling alley on Third St. in North Vancouver. Parents will pick up youth from the bowling alley at 6.

Senior Youth: Meet at 6:30 at the bowling alley. Parents can either pick up from the bowling alley 8:30 or from St. David's at 8:45.

Details and carpooling arrangements can be made closer to the date. It may be more convenient for parents in North Vancouver to drop off their junior youth at the bowling alley than come to St. David's. A parent volunteer to accompany us would be very welcome. Please let Colleen know if you are available.

Wednesday, November 30th Vow of Silence We encourage youth to take part in the ***Take the VOW of (SILENCE)*** on November 30th either in their schools or as part of their youth group. Go silent for the voiceless. Stand up for children's rights and show your solidarity by taking the Vow of Silence. Free the Children's Vow of Silence campaign aims to raise money and awareness for the world's exploited children, by encouraging youth to stay silent for 24 hours. No talking. No texting. No e-mail. For information go to www.freethechildren.com/vowofsilence

101 million children worldwide are not receiving a formal education. More than half of them are girls. **215 million** children are forced to work as child labourers. **53%** of child labourers are involved in dangerous work, in risk of injury, illness or death. **300 million** children under the age of five are currently living in areas affected by armed conflict. **One billion** children are deprived of one or more services essential to survival and development. **One in every three** children in developing countries are malnourished, suffering up to 160 days of illness each year.

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November 30thTake the VOW of SILENCE!

Parents, Families and Teachers

Thursday, November 17th....Vegetarian Potluck for Parents

Whether you're a long time vegetarian or just thinking of cutting back on meat and looking for ideas and recipes, come to this potluck! Sometimes the biggest stumbling block to shifting away from consumption of meat is the question "What will I serve instead?" And yet, as Jonathan Safran Foer says, "One of our greatest opportunities to live our values-or betray them- lies in the food we put on our plates." It matters what we eat. Wendell Berry reminds us that how we choose to eat determines to a very large extent, how the earth is used. So....bring your favorite vegetarian dish along with recipe and join Colleen and others at her home on Thursday November 17th, 6:45, for a vegetarian feast. RSVP to colleen@stdavidsunited.com. If you don't yet have any vegetarian favorites, your offering of a beverage would be very welcome!

Animal agriculture makes a 40% greater contribution to global warming than all transportation in the world combined; it is the number one cause of climate change. UN study quoted in Eating Animals, by Jonathan Safran Foer

Thursday, November 24th...Sunday school teachers meeting at 7:30. For those people signed up to teach from November 27th to January 15th, we will meet at St. David's to prepare for the Advent and Christmas seasons in Sunday school!

Something for Everyone

You're Invited!

An Advent Party and Potluck Supper 5pm Sunday, November 27th

Young and old are invited to this annual celebration of the start of the Advent season. The event begins with crafts and activities, which this year will revolve around the theme of light. There will also be an opportunity for people to make an advent wreath/tablecenter.

At 6 p.m. we'll clean up and enjoy a delicious potluck dinner in the company of friends and end with a few minutes singing carols and Christmas favorites in the sanctuary before heading home.

Sign up on the landing and indicate if you would like to make an advent wreath/table center and if you need supplies (eg. Candles, tray and candle holders). Bring your own evergreen supplies! If you need information, please be in touch with Colleen. A small group of volunteers are needed to help put on this event. Please either indicate that you are able to help, when you sign up for this event, or be in touch via email!

Parent Resources Available....

There are a number of DVD resources available for parents to borrow. Let Colleen know you're interested and make arrangements to pick up anything you're interested in.

Making Sense of Play: Why children need to play and what they need for true play to result. By Dr. Gordon Neufeld, Ph.D.

Making Sense of Discipline: The INs and OUTs of imposing order on children's behaviour. Dr. Gordon Neufeld, Ph.D.

Sexy Inc.: Our Children Under Influence A critical look at the phenomenon of hypersexualization, an NFB documentary

Cyberbullying, (a primetime documentary on loan to us from Sabine Ritson)

Thank You!

Thank you to the youth, Bob Burrows, and Janet Gear for the Spring Bulb sale that resulted in \$300 being raised for famine relief in the Horn of Africa!

To all who participated in the Halloween lunch and pumpkin carving event, a heartfelt thank you! The money raised will go to provide all of the building tools, equipment and supplies to build one sand dam in Tanzania. Sand dams are bringing new hope to communities in Kenya, Mozambique and Tanzania. The sand filters and stores water, raising the water table thus allowing crops and tree nurseries to thrive in nearby terraces. *If you were not able to be at the lunch but would like to support this project, please be in touch with Leanne, in the church office, or Colleen.* (This is a project of the Mennonite Central Committee)



“When water is scarce, the rhythm of family life is shaped around this basic need. Family members, most often women and girls, spend hours gathering and carrying water home. Food is more difficult to grow, and nutrition suffers. Whenever water can be brought closer to home, life begins to change.”

From our Board Chair

The heart of the matter

The last couple of months have been an emotional time at St. David's. For many it has been a shock to hear that we are considering significant changes.

Like you, I had heard rumblings from the church leadership for a few years, saying we are being stressed with declining dollars and volunteer time. But it was always an abstract concept. I thought sure, mainstream churches are facing declines but St. David's is thriving and robust. Maybe it would be a problem for us in the longer term, but it's not something that affects the church day-to-day or even year-to-year.



Then last year I got involved at the board level and had a chance to see firsthand how NOT abstract our challenges are. I see us struggling to balance our annual budgets, let alone pay for facility maintenance. I see the same dozen or so people putting in ridiculously long hours because they care so deeply about St. David's and can't bear to let anyone down. I hear how committees ten years ago had 12 active members each, but today those committees are gone completely, or have maybe one or two people (we still call them the chairperson but they are the entire committee).

I hear how frustrated these volunteers become trying to get others involved. When people tell you they are more stressed out by their church than by their jobs or family life, that's a clear sign something needs to change. I could encourage them to just step down and take a break, but they know and I know there is nobody to step in and take their place.

None of this happened overnight. None of this is anyone's fault. No one was asleep at the switch. There have been many attempts over the years to change the way we do things. And don't get me wrong, we've done some fantastic things over the years. In many important ways we shine brightly and continue to be (in my opinion) the best church on the North Shore. We have great people doing great work. We have a wide cross-section of generations involved. An engaging children's program. Thought-provoking and inspiring messages from the pulpit. There's a long list of things for which we can be rightly proud.

But in spite of all our strengths, those nagging problems -- chronic shortfalls of volunteer time and dollars -- keep getting worse.

Now, we can talk on and on about our challenges and our options. Some of us feel we *have* talked on and on about this, and some of you feel we have too :-). But all this "rational" talk doesn't change the fact that people are angry, or frustrated, or grieving, or confused, or any number of "negative" emotions. We have heard from a few people who are optimistic and excited about the prospects of change, but the loudest voices have been decidedly unhappy ones.

No one is here to tell you NOT to feel these emotions (not that we could anyway). It's not even accurate to say those emotions are bad or wrong. There are often legitimate reasons to feel anger. And it's natural to feel confused or overwhelmed during times of change. It's healthy to grieve, to not repress our sense of loss.

But it's what we DO with these so-called negative emotions that is important. HOW we deal with these emotions is what matters, and in many ways challenges us to live our Christian faith. Frankly, it's easy to "do the right thing" when times are good, when resources are plentiful, when things go our way. It's

not much of a moral accomplishment that we act charitably when, by any measure, we have it better than anyone on the planet.

The real test is how we act during times of adversity or stress. Do we resort to blaming or criticizing others or do we really make an effort to be compassionate? Do we seek to understand as much as to be understood? Do we sow love when we see people getting irate or do we fan the flames of hatred? Do we seek to console others or do we only care about being consoled ourselves?

It's fair to say we've seen the full range of those behaviours in the past few months at St. David's. In some ways it's to be expected - after all, we're a community of people like any other. But to be blunt, we can do better than that. We SHOULD do better than that, if we profess to be followers of Jesus. Take anger for example. Properly managed, anger can be a catalyst. It can give you energy and focus. Where anger causes trouble is when we nurse it internally or lash out externally. When you feel anger rising ask yourself these questions, see what choices you make:

1. When I get angry, do I assume something is *bad* or do I assume there's something I *don't know*?
2. Do I react without thinking or do I gather more information about what's going on?
3. Do I blame outside forces, people and events or do I take responsibility for how I feel?
4. If I speak or act in anger, in my experience does that usually help the situation or harm it?

This is where practices like meditation or contemplative prayer come in handy. Or good old-fashioned "counting to ten". The idea is to help you recognize emotions as they arise and see them for what they are. By making anger an object of your awareness it loses a lot of power over you. It's just an energy you can observe like any other, it's not YOU. It's less about you "being" angry as it is "having" or "witnessing" anger. Then it's easier to choose what you want to do about it.

Here are some ways to deal with anger:

- **Seek information & clarification.** Case in point: of the dozens of hours I've spent listening to people express anger, suspicion, even condemnation of the folks who are advocating change, not a single person asked *why* the board and church leaders are recommending change in the first place.
- **Look at the big picture.** Step back and appreciate everything we have and everything we can do. It's actually quite amazing what we *could* accomplish if we really set our minds and hearts to it.
- **Humour.** It helps defuse anger if we lighten up, and don't take ourselves so seriously. Remember, before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes. Or something like that.
- **Dialog.** We're all in this together, so let's talk about it and work as a team to find the best ways to move forward.



Why is this important? Why all this focus on our emotional responses? Because the future of St. David's depends on what we do and how we behave as a community in the next few months. We can bicker, complain and point fingers, feeling sorry for ourselves and spinning our wheels. Or we can work together with optimism and compassion and find a way forward that is loving, nurturing and enthusiastic about the future.

Let's choose the latter.- Emmanuel

This year's Advent Retreat...



Finally! We have a date!

Please reserve Friday evening – Sunday noon, **December 2-4 and register today!** (We need to let Rivendell know how many rooms we will need, as the staff need to make available to others rooms we will not use).

Where is it? At the beautiful Rivendell Retreat Center on Bowen Island.

Who's the retreat for? Men and women of all ages.

Will I have a private room? Yes, unless you'd like to share.

What will we do?

- Enjoy each other's company
- Sing and pray and worship
- Bask in unrushed periods of silence
- Sleep, walk, sit by the fire, read, be restored, laugh
- Reflect together on the waiting times in our life, when we're no longer where we were but not yet where we'll be. We'll consider the difference between anxious waiting and waiting with faith and hope.

Who will facilitate? Dan and Colleen and music by Nicole.

How much does it cost?

- **Meals** = \$35.00
- **Retreat center** = whatever you can contribute. The Rivendell policy is that no one should not come because of lack of finances; however, they also suggest that whatever you'd pay for meals is also an acceptable donation. In the past, those who were able offered \$50.00 or \$60.00 for each night of their stay; however, it's genuinely a sliding scale. This is a ministry for Rivendell, not for profit.
- **Ferry (round trip)** = \$10.20 for a passenger \$30.00 for an automobile

If possible, we'd recommend you carpool from St. David's or walk-on and arrange a ride from the ferry station in Snug Cove.

What will we eat? Delicious food! Friday night Connie O'Conner and the St. David's staff will host your Friday night Sabbath meal (try to be there by 7:00). Saturday lunch and dinner will be catered; *bring your own breakfast food* for Saturday and Sunday (you can bring coffee and tea but the Retreat center also provides).

Can I come for only one day? I'd like to include everyone and say "yes," but Rivendell has a firm policy that people come for at least two nights. They don't want the facility to be used as a meeting room but a retreat center. They rightfully note that it takes time to unwind and for the mind to quiet down to move more deeply into prayer. Two nights is a minimum.

How do I register and when? Please register *today* (**deadline is November 15!**). Call Leanne or register on Sunday; mail a check or bring one on Sunday, November 6 or 13.

(We apologize for the late notice: we've been on a waiting list and have only recently found out our dates. Thank you for... patiently waiting!)

Early December Dates to Note:

An unrushed hour...Thursdays in December (Dec. 1, 8, 15, and 22) Drop in to the sanctuary *anytime* between 7 and 8:30 and breath your way into deep peace and tranquility. Let beautiful music and candlelight wash over you and create a sanctuary in time. Be still...Breath....Be....

Tuesday, Dec. 13 A Quiet Christmas service, 7:30 p.m. The season of Advent can be frantic for some and laden with complexity and deep longing for many. Sink into the intimate oasis of beauty and spirit at this candle lit service of music, poetry and prayer. 7:30-8:20, followed by refreshments around the fire.

Looking Ahead: Mark Your Calendars!

December 2-4 Advent Retreat at Rivendell

Tuesday, December 13 Quiet Christmas (7:30 - 8:30 pm)

Friday, December 16 Out of the Cold dinner @ First United

Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 25 Christmas Day Pajama service -- children young and old are invited to come to worship in their bathrobe, slippers and PJ's and bring a favourite toy if they'd like as we gather for carols and stories and Christmas cookies to share after the service.

Outreach

Out of the Cold – November 18th. Please contact Cythia Sedun or the office if you can help.

The Children of Korogocho Project is one of the initiatives of the OUTREACH COMMITTEE. Each fall we raise funds to support Home Day Cares for pre-school children and school uniforms and fees for older children who live in the poor community of Korogocho, on the outskirts of Nairobi, Kenya.



Staff member David Oketch is in charge of training and supervising the mothers who provide safe day care for preschoolers in their own humble one-room homes. The mothers and a community committee identify orphans and vulnerable children who would not be able to attend school without help with obligatory uniforms and fees. David makes regular reports to our Outreach Committee via Joan Burrows and Becky Knapton, and sends pictures and messages of appreciation for our support.

Our children and grandchildren go off to school well-fed, well-dressed and well-equipped. In Korogocho, crime, disease, and this year drought and famine, all are a part of life. So our contributions are especially needed.

100% of all our donations goes directly to Korogocho. You will receive a tax receipt and, if you like, a gift card for Christmas for your donation of \$25 or more. Simply write a cheque payable to ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH and clearly mark CHILDREN OF KOROGOCHO in the memo line. Drop it off at the church or mail it, or phone the office (604-922-3961) to donate by VISA.

The accompanying pictures show one of the Home Day cares, where our money has been used to provide mats and other materials, and the children receiving new school uniforms in September.



Your Purchase Makes a Difference.



Mark your calendars, invite your friends and neighbours, and get a head start on your Christmas shopping! On **Sunday November 20th**, St. David's will be once again partnering with **Ten Thousand Villages** Robson store in hosting a **Fair Trade Bazaar**, with a large variety of unique, hand-crafted and one-of-a-kind items which represent the handiwork of people from countries around the world, who receive fair remuneration for their labour and materials, and whose human rights are respected in the production. <http://www.tenthousandvillages.ca/>

Ten Thousand Villages partners with thousands of talented artisans in healthy business relationships, and St. David's is pleased to host them for a **one day sale in our church lounge at 11:00 am on November 20th following our regular church service.**

Ten Thousand Villages is generously donating 15% of the total sales revenue that morning back to our Outreach projects.

Men and women around the globe have a simple dream – to earn an honest living, to provide for their children and to be gainfully employed in a job that brings dignity and joy. Often referred to as 'Fair Trade,' the philosophy of helping to build a sustainable future is based on the principle that trade should have a conscience. Through Fair Trade, artisans receive the respect, dignity and hope that come from working hard and earning fair value for their work.

Please support as you are able this St. David's community initiative to live out our mission of Changed Lives, Changed World by purchasing fair trade, guilt-free gifts and products for yourself and others right here in the lounge after worship service. Thank you for your caring support!

Becky Knapton
Outreach Chairperson



Update on the Al-Azaizeh family



The refugee family from the El Hol camp in Syria that St. David's and other North Shore church communities sponsored to come to Canada has been settling in to their new home in South Burnaby since their arrival 6 months ago.

At the time of this writing, the two older children, Quods and Ali, are learning and making new friends at Edmonds Community School, and are excited about their costumes and Halloween activities.

The youngest child, Omar, has recently celebrated his 1st birthday, and is becoming much more mobile.

Parents Senaa and Enam are attending English language classes at alternating times to allow spell one another off with childcare, and are becoming more comfortable using the bus.

It has not all been smooth and easy, and of course there are still challenges. Here's how you can continue to help:

1. Dental work – due to poor living conditions in the camp, family members require extensive dental work. It is expensive. Fortunately, both school-age children are able to access a clinic at UBC and travel via bus with their school, and there are clinics with reduced fees, but transportation and translation are issues.
NEEDED: drivers and translators, and financial donations
2. A toddler bed for baby Omar who now climbs out of his crib
3. A computer and printer
4. Money for warm and waterproof coats and boots for the family
5. Volunteers to act as Arabic translators, and to do child-minding while parents attend English classes, and to help and visit at other times
6. A part-time job for Senaa (father). He is strong and able-bodied. Of course it would need to be close to home, and he is just learning English

Anyone interested in supporting our outreach work with this and other refugee families is encouraged to get involved. There will be a meeting of all on the North Shore committee on Nov. 8th at 7:00 pm at Highlands United.

Please contact Becky Knapton at 604.980.0891 or becky@canken.net if you would like to help or learn more about this and other St. David's Outreach initiatives. I will be attending the workshop on November 4th. (see attached poster)

Thank you and blessings!

Christmas Hamper Program The St. David's Outreach Committee would like to request the support of the congregation again this year, by providing Christmas hampers for families on limited incomes and living below the poverty line. All families are registered Members of the Ray-Cam Community Centre at 920 East Hastings Street in Vancouver. Please consider supporting this worthwhile program for those in need and watch for more information to be posted on the Church Landing in the future.



St. David's Reads...

A thank you to those who returned their overdue library books or replaced lost ones! The following books have been added to our collection. Please come and have a look!

Biography



Letters from the Lost. A memoir of discovery by Helen Waldstein Wilkes

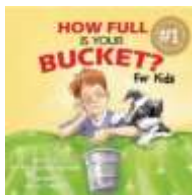
Books for parents



The Bully, the Bullied and the Bystander by Barbara Coloroso

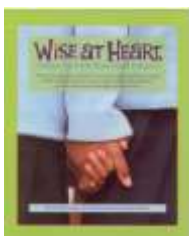


Kids Are Worth It by Barbara Coloroso



How Full Is Your Bucket? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids by Brody Harman

For Youth



Wise at Heart: Children and Adults Share Words of Wisdom by Carol McCloud