

The Rock

"You are Peter and on this Rock I will build my church" Matthew 16-18

The online voice of St. Peter's Anglican Church
Upper Gullies, Conception Bay South, NL, Canada

Web: www.stpeterscbs.ca
E-mail: admin@stpeterscbs.ca
Ph: (709)744-2648

The Reverend Jean M. Smith, Rector
The Reverend Irving Letto, Interim Administrator

Jack Morgan, Editor

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"And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them." Luke 3:18

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Welcome to the second edition of 'The Rock' online! I am pleasantly surprised by the positive feedback from the inaugural edition and therefore encouraged to continue to spread the good news of St. Peter's, CBS.

I am still feeling my way around in terms of getting a good quality newsletter published; from the proper font style and size to what it should contain. I (in consultation with the Rector) have decided that pretty well everything pertaining to news at St. Peter's, and some outside stories of community interest will be considered. Upcoming events, notices, good news stories, historical pieces and more will hopefully be seen in upcoming editions.

However, your feedback will be my guide - suggestions always welcome.

Jack

Hero's of St. Peter's

The Value of the Prayer Shawl Ministry

'The concept of the ministry is simple with no strings attached with its roots based in love and prayer. Shawl making combines the ancient method of

needlework and prayer into a tangible unconditional symbol of care, concern and celebration.’ (*The Crochet Prayer Shawl Companion*. Janet Bristow & Victoria A. Cole-Galo 2010). This motto is the framework in which St. Peter’s knitters and crocheters operate.

St. Peter’s Prayer Shawl ministry spokesperson, **Kim Lawlor** says the this ministry has recently gained momentum all over North America, however knitting and crocheting as a service to others is not new for Anglican Women. “This has been a long standing tradition in the Church,” says **Kim**.

St. Peter’s Prayer Shawl group met for the first time in the winter of 2016. The dedicated assembly consists of nineteen women who are knitting, crocheting or distributing shawls, which are given to those in need of comfort or in celebration of a life event. The ministry is inclusive, embracing all recipients regardless of gender or religion. The Shawls are prayerfully created as a symbol of the **Unconditional Love of God**. The beneficiary is enfolded in the prayers and good intentions of St. Peter’s Church.

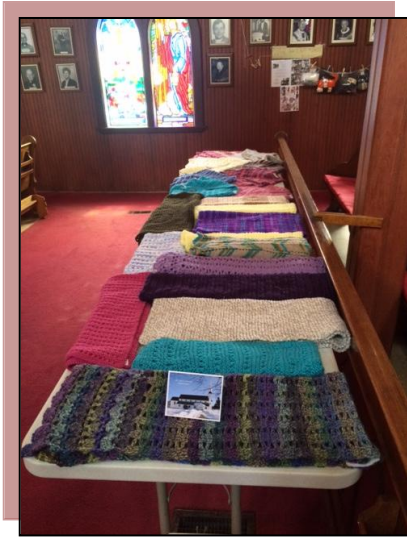
“To date, 38 shawls have been placed around the shoulders of someone who was in need of the comfort these shawls can provide,” said **Kim**. “Prior to the distribution, the shawls are blessed by a priest.”

Recipients also receive a card inscribed with the following prayer:

*This is a prayer Shawl
Made with love, woven with prayers
Created for you with peaceful thoughts.
In the warmth of the shawl
May you feel God’s comfort
And the spirit of healing
In a time of need
Through the power of prayer
May God bless you.*

(St. Peter’s Prayer Shawl Ministry)

“Forming a prayer shawl group is a great way to involve many people in a ministry. St. Peter’s group has maintained this ministry both by its member’s donations of yarn and talent as well as monetary offerings that allow the purchase of material. This program not only provides comfort to those receiving the shawls, but also those crafting them,” concluded **Kim**.



“The Shawls are prayerfully created as a symbol of the unconditional love of God.”

New Song/Hymn Book for Admirals Coast Retirement Centre

A new Song Book, specifically designed here at St. Peter's for use at Admirals Coast Retirement Centre will soon be put in service.

The Song/Hymn Book is the brainchild of former Choir Director, **Dr. Vicki Greenslade**, complimented by the tireless efforts of **Mabel White, Ruth Crews** and **Betty Howell**. It contains 70 selections chosen by residents of the Centre-themselves. We thank **Jim Hart** for the cover photo of our beautiful Church!

The book contains hymns for the various seasons of the Church including Advent, Christmas, Easter plus general selections. It is printed in a large 14 point **bold** print with protective covers and produced here at St. Peter's Church office.

Our thanks go out to all who put in a huge effort in getting this book completed and in the hands of the residents of Admirals Coast Retirement Centre.

From the Archives of St. Peter's **.....1954**

The vestry book entry for January 13, 1954 reveals that the collection for the 8:00 am (Holy Communion) service was \$2.00 with 12 parishioners going to the rail. The 11:00 am service (Matins) fared better with a \$4.31 offering. **Rev. Elliott's** note in the 'remarks' section that Sunday morning stated '**Very Chilly.**'

December 19, 1954 saw the **Right Reverend Philip Abraham, Bishop of Newfoundland** confirm 15 boys and 16 girls.

Kevin Collins to Perform at St. Peter's
....”Manufactured Right Here in NL.”

Kevin Collins musical voice didn't come by accident. Singing since the tender age of 6 years, he was raised in a musical family.

Kevin has become part of the musical and cultural fabric of our province, and has been putting Newfoundland and Labrador on the map for years. He has played a major role in bridging the Newfoundland – Irish connection and was awarded Ireland's Country Music Songwriter of the Year for his contribution and impact on the Irish music scene.

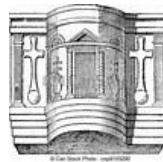
To date, Collins has released 23 albums.

Kevin has also been awarded the Newfoundland and Labrador Tourism Hospitality Award and named Ambassador for his impact and contribution to tourism in his native province.

Known for his crystal clear voice and tasty delivery, his songs and how they are delivered, continues to touch everyone who hears him, whatever the age.

No one loves home more than Kevin Collins and he lives by his motto, *“Newfoundland and Labrador is a Place Where Friendship and Hospitality is not a Business, But a Way Of Life!”*

Collins will perform his **‘Christmas Back Home’** concert at St. Peter's, CBS on Saturday, November 25th. Tickets are \$20.00 each and available at the Church office.



Rev. Letto Writes....

Is the bucket half full or half empty?

I went blueberry picking last week. Filling the second half of my bucket was much easier when I was excited about how much I had picked already, rather than concentrating on how much more I needed to fill it up. Life is like that. When I take time to count my blessings I feel much happier than when I spend my time worrying about my problems.

The key to a satisfying Thanksgiving is to focus on what we have, not on what we don't have. Instead of complaining because I'm nearsighted, I thank God for prescription glasses that help me see.

As I write about the importance of being thankful, I also realize that life also has a lot of disappointment and pain. Some of you have suffered personal loss in the last few months. Others have to face daily-the pain of arthritis, angina or other physical ailments. Some of you have financial and family problems.

Everyone's cup of life contains a certain amount of trouble and sadness. Jesus never denied suffering. Instead, being the realist that he was, he knew that suffering is a normal part of life. We cannot avoid it, but we can rise above it. Suffering is never easy, but if we face it realistically we can use it as an opportunity to grow stronger.

As I think of the pain and suffering that I've experienced in my lifetime, I am thankful for all the people who've been there to support me. Above all, I thank God for the ability I have to recover from difficult times. Where does that strength come from? I learned it from my parents and life experiences. But, most of all, it's something I was born with, a gift from God.

On TV we hear of many problems in the world. The earthquakes in Mexico, the hurricanes in the Caribbean, the terrorist attack in Barcelona. If we allow fear and pain to control us we will be devastated, too. But when we see the first responders and the local people taking risks and giving of themselves to help those who are hurt, we know that there are many good people in the world. Yes, the world's cup of compassion and love is far from empty. Our Anglican Church Primate's World Relief and Development Fund and the Red Cross are only two ways through which many Canadians make a real contribution to help the people recover from these devastating events.

We don't have to look far to see pain and suffering. We hear of people in our own community finding it difficult to buy food or pay their light bills. Here, too, we see miracles of recovery, healing and people working hard to solve the problems facing them. The Local Food Bank and Home Again Furniture Bank are only two ways that people are making a contribution.

Here at St. Peter's we have a shortage of money and many empty pews. I could complain about that. But when I look around I see the ACW and the Men's Fellowship Club working hard to keep the church going and help out in the community. I see the Prayer Shawl Group and the Hospitality Committee reaching out to strengthen those in need and make new people feel at home. I could go on and name many individuals who have worked hard for years and still have cups running over with a desire to reach out and help.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, let us give thanks for all that we have. As Christians we thank God especially for the person of Jesus who not only taught us to love and forgive. He is the Christ, who continues to be a point of contact with God. When we choose him, we discover a friend who has walked the walk of

authentic humanity. He truly understands our fears and appreciates our doubts. Thank God for such a friend.

I invite you to join others in our church community as we celebrate Thanksgiving Sunday on October 8th. Come with an open heart and give thanks for all that God has given you. Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours in Christ,

Irving

Rev. Irving Letto

Interim Administrator

