

# St. Simon's Church, NV Christmas 2011

## It's a Wonderful Life, a Life Full of Wonder

Dear St Simon's NV family,

One of the joys of the Christmas season is to watch classic Christmas movies with our family and friends. *It's a Wonderful Life* with Jimmy Stewart is a favorite of tens of millions of people every Christmas. It speaks to all of us when we wonder if our life is making a difference. All of us want to bring good into other people's lives. Sometimes we are too close to see the impact that we are making. This Christmas I encourage you to be like Clarence the angel in *It's a Wonderful Life* and help someone else to see why they are here on planet earth. None of us are here by accident. All of us have a plan and destiny from our heavenly Father. All of us have been given gifts that are meant to be shared with others, not buried in the ground.

Our prayer this Christmas is that each of us may rediscover the wonder of life, the amazing gifts that God has given each of us, that even in the midst of great challenges it truly is 'a wonderful life'. God is wonderful all the time. All the time God is wonderful, especially at Christmas!

Yours in Wonder of God's goodness  
Ed, Janice and sons



p.s., Thank you for your prayers and faithful support during 2011. It means a lot to us.

*From Tuesday, December 27th to Saturday December 31st, the Hird Family will be on Christmas holidays. Ed+ will be available for pastoral emergencies.*

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## A LIFE FULL OF WONDER

“O, star of wonder, star of night”

The beautiful hymn. We Three Kings of Orient Are was written over 150 years ago, but still when we hear the words we are again filled with wonder that the creator of the universe became one of us.

The chorus ends with equally lovely words, “Guide us to thy perfect light”.

Guidance comes through his word. Jesus has assured us “I am the light of the world”. If the way seems a little dark at the moment, one of the ways to illuminate our lives is through reading his word in a Home Group. We are always happy to help you find the right group for you.



Please contact Alex or Jo Yule at 604-985-4028 or send an email to: [alexanderyule@shaw.ca](mailto:alexanderyule@shaw.ca)

### MONDAY

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon - Men and women’s Bible Study in the home of Alex & Jo Yule. For more info call 604-985-4028. Address: #101-120 East 2nd St., North Vancouver.

7:00 p.m. at the home of Gil and Candace Gillespie. Call 604-929-7429 for more information. Address is #28-650 Roche Point Drive, North Vancouver.

**THIRST (Young Adults)** - 7-9:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Jill at 604-928-7795 or send an e-mail to [ichoosetobelong@gmail.com](mailto:ichoosetobelong@gmail.com).

### TUESDAY

7:00-8:00 a.m. at the Pantry Restaurant (Holiday Inn). Men’s only meeting for breakfast, fellowship and study. Call Peter Turner at 604-929-4224 for more information.

7:00-8:00 a.m. at the Pantry (Holiday Inn). Women’s only meeting for breakfast, fellowship and study of God’s Word. Call Elsbeth Turner at 604-929-4224 for more information.

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

### THURSDAY

10:00 a.m. at the home of Adele Easto with Ed+. For more info call 604-929-0542. Address is: #403 -1050 Bowron Court, North Vancouver.

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

10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon - Christian Women’s Club at the home of Megan Allsopp (2919 Eddystone Crescent). For more information call Megan at 604-929-1496.

7:00 p.m. at the home of Val and Bill Hall; call 604-980-0861 or Hilary King at 604-929-1837. Address is 525 East Queens Street, North Vancouver.

### FRIDAY

7:00-9:00 p.m. - Youth Fellowship with Jill & Andrew. For more info, contact Jill at 604-928-7795.



**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.

## WONDER

It seems that every time we hear the Christmas story we also hear so many sermons and talks about the “real meaning of Christmas” reminding us again of how we mustn’t get caught up in the commercialism of it all.

I am not saying that the Christmas story does not mean anything to me. But I am reminded that those events that took place in Bethlehem 2000 years ago were so ordinary and so extraordinary all at the same time that I can no longer just see it as a simple question of commercialism or austerity.

If I were in Rwanda for Christmas, the question would not even arise. There is such a huge contrast in how we outwardly respond to and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Jesus was born and that is the main point. It continues to be the theme whether we are in the middle of poverty, sickness, death or disappointment. Whatever the scenario, Jesus, amazingly, can and will be born into it and, because of that there is always hope.

In Rwanda there is hope in the faces of our brothers and sisters who celebrate His birth at church and then at their meal by opening a bottle of Fanta. They seem to have the wonderful capacity to celebrate without all the trimmings that we expect.

There is also a marked contrast in the responses to the Christmas event recorded in Luke Chapter 2. “So they (the shepherds) hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in a manger. When they had seen him they spread the word...” in contrast to, “But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.” While the shepherds excitedly preach the word about the child, Mary quietly ponders in her heart the significance of it all.

Some of us are like the shepherds and have a more extroverted personality where they can easily talk about what they are thinking or feeling. God uses them to communicate His message of salvation. Others are like Mary and are more introverted and prefer to think things through and reflect deeply.

A good balance might well be to combine both. Reflection and action, contemplation and communication. We need to ponder the wonder of Christmas and take time to consider what God is saying to us through it, but also we need to share the life giving and hope inspiring message with others.

With God’s help we can learn to do both.

Blessings to you at Christmas,  
Hilary King



# WONDER OF TRANSFORMATION



Dear St. Simon's Friends,

*"Oh how I praise the Lord. How I rejoice in God my Savior! For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and now generation after generation forever shall call me blest of God. For he, the mighty Holy One, has done great things for me. His mercy goes on from generation to generation, to all who reverence him. How powerful is his mighty arm! How he scatters the proud and haughty ones. He has torn princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. He has satisfied the hungry hearts and sent the rich away with empty hands. How he has helped his servant Israel! He has not forgotten his promise to be merciful. For He promised our fathers – Abraham and his children – to be merciful to them forever."* (from Luke 1)



As I reflect on the wonder of Christmas, the words of Mary's song come to mind. They speak to me of God's priorities in contrast to the way our world thinks. When life seems unfair and something less than filled with wonder, God shows us His unique way of caring for us and caring for others through us. Wonder creeps back into our hearts as we allow God to show us who we really are and what His good purposes are for our lives.

Jesus paid special attention to the poor, the despised, the hurt, and the sinful. He rejected no one. He ignored no one. God rescues us from places of fear and domination and God has chosen each of us to reach out to a hurting world. This is the wonderful message we have to live. For those whose families and acquaintances have given up on them as hopeless or of little value, God names their value by demonstrating we are all worth His saving efforts. God announces to the world that He chooses us to carry His name and His message of peace and healing to people who are themselves experiencing pain and exploitation. What a wonderful transformation of life and purpose. That's what Christmas is for Partners in Hope. I pray that is what it will be for you as well.

Please check our web page for information about wrapping and distribution Christmas gifts in the Downtown Eastside.

Blessings to all

Elsie

For all of us

at Partners in Hope

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



A St. Simon's NV missionary with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.



## **Kiwanis Communion Service**

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

*If you are able to assist with bringing people in wheelchairs to this service, please let Rev. Ed know. Thank you.*

# THE EFFECT OF OUR LIVES



George Bailey, the main character of the classic 1946 film *It's A Wonderful Life* was given an extraordinary opportunity that most of us don't have. He was given the chance to see the effect he'd had

on the people and the world around him. Most of us are so beleaguered by self-doubt and pessimism that it would do us good to peek behind the curtain and see what good the LORD has accomplished through us. This is true not only of individuals, but also if whole communities of faith as well – we all want to know that God has used us to bring blessing to those around us. If only we had our own Clarence, the guardian angel from the movie, to help us see where we've made an impact!

I'm no guardian angel, but I do want to share with you that you have had and are having a direct and immediate effect at The Table. For those of you who are new to St. Simon's Church NV, for several years I served as the Newcomers' Pastor in your community until I was eventually sent out to plant a church in Victoria, BC. The community of St. Simon's encouraged me, prayed for me, nurtured me, and adopted me as a missionary – and still continues to do so to this very day. The Table is the new community that God has birthed through your support!

Without your partnership Jim, a 20-something one-upon-a-time militant agnostic, would not be growing in faith and hope as he seeks to follow Christ with his whole heart. Neither would Camden. Or Asia. Or Alejandro. Or Levi. Or Jayson. Or Roger. Amy and Mira wouldn't have taken the plunge of baptism. Mandy would not have been baptized in a lake (freezing!!!!) this weekend. John, Meghan, Emma, Sydney, Nicole, Kira, Lilly, James, and Corrine would

not have a chance to clearly hear the Good News of Christ in the midst of a safe community empowered by the Spirit. Not to mention all those who have taken measurable advances in their commitment to following Jesus. All of this and more has come about because you (and others like you) have faithfully and regularly committed to sacrificially supporting us for the last several years.

We like to imagine ourselves as a pomegranate - one church with many clusters. And if that's the case, both your regular and spontaneous support has helped water the fruit. We started out as two families of six and now we are ten total clusters, representing about 130-140 people a month, and averaging 55+ when we meet every other Sunday. All this and we only officially launched The Table in September 2010. God is wonderful.

Please be encouraged and celebrate our wonder and joy with us, as you have had an obvious effect in Victoria through your personal and communal support.

May God continue to bless you wide and deep, in Christ,

Josh, Katie, Eli, and Noah  
[www.tablechurch.ca](http://www.tablechurch.ca)  
[josh@tablechurch.ca](mailto:josh@tablechurch.ca)



A St. Simon's NV missionary with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.

## STEVE'S CORNER



At press time, Steve was in the midst of returning to Mexico after a brief stop in Vancouver. He will be with the Medical Missions team through Christmas and is returning to Canada in early January 2012.

An update will be sent out in the near future.

*Cathie Bolan*  
Editor

Steve Monks can be reached at:  
[stevimonjes@yahoo.com](mailto:stevimonjes@yahoo.com)

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## MISSIONS FEST 2012 -LOCAL COMMUNITY – GLOBAL OPPORTUNITY JANUARY 27TH-29TH, 2012

This is a response to Acts 1:8. It calls us to think about local ministry and then to question “where are the ends of the earth?”

All in the setting of a 3 day conference with international speakers, 100 seminars, almost 250 booths and a parallel Film Festival and Youth and Young Adults conference.

This conference is in it's 29th year. It started small and has now grown to be the largest event of it's kind in North America, possibly even the World and we have it all here in Vancouver.

If “missions” is something other people do, then come and see what they are doing! If it is a general interest that you have, there is plenty of information and inspiration here. If you are really seeking God's direction, there are a host of ideas and a “job opportunities” booth. If you simply want a day out with the people of God, then come and enjoy yourself. You will be entertained, inspired and challenged.

Parking is free at Lonsdale Quay and travel to Canada Place is easy on the Sea Bus.

The conference runs on volunteers, so please offer to help out somewhere. Could we put together a St. Simon's Team of Ushers for Friday night? Would someone like to organize it? If you plan on attending a seminar why not host it? Ask me. What about a couple of hours at the Information Centre or an hour in the Prayer Room.

General Admission is **free**. You do not have to register, just come. It is a total venture in faith. Trusting that our God will provide. Please pray for the provision, the people, the organization, the speakers, travel, weather and more.

We are a sponsoring church, which means we contribute financially, we help and volunteer, we pray and we come. So please come. You will be so blessed, and will be a blessing to others.

Any questions? Ask Peter or Jenny Monks. Find us near the coffee room between the services!

## AN UPDATE FROM SHARYN THOMSON

*Update - November 17, 2011*

We're back in Burkina Faso!

Our trip home continued in the "on-again, off-again" tradition of our travel adventures. We left Yaounde on Wednesday morning as planned but on arrival in Lomé we were informed that our connecting flight to Ouagadougou had been cancelled and that we had been re-booked on the next flight- Friday afternoon. The airline took us to a nice hotel but we were all quite discouraged by the thought of another 2 days on the road. Then, less than 2 hours later, we received word that we would be picked up at and taken back to the airport for a flight to Ouagadougou on another airline. We arrived back in Ouagadougou last night - only 3 ½ hours later than originally planned. Thank you so much for your prayers!

Emmanuel and Simon will take care of some errands today and plan to head back to their families tomorrow. I will be in Ouaga until next Tuesday when I will be traveling again - this time to Vancouver and then on to Calgary for the Wycliffe Canada Board meetings (November 28th to December 1st).

*Update - November 22, 2011*

We weren't able to travel from Yaounde on the 12th after all. After a few more days in Yaounde, we travelled on the 16th as planned. Tonight I leave for Vancouver.

( St. Simon's NV missionary with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.)



*Partners in Bible Translation*

*Wycliffe Bible Translators  
Burkina Faso*



*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**

*Meets upstairs at the Canadian Bible Society (700 Kingsway, Vancouver) and at the Canyon Heights Church in North Vancouver (4840 Capilano Rd).*

*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>*

## SHEPHERDS FULL OF WONDER

How can we recover a child-like sense of wonder? Ask a child how Santa fits down those skinny chimneys, and you'll get all sorts of creative answers, ranging from "He squishes" to "He pushes the button and then pop! He's there!" I am blessed by the artistic imagination that God has given me. It helps me see things, from the many colours in the pink-gold-mauve sunset to the complex weave of a beautiful scarf. 17th century French artist, Nicolas Poussin, envisioned the wonder of the shepherds as they visited Jesus in the manger on the night of his birth. He painted "The Adoration of the Shepherds" in 1633. Poussin's painting has a wonderful composition, framing groups of people telling parts of the story. The roof sloping from the top right to middle left makes a triangle framing the celebrating cherubim, full of playful delight. The composition of the figures in the lower half angles down towards the Christ child in the

manger at the bottom right. Notice the bright blue cloaks of Mary on one side and the figure bearing a basket of fruits on the other side. I love how Poussin uses colour so well to make the compositions in his paintings. The ox and donkey are present in the stable, and all eyes are focused on the baby. All except the figures in the background. They appear to be the shepherds in the field, cowering at the sight of the angels appearing. The painting shows a transition from fear, to adoration and celebration; from a life focused on the circumstances to a life focused on Jesus.

May God bless you with a wonder-filled Christmas!

Jill Cardwell  
Youth & Young Adults Pastor  
[www.john3sixteen.ca](http://www.john3sixteen.ca)



For a larger image, look on the web [http://www.sightswithin.com/Nicolas.Poussin/Page\\_10/](http://www.sightswithin.com/Nicolas.Poussin/Page_10/)  
(click on the image for a larger picture)

## IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE, A LIFE FULL OF WONDER

I love the black and white 1946 film 'It's a Wonderful Life' with Jimmy Stewart. It was a Christmas "classic" when I was a child with its message of hope and purpose in one's life. Set at Christmas, the film's initially despairing hero is shown (by his guardian angel) how different, and how much darker, his town and its people's lives would have been had he not existed. The film leaves you with a "warm, fuzzy" feeling, often stirred up at Christmas.

But Jesus, and the life he calls us to walk, are both wonderful and full of wonder in much deeper ways. The sternness and kindness of God, comes to mind, as does how inexplicable his ways often are. "Is he [Aslan] safe?", Lucy asks in the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. "Safe?" answers Mr Beaver. "Of course he isn't safe...but...he's Good....He's the King"

Since last year's wonderful trip to my field team in Asia, and the subsequent growth of the relationships over Skype, it seemed obvious to us all that I should come out again this Christmas season. After five years, the interest and plans of one of my Swedish YWAM base's training courses to have an outreach team go to my field team seemed to clearly point to the "rightness" of our plans. Yet, one of my "niggles" began to develop in mid-October that something wasn't quite lining up. Perhaps I was just tired of travelling, I thought, after all my journeys in the summer and early autumn. It was just a little "niggle", after all.

Then at the end of October, the outreach team felt led to pray again about going to my field team, and now the answer seemed to inexplicably be "no". Huh? As they shared this, I felt a weight removed and in quick succession, received a confirmation from the field team. A key planned event needed to be shifted to the new year. Then

I had an update from my field leader (on three month furlough). She was to take a further nine months to rest, and maybe come back in a different role. Wow! An outreach team really wouldn't have worked at this time. Nor would it be the best time for me to come. Now I recognized the "niggle" and its accompanying inexplicable desire to stay in Sweden for Christmas. (I usually want to go somewhere else.)

In the meantime, yet another confirmation came for me. Just at the time the outreach team heard "no", God chose to invite me to a whole new level of trusting him and hearing his voice. Now clearing the travel and ministry deck over Christmas and physically resting made lots of sense. To walk out this new area of challenge, which the Lord has for me, needs my full focus. I am both excited and quite challenged at the same time. The picture God has given me is of a wide, deep, fast flowing river. I'm in the middle, there is a waterfall coming up quickly, and I'm past the point of no return in terms of getting to either shore. I sense that it is God's purpose that I go over the waterfall.

In "It's A Wonderful Life", the hero learns that he has a hope and a purpose, but only in the context of life around him. God is represented only by a untried guardian angel who has yet to earn his wings. It all works out, and everyone feels good at the end. 'Things working out', needs to bring long term transformation if it is to have lasting effect. Jesus says "He is the Way and the Truth and the Life", and it is only in and through Him that things really work out, that we are transformed as he sees fit. That is the true hope and true purpose. I thank God for 'warm fuzzies', but keenly desire the deeper Joy.

Jane



(A St. Simon's NV missionary with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.)

## THE VIEW FROM HIS PERSPECTIVE

"It's a wonderful life, a life full of wonder" It starts with my experience of the wonder of creation: the memory of watching the waves crash on the shores of The Gambia; the spectacular sunsets; the vastness of the prairie skies; the northern lights; tiny ice crystals formed on the apples on still on the trees; the birth of a baby; a million stars seen on a clear dark African night. But most of all, the wonder of life is most seen in the life of our Saviour: His miraculous yet humble birth, the miracles recorded in the Word, His submission to the terrible cross, and His glorious resurrection from the dead, and finally – His spirit coming to live in me! The more I can grasp this, the more my life is full of real and awesome wonder. This wonder changes my perspective on God's world as I understand that this birth that we celebrate at Christmas changed the world forever. It is a wonderful life viewed from His perspective and not mine. From His perspective, every need is met in Jesus. There is no cause for worry or for fear. What a friend we have in Jesus – Yes! He invites us to join Him in life from His divine perspective... which is one of strength, joy, blessing, peace, faith and victory. John 16:33 reminds us, "in Me you have peace. In the world you have tribulation; but take courage, I have overcome the world." (NASB) As I live and work in the Gateway MTC community the wonder of how we all get along hits me at times. Oh yes, there are struggles, there are misunderstandings & conflicts, there are gaps in communication. The common thread of knowing the wonder of His love through it all makes it a really, truly wonderful life!



Margie  
WEC International  
Gateway Missionary Training Center



A St. Simon's NV missionary with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Pastor Paul Karangwa is the Dean of Kigeme Cathedral and has been key in so much of the Embrace Rwanda connections. He is hoping to complete his theological degree over the next three years. If you would like to support him financially, cheques can be made out to St. Simon's Church NV noting that the money is for Pastor, Embrace Rwanda.



## SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSICAL



This year we have a special musical production on Sunday December 11th at 10 a.m. called *Lead Me Back To Bethlehem*. Our combined 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. choirs have been working very hard since September on this special production. There will be a narrator and special computer graphics.

Some of the tunes are familiar with Christmas theme words and some are completely new. The music is very beautiful. There are also some Christmas carols woven into the production. We will also have carols at the beginning for everyone to sing along with.

Hope you can make it and bring your families and friends with you.

God bless,

Janice Hird

St. Simon's NV Music Director

p.s., We are always look for new volunteers for our 9 a.m. Choir. We practice every Tuesday night at 6:45 p.m. at the home of Sid and Marina Ireland.



## Joy To The World

### Offertory Envelopes

We are pleased with the solid number of St. Simon's Church 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 bulletin insert and just put it in the collection plate, or you may contact Adele Easto by e-mail: [aeasto@shaw.ca](mailto:aeasto@shaw.ca) or by phone at 604-929-0542 to receive offertory envelopes.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **December 4th - 2nd Sunday of Advent Youth-Oriented Service**

Traditional Communion 9am  
Contemporary Communion 10:30 am  
Jill Cardwell will be giving leadership with a special video produced by the youth group.

### **December 4th - 3pm to 6pm Family Portrait Outreach**

Organized by Jill Cardwell and Darrell Lim.  
All are welcome to help out.

### **December 11th - 3rd Sunday of Advent Joint 10am Christmas Musical Service Lead Me Back to Bethlehem**

led by Janice Hird and the Choir  
at the Kenneth Gordon Maplewood School  
Please pray about whom you might invite to church. People are more willing to come if they are invited. You may be surprised.

### **December 16th - Friday @ 1:30pm Kiwanis Christmas Communion Service with Caroling**

Join the St. Simon's NV Choir as they bring Christmas Cheer to the shut-ins at the Kiwanis Care Centre. Please pray for some of our people who are residents there, including Elfriede Schilling, Charlotte Liberty and Pat Scullion. We have been ministering there since its opening.

### **December 19th - 4th Sunday of Advent**

Traditional Communion 9am  
Contemporary Communion 10:30 am  
at the Kenneth Gordon Maplewood School

## Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services

**December 24th Christmas Eve @ 7pm**  
**Sermon - "Glory to God in the Highest"**  
at the Kenneth Gordon Maplewood School

**December 25th Christmas Day**  
**Joint 10am Service**  
**Sermon - "Living Between the Two Epiphanies at Christmas"**  
at the Kenneth Gordon Maplewood School

## CHRISTMAS GIVING TO ST. SIMON'S NV AND YOUR INCOME TAX CREDITS.

Did you know that 33% of Canadian giving to charitable organizations is during the December Christmas season? Your intentional Christmas generosity will help St. Simon's finish well during this 2011 Calendar year, and be able to get off to a good start for the new 2012 year. The Canadian income tax system encourages gifts to charitable organizations by granting tax credits. When you make a donation of \$200 or more in B.C., you receive a tax credit of approximately 43 cents for every dollar given. A reduced credit of approximately 20 cents per dollar donated applies to donations under \$200. Either spouse can claim a tax credit, regardless of whose name is on the donation receipt. The general limit on the deduction is 75% of net income. Unclaimed charitable donations can be carried forward for up to five years. Please pray about how God may be leading you to give to the St. Simon's NV ministry and mission during this Christmas 2011 season.

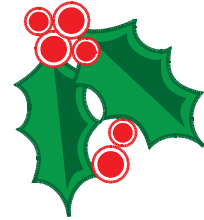
## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS



**January 1st - New Year's Day**  
**1st Sunday After Christmas**  
**Sermon - "Jesus Name Above All Names"**  
Traditional Communion 9am  
Contemporary Communion 10:30 am  
at the Kenneth Gordon Maplewood School

**12th Annual Anglican Mission**  
**Winter Conference**  
**January 11th-14th, 2012**  
in Houston Texas  
Pray about whether God wants you to attend.

**2012 Missions Fest**  
**January 27th-29th, 2012**  
**Canada Place**  
Annual MissionsFest conference.  
St. Simon's NV is one of 140+ sponsoring  
churches. Speak to Jenny Monks on how you  
can participate.



## ADVANCE NOTICES

Anyone age 16 and over who would like to either be confirmed (or reaffirm their faith) with our Bishop Silas Ng during our Joint 10am service on Sunday, February 5th, please speak with Rev. Ed Hird (Phone: 604-929-5350 or E-mail: [ed\\_hird@telus.net](mailto:ed_hird@telus.net))

**February 19th** - Joint 10 am service followed by St. Simon's NV Annual General Meeting at 11:45 am. Please bring a bag lunch. The purpose of the AGM meeting is to: a) receive written reports and thank God for the ministry over the past year, b) elect a new Church Council and c) give final approval to St. Simon's Church NV 2012 budget.

**25th Annual St. Simon's NV Renewal Mission**  
**Friday, February 24th to Sunday, February 26th.**  
Guest speaker is the Rev. Dr. Bob Grant, a leader with the Anglican Mission in the Americas in Pawley Isand, South Carolina.  
The theme for the Renewal Mission is *Breakthrough Into God's Future: Entering the Promised Land.*  
For more information, please contact Elsbeth Turner ([et0972@gmail.com](mailto:et0972@gmail.com))

**ST. SIMON'S STAFF - CONTACT INFO**  
**ST. SIMON'S CHURCH, NORTH VANCOUVER**  
**420 SEYMOUR RIVER PLACE**

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

Church Secretary:  
Cathie Bolan  
604-216-2571  
[stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca](mailto:stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca)

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

Director of Music:  
Janice Hird  
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Children's Ministry 9am  
Gloria Kocay  
604-980-9549  
Jenny Monks  
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Rector's Day Off: Mondays  
Church Office E-mail: [stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca](mailto:stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca)  
Church Office Hours: Please call 604-317-5022 or  
send an e-mail to confirm

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**CHECK OUT ST. SIMON'S CHURCH WEB SITE**  
[www.stsimonschurch.ca](http://www.stsimonschurch.ca)

*The website for the Youth (FUSE) and the Young Adults (THIRST) is:*  
<http://www.john3sixteen.ca>

*You can also check out Rev. Ed's 385+online articles, mostly written for the Deep Cove Crier and North Shore News at: <http://edhird.wordpress.com> or [http://www3.telus.net/st\\_simons](http://www3.telus.net/st_simons)*

*Over 290,000 people have dialed into Ed+'s articles in the past two years, an average recently of 1,000+ people per day. In October, eight times as many as two years earlier. Each of Ed+'s articles points to the St. Simon's Church NV website.*

*A new feature has been added to our website. Sermons recorded at St. Simon's are now being posted for anyone to listen by going to:*

<http://www.stsimonschurch.ca/st-simons-audio-sermons.html>



Check out our Bishop Silas Ng's daily Prayer Blog online. It will really help you with your daily devotions.

<http://bishopsilas.blogspot.com>

