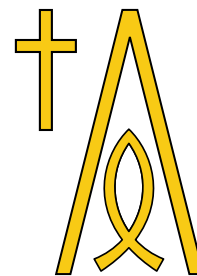


# St. Simon's Church, NV November 2009



## Total Stewardship

Dear St. Simon's NV family,

Thank you for your faithfulness in season and out of season as God's stewards. Never doubt that your generosity is making a Kingdom difference in the lives of many.

While meeting with our Stewardship Education team Wilf Fawcett and Ron Gibbs+ at Bean Around the World, I saw the poster: "When you cease to dream, you cease to live."

Stewardship is a dream of a community of Christians putting God first in all that we do, in our time, our talent and our treasure. Stewardship is a dream of teamwork, of loyalty, of dedication in good times and challenging times.

I want to thank you for your dedication in being stewards of the Lord Jesus. Nothing belongs to us. Everything is a gift from God. For many, time is more scarce than finances. When we dedicate to God the first tenth of our time, our talent and our treasure, multiplication happens in unexpected ways. God can take our five loaves and fishes and do the impossible. Reaping does require sowing. Harvest requires sacrifice.

The most important stewardship action that we can take is surrender of our whole self to the Lord Jesus Christ. Nothing else will please God.

It is easy to become distracted. I encourage you to use this stewardship season as an opportunity to get back on track and to grow further in God's grace.

Please do nothing as a steward out of guilt, fear, shame or obligation. Let your total stewardship be an act of thanksgiving and grace to an amazing God who gave all for us.

Blessings in God's total stewardship

PRaising, SERVing, SHARing CHRiST IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

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## CONSECRATED LORD TO THEE

This beautiful old hymn, written over 200 years ago sums up total commitment to the Lord. The first verse begins with these words

*“Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord to thee”*

The ensuing verses elaborate on just how we can do that. Total stewardship involves every part of our human makeup.

The second verse talks about our hands and feet, implying the Christian walk involves action.

Verse three talks about our voices and the words from our lips. We need to praise the Lord and tell others about him.

In verse four we are reminded that our silver and gold belongs to him as well as our intellect. Any gift of intelligence is to be given back to him to use as he desires.

Verse five has the most compelling message. Handing over our will can be the most difficult of all, but the most rewarding when Christ takes up residence in our hearts.

Finally the writer begs God in verse six to take his love and his very being so that he will be

*“Ever only all for thee”*

The hymn is 576 in the old hymn book and is worth praying back to God as we pledge ourselves in this stewardship month

Devoting time to read God’s word is a good way to start. If you would like to join a group let us know



Questions? Contact Alex and Jo Yule at 604 985 4028 or by e-mail at [alexanderyule@shaw.ca](mailto:alexanderyule@shaw.ca)

### MONDAY

7:00 p.m. - The Gathering Group for young adults. For more information, please contact Mark Hird at 604-929-5350 or send an e-mail to: [ss.thegathering@gmail.com](mailto:ss.thegathering@gmail.com)

### TUESDAY

7:00 a.m. at the Pantry Restaurant (Holiday Inn). Men and women are welcome. Call Jennifer Odendaal at 604-929-9815 or Peter Turner at 604-929-4224 for more information.

10:00 a.m. at the home of Maria Waller, a women’s fellowship, studying the Book of Romans. Call 604-980-9469 for more info. Address is #315-1150 East 29th St., North Vancouver.

7:30 p.m. at Sid and Marina Ireland’s home. Call 604-929-6570; address is 697 Plymouth Drive, North Vancouver.

### WEDNESDAY

10:00 a.m. - Women’s Fellowship. Call Jo Yule at 604-985-4028 for more information.

### THURSDAY

6:00–6:55 a.m. at the Turner’s home (2630 Walpole Crescent, North Vancouver) to pray for the needs of St. Simon’s NV. Anyone with a heart for intercession is welcome. Please call to confirm (604-929-4224).

10:00 a.m. at the home of Gloria Thomson. Rev. Ed leads in a study of the lesson for the upcoming Sunday. Call Gloria 604-929-8467. Group meets at 877 Roche Pt. Drive, North Vancouver.

10:00 a.m. at the home of Alex and Jo Yule. For more info call 604-985-4028. Address: #101-120 East 2nd St., North Vancouver.

10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. - Christian Women’s Club at Banff Court. For more information call Megan Allsopp at 604-929-1496.

7:00 pm at the home of Val and Bill Hall; call 604-980-0861 or Hilary King at 604-929-1837. Address is 429 East 18th St., North Vancouver.

### SATURDAY

7:30 a.m. at the Pantry Restaurant (Holiday Inn). Men’s breakfast; 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. For more information call Rev. Ron Gibbs at 1-604-896-1618.

**Choir Practice** under the direction of Janice Hird is held Tuesday evenings at 6:45 pm at the home of Sid and Marina Ireland. Call 604-929-6570 for more info. New members are always welcome. Janice can give any volunteers a tape of the music to listen to.

## WHY I GO TO A BIBLE STUDY

I was asked to share about my journey to a Bible study and why God's word has become so important in my life. I was not a "bibled" person. I couldn't quote passages. I didn't know the places in the Bible or the history of the land and it's people and I had a great deal of trouble understanding the passages when I did read them So I quit reading. I was not brought up to read the Bible, even though we had many Bibles in our home and my family went to church. There didn't seem to be any Bible studies at our church. Bibles were the domain of the minister. I did know stories from the Bible and loved them.

Later I avoided Bible Studies. Life was too busy! I looked at the members as experts and I felt so inadequate and dumb. A few years later I went to an Alpha Course (reluctantly), for some reason I was drawn to it. From that course I got a fire in my soul. The Purpose Driven Life was my next step. Then it dawned on me what I was missing and I joined a Bible Study. Why do I now enjoy Bible Study so much?

1. I am learning about God's Word and his importance in my life. Every meeting I learn something new and exciting.
2. I like being with other Christians who are also seeking to understand God's Word.
3. No question is a dumb question.
4. No one judges you or tests you on your Biblical knowledge.
5. There is lots of input, of different views that add to your understanding and enjoyment.
6. Bible Study has encouraged me to start my day with the word and prayer. I bought a study Bible to help me better understand.

Am I still unbibled? Yes, but not to the same extent. Acting on God's word has changed my life. It helps me to stay on the right path.

We have just finished the study Salt and Light series and I found it brought the ancient passages into our times. I've found that they are just as relevant now as they were then.

So my message to you is this: If you are feeling about Bible Study the way I was — fear not! I urge you to pray about it and attend one of our many groups. You will make wonderful friends and you will understand what God is saying to you. Give it a try. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Donna

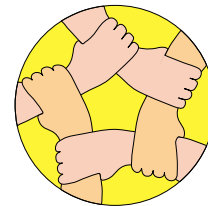


Fall Colours  
Photographer:  
Cathie Bolan

## THE BIGGER PICTURE

Dear St. Simon's Family:

As you can imagine, the focus of many of our lives here in Partners in Hope for a little while has been Lorna McLachlan, our dear friend who was promoted to glory on October 22nd after a long battle with cancer. During the hours Lorna was slipping away there were a number of us in the room with her and we all sensed so powerfully the love and the goodness of God who was with Lorna and with all of us. Somehow those moments gave me a picture of who Lorna had been in the "bigger picture" of her life.



No matter where she went Lorna reached out to people, particularly those who were on the edges, not quite together, not quite acceptable, a bit unruly and out-of-sorts. I can introduce you to a long line-up of people who fit these categories who will tell you just this. Lorna reached out to us. She was one of us. She cared for us. She did practical and generous things to gather us to something better than ourselves. Whether it was talking and laughing with folks in line – the food line at the drop-in or the medicine line at the prison – Lorna was the noisy fun (and slightly wacky) person who was listening and sharing in ordinary endearing ways with whoever was around her. She never met a person she wasn't willing to speak to, hug, and just generally include in whatever was going on. The Skip-bo game on Sunday afternoons grew until they had to move it into the sun porch area and combine tables.

Lorna knew how to get your attention and how to direct your attention to the things that matter. This past summer we celebrated her birthday a few days early because she was pretty sick and we didn't know if we should wait until the actual day. During an after-dinner, after-gift-opening sing-a-long we turned the camera her way and just asked her what gave her life meaning in these tough days. (See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GRs0ZCclEA>) She knew a friend in Jesus, a real Partner in Hope to lean on. Lorna never knew about a prayer meeting she didn't jump in and enjoy being a part of. There wasn't a year that I knew her that she didn't read the Bible from cover to cover ... one of the things we did during the long weeks in the hospital was read her daily readings to her while she rested on the bed. She loved God's words and love the God who penned the words.

But one of the most enduring pictures I'll carry with me from Lorna's life is one with her hand on a microphone while she sang in honour of the Lord Jesus. Lorna knew that God had redeemed her from a life of wreckage and had brought her to a place of safety and blessing. She never wanted that to get lost from whatever else we did.

Lorna found acceptance and love and friendship in St. Simon's that healed some deep wounds from her past. Early on in her time with us she was worried about some parts of her past and what kind of reaction people in St. Simon's would have if they "found out." I suggested she just tell one person and see their reaction and she did. She was loved and accepted. Then she told the next and the next until she knew that in spite of those not-so-great bits she was a part of a family that enjoyed her, loved her and accepted her. There were many wonderful gifts in Lorna's life that she shared and that I saw have amazing impact on her life. I think that was one of the greatest. The love from the family at St. Simon's brought great healing to her which she then generously poured out on so many others.

So, we say good-bye for a while. We will miss her presence in Partners in Hope tremendously. "Forever God is faithful. Forever God is strong. Forever God is with us." He will see us through until we see her again.

Blessings from all of us

Elsie

[www.partnersinhope.ca](http://www.partnersinhope.ca)





***"I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."*** (John 17:26)

Stewardship means taking good care of the things that God has given us. It can also mean to guide or direct something such as a project to completion. Like Jesus, God has given each one of us people to love and to shepherd. Our assignment is to make known to them God's character and His love; to guide and direct them; and to "keep them" as Jesus kept those whom the Father gave Him. Just before he was arrested, Jesus prayed for His followers and for those who would come after them. He ended His prayer saying, "I guarded them so that not one was lost..."

Of course only God has the power to save and to heal and to transform lives, but He gives each one of us the responsibility of teaching and nurturing and interceding for others who are coming along behind us on our journey towards the fullness of God through Jesus Christ. Paul the Apostle is a wonderful role model for us. His love and concern for those he baptized into the Way prompted him to write the timeless letters which continue to give us inspiration, guidance and instruction even two thousand years later. While we are not all called to be pastors, preachers and teachers, we are all called to make disciples and to teach them to obey everything that Jesus has commanded us (Matt. 28). I pray that as we consider the call to stewardship God will show each of us clearly who are the people that He has given us; also that we will look to Him for guidance and direction as we take seriously our charge to make Him known to them.

Captain Catherine Morris  
Church Army Canada  
[cate.morris@gmail.com](mailto:cate.morris@gmail.com)  
<http://captcatherinemorris.blogspot.com>

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## TOTAL STEWARDSHIP - TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

Do you realize that you are part of God's mega-narrative (big story) for the world? I've been learning more about God's story as told through the Church, the body of Christ. I recently heard about the Jerusalem Hospital, built in the twelfth century by the knights of the Order of St. John. This large medieval hospital was unlike any other. It brought the Christian approach to the care of the body into the public realm. To quote Jonathan Riley-Smith, a British historian and a Professor at Cambridge University,

*"... there were separate beds for the sick at a time when only the grandest lords had their own beds ... the beds had feather mattresses and coverlets and the patients were provided with cloaks and sandals, so as to protect them when they went to the latrines ... every Monday and Thursday barbers employed by the Order washed the feet of the sick with hot water, removed hard flesh with pumice stones and dried their feet with soft towels."*

What was unique about what they did? It seems to me they gave more than was asked of them. Care was not just about healing the sick, but it was about taking care of the body in the best possible way. To care for others as a Christian is, therefore, not just about providing for obvious needs, but also loving them. The backdrop to this story is the Crusades. These crusading knights didn't just welcome Christian patients, but those of any faith, including Muslims, acknowledging that Christ's offer of salvation is for all.

I began thinking about how I use my time and abilities. What is my attitude to the gifts that God has given me? If I believe that God has called me to love my neighbour, what am I going to do about it? It seems to me God doesn't want me to give what's left, but what's right. If someone else's needs are my priority, why do I spend my time, money and abilities on fulfilling my own needs first?

Philippians 2:4 says, "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."  
How can I provide a care for someone else that is beyond what I would expect for myself?

If you believe it, what are you going to do about it?

Jill Cardwell  
Youth Pastor  
[www.john3sixteen.ca/home/youth.html](http://www.john3sixteen.ca/home/youth.html)

# HEALTHY MUMS PROJECT

Dear Friends,

Having just returned from a phenomenal trip to Rwanda I would like to give you a short update on the “Healthy Mums Project” in Kigeme Diocese.

I was able to take with me \$20,000 US for the project thanks to the generosity of donors last year. The project is flourishing. Dancilla, the Rwanda nurse for the project has provided us with all of the required documentation and superbly coordinated and trained the 16 volunteers from the Mothers Union. She also provides the clinical consultations for the mums.

There have been 118 mothers in the project and the results are very encouraging. I interviewed some of the mothers who had received goats and they told me that it had made a huge difference in their lives. The animals provide the much needed manure for their kitchen gardens and this improves the production of vegetables that they need for their daily food.

The home visits from the volunteers have helped the mothers to be better educated about:

- \* Nutrition, both during their pregnancy and for their families
- \* Family planning – they attend the counseling sessions before receiving their goat
- \* Parenting and the importance of sending their children to school
- \* How to care for their garden and their goats

This has all contributed to more mothers actually delivering their baby at the Health Centre or the hospital with healthier outcomes.

Due to the success of the Healthy Mums Project in the KIGEME Health Centre it has been decided to expand to a second centre, NYARUSIZA, an even more rural community with a high rate of malnutrition. This expansion will be challenging but it is hoped to duplicate the project with some additions. The mothers identified the need for a “Starter Pack”, i.e., a hoe, seeds and a watering can, to help them to start their garden. We will also try to establish a “community kitchen” where the mums can cook together once a week. This will provide some of the necessary support that these sometimes very isolated women need.



SO HOW CAN YOU CONTINUE TO BE INVOLVED?

Your generous donations will help to keep the now two Healthy Mums Projects operating for the next year. Our goal is to raise \$30,000. Gift cards are available and tax receipts are issued for \$40.00 or more. (Cheques made payable to St. Simon's Church, North Vancouver.)

Here are some options:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 1. Goats (provides the manure and they can reproduce)    | \$40.00 |
| 2. Baby Cards (Pays the wages for the two nurses)        | \$20.00 |
| 3. Layette ( For babies born who have no clothes)        | \$15.00 |
| 4. Starter Pack for garden (Hoe, seeds and watering can) | \$10.00 |

Please consider supporting the Healthy Mums Project this year as it really does make a difference to a poor family in Rwanda. Thank you all.

Blessings,  
Hilary

For more information:  
Call Hilary King at 604-929-1837  
or e-mail at [hilaryjking@shaw.ca](mailto:hilaryjking@shaw.ca)

### Readings:

Rev. Ed states, "I strongly recommend a new book *In the Arms of My Beloved : A Journey Through Breast Cancer* by Sandra Crawford. (ISBN 978-0-9813178-0-9 - \$19.95 BV4910.33 C73 2009)

Rev. Ed also writes: "I commend to you a ground-breaking new book by Dr. John Cline entitled: *Detoxify For Life*. Dr. Cline wrote in his preface, " I want first to thank my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who has given me life, a calling, a purpose,...teaching me the joy of serving others while living on this earth." <http://clinemedical.wordpress.com>

Dr. Tim Keller's book: *Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex and Power, and the Only Hope That Matters*.

### Audio Bites:

Gnostic Reconciliation of Gender Opposites that come from our culture's embrace of the Jungian agenda. <http://bit.ly/UHMvV>

The iconic Bob Dylan's latest Album "Christmas in My Heart" (LA Times) <http://bit.ly/sVGDP>

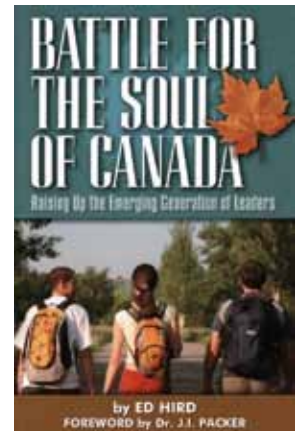
### For Viewing:

Watch life-changing stories of Olympic athletes of Olympic athletes: <http://www.beyondtheultimate.org>

*If you have finished with any books borrowed from Rev. Ed, including Alpha-related Books, please return them him or to the Secretary, Cathie Bolan. Thank you.*

To purchase a copy of "Battle for the Soul of Canada" for yourself or others, just send a cheque for \$18.50 (includes shipping and handling) to:

Rev. Ed Hird  
#1008-555 West 28th Street  
North Vancouver BC  
V7N 2J7



### Offertory Envelopes

We are pleased with the solid number of St. Simon's NV members now using offertory envelopes. The use of offertory envelopes has been proven to be very helpful in one's personal growth in the discipline of regular giving to the Lord Jesus. If you don't have offertory envelopes yet, we would encourage you to fill out the back of your Sunday leaflet and just put it in the collection plate, or you may contact Adele Easto by e-mail: [aeasto@telus.net](mailto:aeasto@telus.net) or by phone at 604-929-0542 to receive offertory envelopes.

## PLANNED GIVING

Planned giving is a set of ways a donor can leave assets to a charitable organization at his/her death; or a way to invest money so that the donor receives benefits during his/her life and then bequeaths the remaining funds to the charity.

This is not a subject which easily lends itself to being discussed within a general newsletter but rather it should be dealt with through a developed programme and workshop(s) with professional assistance. Regardless the following are various planned gift options which may whet your appetite for further information on the subject.



### Charitable Bequest

A charitable bequest is simply a distribution from an estate to a charitable organization through a last will and testament. There are different kinds of bequests. For each, very specific language must be used to indicate the precise direction of the assets, and to successfully carry out one's final wishes. In any charitable bequest, it is essential to name the recipient accurately. A bequest to our local congregation, for example, should say "St. Simon's Church North Vancouver (ACiC)". There are a few types of charitable bequests, for example:

**General Bequests** are legacies left to certain people or causes that come from the general value of the **estate**, and are made by designating a **specific dollar amount**, a particular **asset** or a fixed percentage of your estate to the cause of your choice.

**Specific Bequests** are made when a particular item or property is bequeathed for a designated purpose. (i.e., a building fund etc.)

**Residuary Bequests** are made when one intends to leave the residue portion (any left over property) of one's assets after other terms of the will have been satisfied.

**Contingency Bequests** allow one to leave a portion of the estate to a particular charity if your named **beneficiary** does not survive you.

### Cash or Securities

A cash or security gift is an amount made out to a **charitable organization** of your choice. Gifts of cash are available for immediate use in the form of cash, cheque, credit card, or pre-authorized contributions paid monthly. They can also be given in the form of a **general bequest** in one's last will and testament.

### Life Insurance

A gift of life insurance is made when you name a **charitable organization** of your choice as the beneficiary. This means that you control the **policy**, and the organization would receive the insurance proceeds upon death.

### RRSPs or RRIFs

Gifts of retirement plans are made when you name a **charitable organization** of your choice as the **beneficiary**. This means that upon your death the organization would receive the proceeds and your estate will receive a **charitable receipt**. This **receipt** will counterbalance your final tax return, transforming any final tax liabilities you have when you die into a charitable gift.

### **Annuities**

A gift of annuity is made when you make a contribution of cash or other property to a **charitable organization** of your choice in exchange for a guaranteed lifetime income (or for a stated interval of time). It is an agreement or contract between you and your charitable organization of choice. Upon death, the charitable organization would receive the remainder of the original contribution. Depending on the time elapsed the organization may get more or less than the original contribution. If an annuity is started when you are between the ages of 75-90 you can receive tax free income. If an annuity is started when you are between the ages of 65-74 you can receive partially tax free income. Where the income is totally tax free, you will receive a **donation receipt** equaling the initial amount of your contribution minus your expected annuity income.

### **Charitable Remainder of Trusts**

A gift of trust is made when you decide to make a **charitable organization** of your choice the secondary **beneficiary** to an **irrevocable trust**. The primary **beneficiary** (or the income beneficiary) includes you, and if applicable, your spouse. Throughout your lifetime or for a stated period of time you will receive a predetermined amount of the trust; upon death the **charitable organization** will receive the remainder of the trust.

### **Residual Interest**

A gift of residual interest is made when you decide to give the property in which you reside or any other property (art, valuables etc.) to a **charitable organization**. You continue to use and enjoy the property throughout your lifetime. You will receive a **charitable tax receipt** for the present value of the property when the gift is made. Upon death, the **charitable organization** receives the deed of the property.

### **A Gift In Memory of A Loved One**

A gift in memory of a loved one is any type of gift given to remember a close friend or family member who has passed. Perhaps they lived with a certain disease and you would like to make sure other people in the future can receive further care. Maybe you know of a favourite or community organization that your loved one was exceptionally involved with and you would like to leave a gift in their memory. This type of gift ensures that their legacy is always remembered by the charitable organization that has touched their heart.

### **Real Estate**

A gift of real estate is made when you leave property, buildings, land, or a place of residence that you own to a **charitable organization** of your choice. This type of gift can be given immediately or specified in your will. You will receive a **charitable tax receipt** to be used in your final income tax return.

### **A Gift To Honour Someone**

A gift to honour someone is any type of gift given to honour a close friend, family member, or a person who you have great respect for. Perhaps you know of a **charitable organization** in particular that has helped your loved one along the path of life or that they felt strongly about. This type of gift ensures that their legacy will be always remembered by the **charitable organization** that has made a difference in their life, and that the organization continues to make a difference in the lives that follow.

I trust that the above has been helpful. Should you need further information or other sources [there are many] I will be delighted to chat with you, at your convenience.

Blessings,  
Ron+

## Bring God Your Best, Bring God Your Worst



We've been reading through the Gospel of Mark at our Tuesday Table group, and we noticed something as we worked through Mark 1:40-2:17. In this passage Jesus heals an unclean body (a leper), he heals an unclean soul (forgiveness to a paralytic), and he hangs out with the 'wrong crowd'. In quick succession Jesus interacts with a dirty body, a dirty soul, and a bunch of dirty birds (tax collectors and the like).

At the time, God instituted a system to teach Israel what it meant to approach a holy God. He required ritual cleansings to approach Him, and He allowed only certain people to draw near to Him in special places like the Holy of Holies in the sanctuary. And if you were a leper, forget about it. You weren't even allowed in the temple area at all. It may seem harsh, but God was teaching Israel that to love God means to bring God your best. This principle also tied into the personal sacrifices – God required the best animals, not the worst. He doesn't want our sloppy seconds!

Jesus often one-upped the old system – not that He was negating it, but going beyond it. Usually touching a leper would result in ritual impurity, but Jesus' goodness is greater than any skin disease or spiritual disorder. Instead of badness contaminating goodness, God's goodness transformed badness. Jesus' encounter with a dirty body, a dirty soul, and a bunch of dirty birds teaches us an additional principle – bring God your worst.

This is full discipleship, and total stewardship. In the case of time, talents, and treasures we offer God our best, and in the case of our liabilities and limitations (we all have them), we are to give God our worst. In this way God gets all of us, the best bits and the worst, and His transforming grace gets at us from both ends. God teaches me these two points daily. It is too easy to play the role of God in the church plant, thinking that its survival depends on me. Sometimes this means that I too quickly give myself a pat on the back when something positive happens, and other times it means I get mopey and depressed when I make a mistake or something doesn't go the way I planned. But total stewardship means that I give Him my best – the gifts He's given me – and my worst, all my character defects and circumstantial difficulties. They all belong to Him.

Please know that we continue to pray for you here at The Table, that God would use you both in strength and weakness, and that you would offer your whole selves – the good bits and the bad – to Him in surrender, for the glory of God in Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Much love in Christ,

Rev. Josh Wilton

[www.churchplant.ca/thetable](http://www.churchplant.ca/thetable)



**Healing Rooms**  
1675 Kingsway,  
Sunshine Plaza in Vancouver.  
Trained teams of Christians are available to pray for the sick and injured; no appointment needed; for more info, call 604-434-8328. Maureen Harrison at St. Simon's NV is one of the prayer team members.

Visit their web site at:  
<http://www.healingrooms.com>



### **Kiwanis Communion Service**

4th Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm. Join Ed Hird+ and Ron Gibbs+ as they reach out to the seniors at the Kiwanis Care Centre.



## CHRIST CHURCH JERUSALEM'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR COMING TO VANCOUVER & VICTORIA

FROM EXILE TO RESTORATION – AN AMAZING STORY  
GOD'S CALL TO THE NATIONS

Celebrating 200 years of CMJ mission and ministry in the Holy Land.

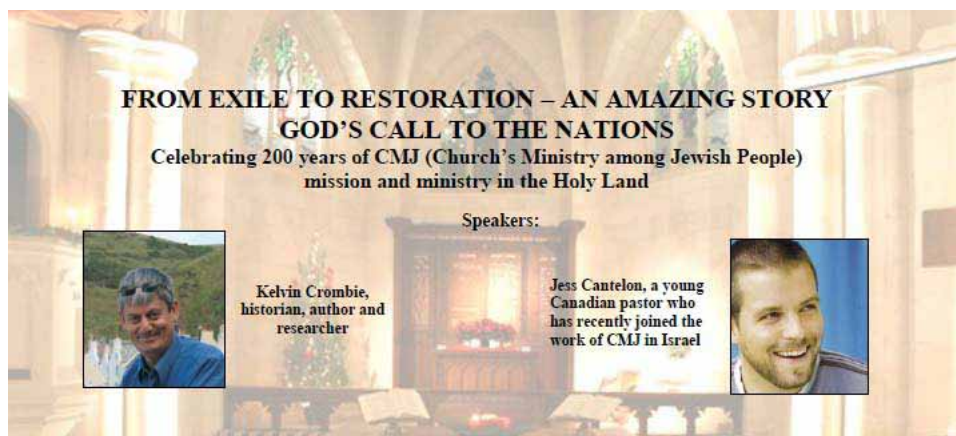
Kelvin Crombie a knowledgeable and engaging speaker is coming to Victoria and Vancouver November 6 to the 10th. He tells the story of the establishment of Christ Church Jerusalem, the first Protestant, evangelical church to be built in the Holy Land. This mission is built on the shoulders of giants of the faith – Wilberforce, Shaftsbury, Spurgeon, the Wesleys and many others.

Kelvin has been studying this fascinating history for more than 20 years. He has written several books on the topic and was the researcher for the award winning documentary "The Cyrus Call." He has established heritage centres in Jerusalem, Jaffa and the Galilee, to communicate and preserve the amazing story of the role that Protestant Christians have played in facilitating the restoration of Jewish people to the Holy Land. This is an on-going story.

Kelvin addresses the reasons behind the modern restoration of Israel both Jewish and Gentile. On this 200th anniversary year he is on an international speaking tour as an ambassador of CMJ.

Accompanying Kelvin is Jess Cantelon, a young Canadian pastor who has recently joined the work of CMJ in Israel. He serves at Christ Church Jerusalem, assisting the rector and is chaplain at the Anglican International School Jerusalem. Jess is a fantastic communicator.

They will tell of the fascinating history of their work in Jerusalem - a history that involved Wilberforce, Shaftsbury, Spurgeon and the Wesleys.



Dates and locations:

Victoria:

November 7th - 9:30 am to 1 pm - Church of Our Lord (REC), 626 Blanshard Street

November 8th - 8:30 am to 10:15 am - The Open Gate (ANiC), 1289 Parkdale Drive  
(Lighthouse Christian Academy)

Vancouver

November 9th - 7:30 p.m. St. John's Shaughnessay (ANiC), 1490 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver

November 10th - 7:30 p.m. St. Simon's at the home of Peter & Elsbeth Turner, 2630 Walpole Crescent,  
North Vancouver

Your support is deeply appreciated!



## MISSIONS FEST 2010 "FINISH THE RACE"

**JANUARY 8th, 9th & 10th  
at the BROADWAY CHURCH  
2700 East Broadway, Vancouver**

(Canada Place is unavailable due to the Olympics and a major renovation)

This event is the "trade show" of missions.

Visit the exhibits to find out everything you need to know about missions. Enjoy internationally acclaimed speakers and enjoy coffee or lunch with a friend.

It is so soon after Christmas that all the preparation has to be done now. An information table will be at church during November.

The special project this year will be LOOSE CHANGE to LOOSEN CHAINS - Help free modern day slaves. Missions Fest is partnering with Jamie McIntosh and the International Justice Mission.

Most Canadian families have a lot of loose change sitting around their homes. According to "Real Simple" Magazine, there is \$10.5 billion in loose change lying around in American households!

Please collect your loose change (keep a jar on the kitchen counter) and take it to Missions Fest or drop it into the 5 gallon jar at church on Sundays from now until New Year.

Pre-conference rally is on Thursday Nov. 19th at 7 pm at Broadway Church. Everyone is welcome. There is usually a really good speaker and it is a chance to see where you might like to volunteer.

A/V training for volunteers is on Saturday Nov. 7th. 8:15 am at Cariboo Road Christian Fellowship.

If you have ever thought you might like to help with this ministry at Missions Fest or at our own church but don't know how - go take this course and they will show you how it's done!

Remember the movie "End Of The Spear"? The sequel "The Grandfathers" will be shown 4 times over the weekend at Missions Fest.

Watch for more information throughout the month of November.

Full programme guides will be ready soon.

Any questions? Check out the website [www.missionsfestvancouver.ca](http://www.missionsfestvancouver.ca)

For more information, please contact:

Jenny Monks — 604 929 3772 — [j.monks@telus.net](mailto:j.monks@telus.net)

### More Than Gold needs your help!

The Hospitality Team within the Christian network called More Than Gold is seeking donations to prepare Welcome Bags for people at the time of the Olympics & Paralympics. Our goal is to prepare 25,000 Welcome Bags for visitors plus 3,000 Care Bags to be given to homeless people. Kevin Sigsby is coordinating this project; feel free to contact him with any questions: [ksigsby@yahoo.com](mailto:ksigsby@yahoo.com) or 604-904-8908. You can help by donating the following items by Nov. 7th.

Items needed for both types of bags:

- \* Lip balm
- \* Rain poncho (thin plastic)
- \* Kleenex
- \* Sunscreen/lotion
- \* Hand wipes
- \* Hand warmers

In addition, items for Welcome Bags:

- \* Band-aids
- \* Mini note pad
- \* Canada logo pen/pencil/stickers

In addition, items for Care Bags:

- \* Toothbrush
- \* Toothpaste
- \* Soap
- \* Shampoo
- \* Gloves - adult size
- \* Socks - adult size
- \* Hand-knit scarf



See the *Hospitality* page on the website [www.morethangold.ca](http://www.morethangold.ca) for downloadable patterns

PLEASE NOTE:

Some items can be bought in bulk and separated into smaller units - pencils, mini note pads, etc. Other some items must be smaller travel size units - shampoo, soap, lotion, Kleenex, toothpaste, etc. Please do not give large-sized items. Thank you.

Giving a welcome or care bag is a simple way to serve others and let them know God loves them!

## THE STEWARDSHIP OF BLESSING, AND BLESSING OF STEWARDSHIP

*“I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you... and you will be a blessing”* (Genesis 12:2)

“Steve, have you never stopped by the side of the road, picked up something (i.e., roadkill), and taken it home to eat?”, the pastor asked me incredulously. I liked Pastor George and his group from Maine from the very first day we met. They were down to earth, good people. Plus they were hard working and fun to be around. Throughout the week some of them had the opportunity to work on Victor’s house (a Bible school teacher) putting up drywall. One of the eager workers was a young man named Mike, a physical therapist. For the past 3 years back in Maine, Mike had been spending much of his free time fixing up his own home which he had bought. Coming alongside him to help - without receiving payment - was an elder from the church who was teaching Mike various handyman skills. It was great to see Mike and the rest of the crew joyfully giving Victor and family the help they needed. Meanwhile Sofia was upset and hounding me. All summer we had also been building an extra room on Sofia’s house - a modest-sized room which effectively doubles the size of her house. Victor had been the one put in charge of that project and therein lay the friction. It turns out that Sofia had tried to pay Victor for his work numerous times and - if you can believe it - Victor wouldn’t take her money, telling her that she can pay when it’s all done. Sure, yes. I played along and told her the same.

Now here’s the big picture. God blesses a fellow in Maine with handyman skills. For 3 years he teaches a young father these same skills while helping on his house. Mike, in turn, comes down on a mission trip to Mexico to help Victor (young father also) on his own home. In his spare time, Victor helps build an extra room for Sofia (a single Mom raising three kids). Do you see the flow of blessing? When we talk about stewardship we often think of money. But it is so much more than that.

Stewardship also relates to how we use our time, resources, knowledge, experience and skills. Everything God has given us we are to be good stewards of and try to use to bless others. And as we do, we know that the blessing of stewardship will then be passed on to others. In turn God will also bless us with more to steward.

It will be neat to see how Sofia passes along the blessing. Already she has invited me to spend Christmas Eve with her family, eating in the new room. I could think of no better way to spend Christmas Eve.

[steviemonjes@yahoo.com](mailto:steviemonjes@yahoo.com)

### Thankful Hearts Auction in Pictures



Thank you for your support!

## VESPERS & STEWARDSHIP



Margie Knapp

Vespers! I first came across this quaint expression in the Brother Cadfael mystery fiction series which were passed around in The Gambia among my team members for light reading pleasure. Little did I know that one day “Vespers” would become a daily part of my schedule! The Oxford English Reference Dictionary says it is: “evensong, the 6th of the canonical prayers”. At Gateway Training Center it is a daily part of our schedule. It is times of worship, in various formats, held each week-day afternoon at 5 p.m. The purpose is to gather as a community to worship and pray together. Staff and students take turns being responsible to lead Vespers which we consider is an important area of our spiritual life. Different services have different focuses but all are to be worshipful and edifying including Worship, a short sharing of the Word and prayer for the World. Occasionally we are blessed with a visiting speaker and have been privileged to hear The Rev. Ed Hird and Rev. Josh Wilton and many missionaries including our own students when they are on home leave if they come our way. It is just one of the many ways we practice the stewardship of giving honour to whom honour is due. Practical acknowledgement of who the King of glory is. It means we must stop the important task that we are in the midst of, often lay aside our goal of finishing something before dinner, and changing gears. It means leaving the office, gathering with the community, turning my focus from me and my work to God and His work. It means practical acknowledgement of Whose I am. I have always been aware that it was necessary for Christian maturity to be good stewards of our time, talents and treasures. But only recently I have come to the understanding that the worship due His name is also part of being a good steward of the grace of God given me in Christ Jesus our Lord! What a privilege to be His steward!

Margie Knapp

WEC International - Gateway Missionary Training Centre

## A HEART AFTER GOD

Yesterday we celebrated the 65th birthday of one of our staff. He is an old cowboy from the US who works in our maintenance department. He is not much for talking, he works alone a lot, he had only basic education, and if you press him you’d discover Europe is not his dream location. But he has touched, challenged and blessed everyone on our base. At his party one young staff member after another got up to share his impact on their lives, and there was a long line to give him a hug at the end of the party.

The dictionary defines stewardship as “the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care”. Martin’s world view is that God has entrusted Restenäs in this season, to him, along with others. This world view comes because he is passionately focused on Jesus, and from this flows everything else. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”, and “love your neighbour as yourself” (Mark 12:29-31). Simple. Powerful. Transformational.

As I stood at the party observing and thinking about these things my mind suddenly flipped, as it often does in moments of revelation and insight, to the Unreached People Group I am focused on. How important stewardship is in discipleship! The growing corruption and pollution issues among them, as well as their government’s laudable environmental stewardship plans all rely on individuals’ grasp of stewardship. And real, sustainable stewardship across the generations needs to be rooted in Mark 12:29-31. It also needs to be modelled and mentored by those who are so rooted. I thank God for Martin!

Jane

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 6th-7th, 2009**

**St. Simon's Church NV**

**Annual Stewardship**

**24-Hour Prayer Vigil**

Please join us from Friday 7 pm to Saturday 7 pm.

To sign up, contact Rev. Ed Hird or Janice Hird at

604-929-5350 or send an e-mail to:

[ed\\_hird@telus.net](mailto:ed_hird@telus.net) or [janicehird@yahoo.ca](mailto:janicehird@yahoo.ca)

**November 9th, 2009**

**Remembrance Day Sunday**

9:00 am Traditional Services

10:30 am Contemporary Services

**November 15th, 2009**

**23rd Annual St. Simon's NV**

**Pledge Sunday**

**9:00 am & 10:30 services**

Join us as we commit ourselves to offer our tithes and offerings back to the Lord.

**November 29th, 2009**

**5th Anniversary Joint Service**

Start time 10:00 am

The ACW Ladies are providing a complimentary lunch followed by the Annual Holly Tea.

**January 8th, 2010**

**Vancouver Missions Fest**

**"Finish The Race"**

See details of times and location listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Peter & Jenny Monks are the Missions

Coordinators for St. Simon's NV.

**January 27th-30th, 2010**

**AMiA Winter Conference**

**Greensboro, North Carolina**

Why not consider joining others for the 10th

Anniversary AMiA celebration?

**February 2010**

**More Than Gold Olympic Outreach**

St. Simon's NV and the ACiC are co-sponsors.

Sharon Manchulenko is the MTG Rep for St.

Simon's NV. Contact her at 604-730-8517.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**23rd Annual Renewal Mission**

**March 5th to 7th, 2010**

**Harvest City Church**

**Vancouver**

with Dr. David Demian (Director of Watchmen for the Nations), Dr. George Johnson (Harvest City Church and Vancouver City of Destiny), Pastor David Carson (Central Christian Assembly and Vancouver City of Destiny), and Rev William Beasley of Chicago.

The theme is *'Fanning in Flame God's Glory: 2 Timothy 1:6-7*. Renewal Mission 2010 will be held on March 5th to 7th at Harvest City Church, Vancouver, wrapping up with a Christ Awakening on Sunday March 7 pm at Harvest City Church.

**37th Annual BC Christian Ashram Retreat**

**July 16th-19th, 2010**

with Bishop Silas Ng as our Keynote speaker and Rev Josh Wilton of The Table Church in Victoria as our Bible Teacher. It will be held for the third year at Summit Pacific Park in Abbotsford BC.

# ST. SIMON'S STAFF - CONTACT INFO

*St. Simon's, North Vancouver  
420 Seymour River Place*

Rector:  
Rev. Ed Hird  
604-929-5350  
[ed\\_hird@telus.net](mailto:ed_hird@telus.net)

Honorary Assistant Priest:  
Rev. John Lombard  
604-515-0141  
[jlombard@shawcable.com](mailto:jlombard@shawcable.com)

Deacon:  
Rev. Ronald Gibbs  
604-896-1618  
[beron@telus.net](mailto:beron@telus.net)

Director of Music:  
Janice Hird  
604-929-5350  
[janicehird@yahoo.ca](mailto:janicehird@yahoo.ca)

Children's Ministry 9:00 am:  
Gloria Kocay  
604-980-9549  
Jenny Monks  
604-929-3772

Youth Pastor:  
Jill Cardwell  
604-928-7795  
[ichoosetobelong@gmail.com](mailto:ichoosetobelong@gmail.com)

Verger/Caretaker:  
Pat Carlson  
778-338-3752

Church Secretary:  
Cathie Bolan  
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604-317-5022 (c)  
[stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca](mailto:stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca)

Rector's Warden:  
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People's Warden:  
Louis Odendaal  
604-929-9815  
[lodendaal@shaw.ca](mailto:lodendaal@shaw.ca)

Church Office E-mail:	<a href="mailto:stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca">stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca</a>
Church Office Hours:	Please call or send an e-mail to confirm
Mailing Address:	PO Box 9 #112-1151 Mt. Seymour Road North Vancouver BC V7H 2Y4
Rector's Day Off:	Mondays



*If you know of someone who is ill and in the hospital, please let Rev. Ed know as clergy no longer receive this information from Lions Gate Hospital.*

*If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, call both Dianne Andrews (604-324-4779) and Megan Allsopp (604-929-1496) and your request will be passed on to the prayer chain members. Please also phone the prayer chain to give thanks for healings and other answers to prayer.*



## **Healing Rooms**

*1675 Kingsway, Sunshine Plaza  
in Vancouver.*

*Trained teams of Christians are available to pray for the sick and injured; no appointment needed; for more info, call 604-434-8328. Maureen Harrison at St. Simon's NV is one of the prayer team members.*

*Visit their web site at:*

*<http://www.healingrooms.com>*

*You are encouraged to check out our regular St. Simon's, NV website at:*

*[http://www3.telus.net/st\\_simons](http://www3.telus.net/st_simons)*

*At least 67,000 people have visited the front page. There are many different sub-pages as well as links to resources such as to articles listed in Deep Cove Crier and North Shore News for you and your friends to read by going to the link listed below.*

*[http://www3.telus.net/st\\_simons/crier.html](http://www3.telus.net/st_simons/crier.html)*

*Our St. Simon's NV Youth Website is: <http://www.john3sixteen.ca/home/youth.html>*



# CHRISTIAN GIVING CHART

As a Christian, it is important to your spiritual and financial well-being to make a specific decision to honor the Lord from the income He has provided through your employment and other revenue sources. The Bible says:

*“On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.” 1 Cor. 16:2*

*“Everyone must make up his own mind as to how much he should give... Cheerful givers are the ones God prizes.” 2 Cor. 9:7*

*“Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income, and he will fill your barns...” Proverbs 3:9*

*“Don’t forget to share your income with the ministers in your community.” Deut. 14:2*

*“A tenth of everything...belongs to the Lord, it is holy to the Lord.” Lev. 27:30*

Bible Generosity Resources for Churches by Brian Kluth ([www.kluth.org](http://www.kluth.org))

Check the level of Income God is providing for you...	Check the box that best represents the giving decision you made (or now want to make in order to honor God’s work in your local church:
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ANNUALLY	MONTHLY	WEEKLY	10% =	5%=	2.5%=
\$5000+	\$400+	\$100+	\$10 per week \$40 per month	\$5 per week \$20 per month	\$2.50 per week \$10 per month
\$10,000+	\$800+	\$200+	\$20 per week \$80 per month	\$10 per week \$40 per month	\$5 per week \$20 per month
\$15,000+	\$1250+	\$300+	\$30 per week \$125 per month	\$15 per week \$65.50 per month	\$7.50 per week \$30 per month
\$20,000+	\$1650+	\$400+	\$40 per week \$165 per month	\$20 per week \$85.50 per month	\$10 per week \$40 per month
\$25,000+	\$2100+	\$500+	\$50 per week \$210 per month	\$25 per week \$105 per month	\$12.50 per week \$50 per month
\$30,000+	\$2500+	\$600+	\$60 per week \$250 per month	\$30 per week \$125 per month	\$15 per week \$60 per month
\$35,000+	\$2900+	\$700+	\$70 per week \$290 per month	\$35 per week \$145 per month	\$17.50 per week \$70 per month
\$40,000+	\$3300+	\$800+	\$80 per week \$330 per month	\$40 per week \$165 per month	\$20 per week \$80 per month
\$45,000+	\$3750+	\$900+	\$90 per week \$375 per month	\$45 per week \$188 per month	\$22.50 per week \$90 per month
\$50,000+	\$4150+	\$1000+	\$100 per week \$415 per month	\$50 per week \$208 per month	\$25 per week \$100 per month
\$60,000+	\$5000+	\$1200+	\$120 per week \$500 per month	\$60 per week \$250 per month	\$30 per week \$120 per month
\$75,000+	\$6250+	\$1500+	\$150 per week \$625 per month	\$75 per week \$313 per month	\$37.50 per week \$150 per month
\$100,000	48300+	\$2000+	\$200 per week \$830 per month	\$100 per week \$415 per month	\$50 per week \$200 per month