

# St. Simon's Church, NV February 2011

## The Harvest Is Ripe, The Spirit Is Moving

Dear St. Simon's Family,

I am so much looking forward to our annual Renewal Mission on March 25th to 27th. God has a way of touching each of us deeply, refreshing us, reviving us and restoring us in unexpected ways. My prayer for each of us is that we will come to our Greater Vancouver Renewal Mission with a great sense of hunger that God will fill us and transform us.

I do believe that the Harvest is ripe, and that the Holy Spirit is on the move. Rev David Macfarlane is a very dynamic communicator whom you will not want to miss. We are so blessed to have him coming for the Renewal Mission. Pastors Giulio and Lina Gabeli are an amazing team who work so well together in ministering to the needs of broken and hurting people. Please pray about whom you might invite to the Renewal Mission. I believe that God is going to do for us above all that we can ask or imagine.

See you there.

Blessings,

Ed Hird+

## In This Issue

Now We Have Heard For Ourselves <i>by Alex &amp; Jo Yule</i>	2
Home Study Groups <i>Schedule</i>	2
Fields Swaying in the Breeze <i>by Jane</i>	3
The Missional Church <i>by Jo Yule</i>	3
Food That Lasts <i>by Elsie Quick</i>	4
The Working Farm <i>by Rev. Josh Wilton</i>	5
Surrendering To His Work <i>by Steve Monks</i>	6
Take My Son <i>Author Unknown</i>	7
New Anglican Primate	8
GVRM 2011	9
Back In Burkina Faso <i>by Sharyn Thomson</i>	10
ACiC Discipler 123 <i>by Bishop Silas</i>	11
Called To Participate <i>by Jill Cardwell</i>	12
Worship In Spirit And Truth <i>by Rev. Ron Gibbs</i>	13
The Harvest Is Ripe, The Spirit Is Moving <i>by Margie Knapp</i>	14
Upcoming Events	15
Church Information	16
Malaria Being Defeated	Insert

## NOW WE HAVE HEARD FOR OURSELVES

In John 4:42 we read, “ We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.”

This beautiful story of the woman at the well is a wonderful description of how we come to know Jesus as our Saviour. Jesus meets the woman and a deep craving is instilled in her. So deep she needs to tell others of this startling encounter and begins to hope that this man is the long expected Messiah. Her sharing of what Jesus told her then instills in others a great need to also meet this prophet, but the telling part of this story lies in the statement, “now we have heard for ourselves.”

Hearing for ourselves is at the heart of Home Groups. Gathering together to read God’s word is a good place to hear Jesus speak to each one of us. A good place to learn to speak to him. A good place to grow in community.

If you would like to know more about St. Simon’s Home groups we would be happy to talk to you.



Questions? More information? Contact Alex and Jo Yule at 604 985 4028 or by e-mail at [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 For Young Adults.** For more info on times and location, please contact Jill at 604-928-7795 or send an e-mail to [thirstnv@gmail.com](mailto:thirstnv@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.

10:00 a.m. at the home of Maria Waller, a women’s fellowship group. 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. 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 Rev. Ed. For more info call 604-929-0542. Address: 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 429 East 18th Street, North Vancouver.

### FRIDAY

3:30-5:00 pm - Youth Fellowship with Jill & Eric from 6:45-8:45 p.m. For more info, contact Jill at 604-928-7795.

### 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.

## FIELDS SWAYING IN THE BREEZE



Having just been in Asia, and still pondering with God all I sensed and experienced there, this month's newsletter theme, "The Harvest is Ripe; the Spirit is Moving", really jumped at me from the e-mail. I immediately thought, "that is so 'spot on' for where BT is at now!". This country that I have focused on for so many years has changed quite dramatically since my early days of involvement. Rarely huge, attention-grabbing changes, but God has been clearly at work in solid, consistent, incremental change over the years. Even as involved as I am, it is only as I look back five years, or even more noticeably when I look back ten, that I see the seismic nature of the changes.

I suspect that this kind of ripeness/readiness is at least a part of what Jesus is speaking about in John 4 when he tells his disciples to really look around and see that the Samaritan field is very much ripe for harvesting. Many have worked hard for years and years sowing into BT, and in fact, the whole Tibetan world. Processing my recent visit I have a sense of looking up to realize that there is a quickly ripen grain field all around me. The last time I "looked" it was mostly just new shoots coming up out of the plowed field. I also "see" this ripening grain increasingly swaying as a growing breeze moves through it.

Please be a part of the harvest, or in-gathering, and intercede especially for the youth in BT; the growth and walk of those who already know the Lord and the drawing by the Spirit of those who don't yet know him. With over 56% of population under 25, the harvest field stretches into the distance both in space, and in time. And Aslan is on the move.

Jane

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

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## THE MISSIONAL CHURCH

Alex and I have been attending the Teleios series at West Vancouver Baptist Church for the last 4 months and I was particularly struck by the January session entitled "The Missional Church" led by Dr. Ross Hastings from Regent College.

The title is certainly relevant to our theme for this newsletter, "The Harvest is Ripe. The Spirit is Moving" and a wake up call for us all here at St. Simon's NV.

Dr. Hastings feels that the North American churches have become complacent about the role God has called us to fulfil. God is a missional God who is constantly seeking to have communion with his children. We his children, now in union with him through Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit need also to be constantly seeking the lost and bringing them into his Kingdom. We need to remember that we are not doing something for God we are joining with him in this role.

The danger for the North American churches, according to Dr. Hastings, is that we feel if we are sending missionaries off to other countries our missional role is being fulfilled. We here at home have an equal role to play. Many in today's world do not find the church attractive. When we reread the words Jesus used in Acts 1:8 "be my witnesses" not witness for me, we realize that in order for the church to be a "missional church" the body of believers need to be living the good news. Our missional role here at home is our own community. The harvest waiting to be reaped is right at our front door.

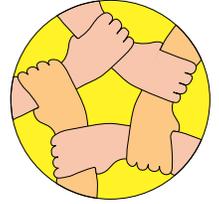
Jo Yule

## FOOD THAT LASTS



Hello from Partners in Hope

We live “among the boxes” these days as we prepare to move on from where we’ve been here at 557 East 21st Avenue for the past 9 years. These have been 9 years of blessing and sharing, fellowship and prayer, teaching and challenging – all the things we believe the church in Acts 4 practiced. They are our model and they were modelling what they were doing after the life and teaching of Jesus.



Jesus busied himself with the task of sharing the gospel with the Samaritan woman while his disciples went to town to buy food. When they returned Jesus told them that “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.” As we transition away from life and ministry that has included the preparation and distribution of lots of food, we seek to live within what Jesus was pointing towards in this passage in John 4. We seek to be more fruitful by being busy with the “food others know nothing about.”

Our society understands housing the homeless and feeding the hungry but they really miss the Lord standing among them offering them eternal life. In these weeks when so many have asked, “Why are you at Partners in Hope making this move at this time?” I try to tell them that we have a “billion year business plan.” I want to spend my efforts and time on getting people food that lasts, a home in God’s house forever, a life in the new kingdom where there is no more death or mourning or crying or pain for the old order of things has passed away.” I want to ensure that we don’t just feed people for a day but that we give them Jesus, the bread of life that lasts forever. I don’t just want to advocate for safe and supportive housing in Vancouver for marginalized individuals for a few months but to bring those individuals into a living relationship with God through Jesus so they make their home in God.

It is ALWAYS important to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and care for the sick. We will continue to do that. We will be using all of our efforts to engage others in that task as well BUT (and this is the essential condition), we will be trying to engage folks in this task for the sake of the Kingdom rather than for the sake of simply doing a good deed in response to a visible need. We will invite people to follow Jesus and out of their love for Jesus to love their neighbour, particularly the less fortunate. It is the desire of all of our hearts in Partners in Hope that this new season will be one of ever greater fruitfulness as we carry out our mission.

*Partners in Hope Mission Statement: In prayerful presence with those who are most vulnerable, to raise up individuals who will seek to wholeheartedly serve God in ministry that encourages and supports others to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ.*

Jesus came to bring us the Kingdom where there is fullness of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. I want to stand there hand in hand with Jesus and reach out to others so we together can widen the circle of God’s blessing and fruitful provision.

Thank you for your part in prayer, in giving, in volunteering, in blessing. Full speed ahead.

From a grateful heart  
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.)

## THE WORKING FARM

I remember when Katie spent most of her free hours nurturing a garden during our summers in Alaska. One year for her birthday I gave her five “Mancandy” hours, and she put me to work pulling weeds. Uggghhh. I love plucking fresh fruits and vegetables from the ground and off the vine – next to eating the produce, it’s my favourite part of the process. My least favourite part of the process is...everything else. Thankfully the produce ripens at different stages, so even when I was on my knees pulling weeds I could reach over and take a bite from a ripe, red tomato.

Rather than plant a vegetable seed, I prefer working with the human variety. And I tell you, the fact that only 3% of people are in a church on a given Sunday in Victoria suggests that the soil needs tilling, reworking, watering, and we need someone to pinch off the suckers from the vine so the tomatoes can grow at full speed. This is not a field ready for quick crops, but one that requires fertilizer and hard labour.

The good news is that God has been working incognito for decades, and He has sent many ahead of us to make initial contact. It’s true, we are the first face-to-face contact with Christianity for a lot of people, but that’s what makes it fun. Some need watering, others need the seed, and all need God’s grace. For example, two people have recently made confessions of faith in Christ. One of them has been with us for a year, and the other for a year and a half! They are like asparagus, which take a year before the crown pokes through the soil.

Thank God for asparagus! And thank God that he sent people to do a good portion of the work before, and will send others to help with the harvest after. Each of these guys, and every person at The Table, has been impacted by people sharing with them the love and hope of Christ. You have acted as a working farm and apprenticed us to sow, water, and reap the harvest here, and you have helped with seed money as we wait for the great asparagus harvest of Victoria.

May the LORD Himself – who oversees the whole process and nurtures the garden with His Spirit – may He bless you all in scattering seed and seeing the fields rise with vines and wheat and asparagus!

Your fellow planter and harvester,  
Josh Wilton (and kin)  
(250) 661-4141

[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.)

### 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.

## SURRENDERING TO HIS WORK



At the end of December we hosted a dentist from Nebraska, and together put on a two day dental clinic here at Clinic of Hope. One of the cases he saw was a ten year old boy whose upper gum was preventing the front teeth from coming in. As it happened, I had just started assisting, and Dr. Manary began by saying, “Stevito, I just want you to know there’s going to be a lot of blood.”

“Great,” I thought, “first patient and we’re doing a minor surgery with a lot of blood”. So I prayed, um, not for the boy, but for me to be able to assist properly. So he began by putting in the anaesthetic and the boy hardly moved. Then he pulled two baby teeth to make room for the others to come in. After that he started literally carving away the gumline. Now, I’ve seen hundreds of teeth being pulled throughout my years serving here at the clinic, but I have never seen a smile being created as we saw that day. My job was to suction and mop up the blood with gauze pads so Dr. Manary could see to do

the many stitches afterward. And to be honest, it was fascinating. The whole time the kid hardly moved, and at one point I thought he had fallen asleep. Now often times over the years as I’ve watched dentists work their craft and use their skill to heal and clean peoples’ teeth, I’ve thought of how it is like God carving our character, cleaning areas of sin and decay, and removing parts which are causing pain. But that day, in that young boy, I saw how I want to be in the hands of God as He works on my own heart and character - calmly trusting in God to do what’s necessary and best. Sure there might be temporary pain, but in the long-term there will be healing and health. What was interesting was that the following day I made a house visit to a man who had missed his appointment. He took about five minutes simply to get out of bed and come into the living room where I waited, and I could tell immediately that he hadn’t slept well. The night before the dentist had examined him and told him that he needed two rotten teeth pulled out; Dr. Manary let him go home to think about it and come in the following morning. This man said that he had a tooth infection and wanted to wait for the infection to clear before having the teeth pulled. I told him to have Dr. Manary pull them, the infection could be cleaned up, the pain would go because his mouth would heal. Until then, it would be difficult to

eat or sleep. The man never came by the clinic for help. One of the other patients Dr. Manary attended to was a five year old girl who needed two front teeth pulled and also had an infection in her gum which needed to be cleaned out. She cried a little nervously during the injection in the beginning, but after that she was marvellous in the way she cooperated. Three very interesting cases. And all I can think is how I want to be before God, as those two kids were before Dr. Manary: quiet, calm, and unquestioning trust in His work. May we all be desiring to surrender ourselves completely to His work, knowing that He is good, and the work He does - either though it may be uncomfortable at first - is ultimately for our own good, so that we can be faithful ambassadors reflect His handiwork in our lives.

Later that night we went to the dining hall to eat, just a few hours short of the New Year. As it happened, the family of the five year old girl joined us for dinner. Dr. Manary walked in and she came running over to him and opened her mouth widely to show him the work he had done only hours before. How sweet to see that trust and thankfulness in such a small child!

Steve Monks  
Mexico Medical Mission

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

## TAKE MY SON

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art. ?

When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands.

He said, 'Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly. He often talked about you, and your love for art.' The young man held out this package. 'I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this.'

He opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture.. 'Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift.'

The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected.

The man died a few months later.... There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection. On the platform sat the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. 'We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?'

There was silence...

Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, 'We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one.'

Another voice angrily.. 'We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Gogh's, the Rembrandts.. Get on with the Real bids!'

But still the auctioneer continued. 'The son! The son! Who'll take the son?'

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the longtime gardener of the man and his son. 'I'll give \$10 for the painting...' Being a poor man, it was all he could afford.

'We have \$10, who will bid \$20?'

'Give it to him for \$10. Let's see the masters.'

The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son.

They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections.

The auctioneer pounded the gavel. 'Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!'

A man sitting on the second row shouted, 'Now let's get on with the collection!'

The auctioneer laid down his gavel. 'I'm sorry, the auction is over.'

'What about the paintings?'

'I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will.. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings.

The man who took the son gets everything!'

God gave His son 2,000 years ago to die on the cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is: 'The son, the son, who'll take the son?' Because, you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything.

***FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON,  
WHO SO EVER BELIEVETH, SHALL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE... THAT'S LOVE***

## RWANDAN CONSECRATION OF OUR NEW ANGLICAN PRIMATE ONESPHORE RWAJE



From left to right: Bishop Sandy Greene, retired Archbishop Emmanuel Kolini, our new Archbishop Onesphore Rwaje, Bishop Chuck Murphy, and Bishop Silas Ng



*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>*

# GREATER VANCOUVER RENEWAL MISSION 2011

## MARCH 25TH-27TH



**REV. DAVID MACFARLANE**



**PASTORS GIULIO & LINA GABELI**

The Greater Vancouver Renewal Mission 2011 is being held once again at the Harvest City Church located at 7416 Victoria Drive, Vancouver. For more information on how to get there, you can check their website at: [www.harvestcitychurch.ca](http://www.harvestcitychurch.ca)

You can register by sending an e-mail to the Registrar, Elsbeth at: [elsbeth.et.turner@gmail.com](mailto:elsbeth.et.turner@gmail.com)

or go to our website at and fill in the online registration form: <http://www.stsimonschurch.ca/upcoming-events.html>



Sharon Machulenko, who recently moved to Hawaii submitted this photo as a sample of the flowers that will be used in her wedding next month.



## BACK IN BURKINA FASO

I greet you all on behalf of my family, colleagues and friends here in Burkina Faso. While I very much appreciated the year and a half that I spent back in Canada, it is good to be here, in my other ‘home’. Since returning, I have been encouraged to learn that it is now rare for a pastor in a Buamu village to use any language other than Buamu to preach and the Scripture in Buamu is being used when it is available. Praise the Lord! And, there are many other reasons to rejoice:

- \* Simon and the composing group produced an entire cassette of new songs on their own – only needing outside help for the duplicating process.
- \* The literacy supervisors and teachers finally received official government recognition for the Buamu literacy association they created. While this came too late for them to apply for government funding year, they are making plans for next year. In the meantime, other organizations also continue to offer some literacy training in Buamu.
- \* Beginning on February 21st, the first read-through of the New Testament will begin. Twenty-five pastors and lay leaders have been invited to participate in this first 2-week session. I am so looking forward to participating in this event.

There are many challenges still ahead and much work still to do before we will be ready to typeset the New Testament. (We are aiming for August or September.) With this goal in mind, it is even more important that I complete my thesis so that any lingering orthography problems (how the language is written) can be resolved. Please continue to pray that the Lord would protect the team and other key personnel (reviewers, translation committee members and church leaders). Pray that the Lord would smooth the way for the typesetting of the New Testament, removing any barrier that might stand in the way of the Buaba having the Word of God in their heart language.

Thank you so much for your partnership in this ministry.

Sharyn Thomson  
Wycliffe Bible Translators  
Burkina Faso

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



## ACiC DISCIPLER 123 3-MONTH CAMPAIGN BISHOP SILAS NG



The meaning of Discipled 123 is for one discipler to come together once a week with two friends (disciples of Christ) to have devotion together and share what they have received from the Lord from their other six days of daily devotion.

Beginning on March 6th, this campaign will be introduced in your local congregation. You don't need to find two people first before you sign the slips that will be handed out. Sign it in faith so that at least you may start your daily intimate personal relationship journey with Jesus for the coming three months. God will provide two people for those who sign so that they can encourage each other for those three months of fellowship. If you find that getting together once a week works well, you may choose to continue until the end of this year.

**DISCIPLER 123**

1 Discipler  
2 Friends  
3 Months

Worship - Sunday Worship  
 Relationship - Daily  
 Devotion Home - Small Group life

You being a discipler of Christ lead two friends to have daily devotion for at least three months. And, to encourage them to attend Sunday worship and join a small group in your Church

Please use Bishop Silas two daily devotion blog:  
<http://discipler123.blogspot.com> (start March 6, 2011)  
<http://bishopsilas.blogspot.com> (started August 20, 2009)

Check out our Bishop Silas Ng's daily Prayer Blog online. It will really help you with your daily devotions.  
<http://bishopsilas.blogspot.com>

“ Do you not say,  
‘There are yet four months,  
then comes the harvest’?  
Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes,  
and see that the fields are  
white for harvest.”



## CALLED TO PARTICIPATE



Sometimes I wonder what I'm doing here. Sometimes I doubt whether I'm making a difference. Sometimes I doubt whether I'm truly participating in what God's doing (perhaps I'm just asking God to participate in my own plans). I imagine we all struggle with doubts of one sort or another.

In reading John 4, I was reminded of the importance of being aware of God's timing. I saw the benefit of being there for someone else in their season, not mine. Jesus waits to speak with the Samaritan woman at the well. He knows where she is at in life, and he knows what she needs. He doesn't rush into it, but talks patiently with her, leading her from where she is to where she needs to be. He was there when she needed him. We may not have God's perfect timing, but we are being called to participate in his work by the Holy Spirit. Jesus says, "Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." You never know when what you do will make a difference in someone's life. If you're not available for God's purposes, He can't use you to bless someone. I was grateful to be part of God's timing in a friend's life when she accepted Christ as Saviour. The joy of that moment: being able to share in the celebration of new life, and the remembrance of my similar experience seven years ago. There is true joy in being there when someone needs a friend, even as you share in their pain. Part of ministry is participating in someone else's life as they need you to. God has spoken into my life through the lives of others. Our young people need someone like you to participate in their lives, to share their joy and pain, to help them as they strive to fulfill their potential. Will you be there now?

Jill Cardwell  
Youth Pastor

[www.john3sixteen.ca/home/youth.html](http://www.john3sixteen.ca/home/youth.html)

p.s. There are opportunities to serve in the youth & young adult ministry at St. Simon's now

## WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH



I have been advised that the theme for this newsletter is Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:4-42). Raymond Brown in his highly regarded commentary on John's Gospel states that in reflecting on this passage there are two topics that must be discussed; firstly the topic of living water and secondly the topic of worship in spirit and in truth:

*Living Water* (vs. 10-14). What was Jesus referring to when He spoke of giving living water to this woman? Clearly this living water is not Jesus Himself but something spiritual that He offers to the believer who can recognize God's gift. The living water is not eternal life but that which leads to it. (v. 14) The use of this sign of water shows how realistically John thought of eternal life; water is to natural life as living water is to eternal life. Living water therefore is Jesus revelation or teaching. For Jesus to refer to His revelation as living water in John's gospel is perfectly plausible, for in

John, Jesus is presented as divine wisdom and as the fulfillment of the law. Further living water is the Spirit communicated by Jesus. Finally it is the understanding of living water as the Spirit that led later theologians to think of it as grace, as Thomas Aquinas stated "The grace of the Holy Spirit is given to man inasmuch as the very font of grace is given, that is, the Holy Spirit."

*Worship in Spirit and Truth* (vs. 23-24). In verse 23 the particular point in question shifts from the place of worship to the manner of worship. It is generally agreed today that in proclaiming worship in Spirit and truth, Jesus is not contrasting external worship with internal worship. His statement has nothing to do with worshipping God in the inner recesses of one's own spirit, for the Spirit is the Spirit of God, not the spirit of man as verse 24 makes clear. The contrast between worship in Jerusalem or on Mount Gerizim and worship in Spirit and truth is part of a familiar tactic of John's, i.e., dualism between earthly and heavenly, "from below" and "from above", flesh and Spirit. God can be worshipped as Father only by those who possess the Spirit that makes them God's children. This Spirit raises us above the earthly level, the level of the flesh, and enables us to worship God properly. Verse 24 couples Spirit and truth. And thus truth also enables us to worship God properly. Jesus is the truth (14:6) in the sense that He reveals God's truth to us, the Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus and is the Spirit of truth who is to guide us in all truth.

Blessings,

Ron+

### **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.



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



## THE HARVEST IS RIPE, THE SPIRIT IS MOVING

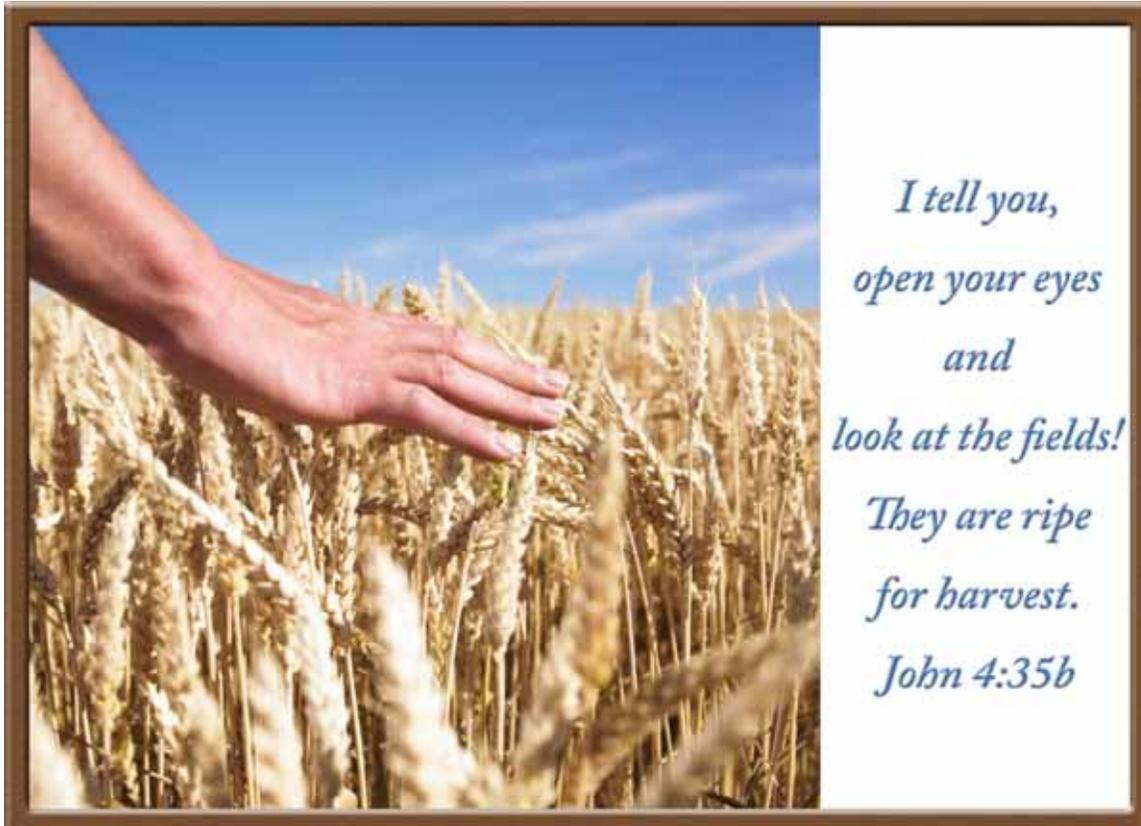
From every people to every people! This is a phrase missions researcher/author Patrick Johnston of Operation World uses about the current world missionary movement. Few of us have realized that over the past 40 years we have had a sixth awakening which has affected Africa, Latin America and parts of Asia. These areas are the global future for Christianity. All Christianity is shifting from one side of the world to the other! Korea is now the second largest missionary sending country. In 1400 A.D. most Christians were Asians. Then disaster hit. Islam conquered and prevailed. Every language group that had a Bible in their own language never gave up even though they were severely persecuted. Others without a Bible in their own language gave up and gave in to the invaders. Approximately 100 years ago American missionaries took the Bible already translated into Korean to Korea and one of the largest missionary movements exploded. These are some of the things I learned during Patrick's visit to Vancouver. It is the Word of God planted in my own life at an early age that in later life came alive and was "sharper than any two-edged sword" and changed me from the inside out, compelling me to 'go'. Yes, the Spirit is moving all over the world. As His people plant, the Spirit is watering and growth is happening! The 8 Gateway students are almost at the half-way mark in the program and making preparation for their internships. The internships are as varied as the students themselves. British going to Korea to teach English; Koreans to Pasadena to learn in a multi-cultural church; Koreans to a Laotian church in Vancouver; American girl to South Africa; Mexican girl to Cambodia. Yes, today the Spirit is moving missionaries from everywhere to everywhere! I'm thrilled to be part of this Great Move of the Spirit.

Margie Knapp  
Gateway MTC

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



Photographer:  
© Morgan David de Lossy



*I tell you,  
open your eyes  
and  
look at the fields!  
They are ripe  
for harvest.  
John 4:35b*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 4th-5th**

**Friday 7pm to Saturday 7pm**

**Greater Vancouver Renewal Mission**

**24-Hour Prayer Vigil**

at West Vancouver Baptist Church

450 Mathers Ave, West Vancouver

Sign up for an hour by registering by phone with

Elsbeth Turner at 604-929-4224 or by e-mail at

elsbeth.et.turner@gmail.com

**March 9th - Ash Wednesday - 7:30 pm**

**Joint Service with St. Timothy's**

Sutherland Church

630 East 19th, North Vancouver

(just off the Grand Boulevard)

**March 25th-27th**

**Greater Vancouver Renewal Mission 2011**

With keynote speakers: Rev. David Macfarlane  
and Pastors Giulio and Lina Gabeli.

For details, see page 9.

**April 17th - Palm Sunday**

**Please come 10 minutes prior to start of  
service for procession with palms.**

9am Traditional BCP

10:30am Contemporary Services

**April 21st - Maundy Thursday Communion  
and Footwashing Service**

**Joint Service with St. Timothy's**

Sutherland Church

630 East 19th, North Vancouver

(just off the Grand Boulevard)

**April 22nd - Good Friday Service - 10am**

at Kenneth Gordon Maplewood School

**April 24th - Resurrection Sunday**

**Communion Services**

Please bring flowers for the Flower Cross

9am Traditional BCP

10:30am Contemporary Services

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Advance Notice:**

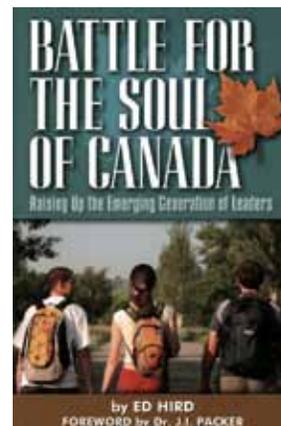
**38th Annual BC Christian Ashram Retreat**

**July 16th-19th, 2011**

With Bishop Charles Dorrington (REC) and Rev. Josh Wilton of the Table Church, both from Victoria BC. It will be held for the fifth year at Summit Pacific Park in Abbotsford BC.

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



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420 SEYMOUR RIVER PLACE

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604-929-1837  
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Candace Gillespie  
604-929-7429  
[gilcandace@shaw.ca](mailto:gilcandace@shaw.ca)

Church Office E-mail: [stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca](mailto:stsimonschurch@yahoo.ca)

Church Office Hours: Please call or send an e-mail to confirm

Rector's Day Off: Mondays

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 9  
#112-1151 Mt. Seymour Road  
North Vancouver BC V7H 2Y4

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

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

*Rev. Ed's articles can be viewed online at: <http://edhird.wordpress.com>*

*You may continue to review Rev. Ed's articles listed in Deep Cove Crier and North Shore News going to the link listed below.*

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



*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>*

## MALARIA BEING DEFEATED - VILLAGE BY VILLAGE

The State of Mizoram, in North East India has been defeating malaria village by village. The system is simple, inexpensive and self sustaining. It could be implemented in any village in the world.

Early detection and treatment is the whole secret. They find when malaria can be diagnosed and treated within the first 48 hours, before the parasite has lodged in the liver or brain, it can be easily eliminated. This means it is necessary to diagnose it at the very first sign of either fever or headache.

To accomplish this each malaria prone village chooses a person for training. At present this person receives training at the Relief and Development Department of the Baptist Church in Lunglei Southern Mizoram. Very shortly a second training center will be opened at the Seventh Day Adventist Hospital in Aizawl, Northern Mizoram. The training goes beyond diagnosing and treating malaria including such things as general first aid, diabetes, hypertension, inoculations and IV drips. They become the primary health worker for the village.

To date 80 of these are in operation, more are being opened monthly. Their success has been tremendous. They have not lost a single person who has come in at the first sign of a symptom. The aim is now to establish these clinics, called ZoClinics, in another 300 malaria prone villages over the next 18 months. If this can be achieved malaria, which is traditional Mizoram's number one killer, will have been defeated.

World-wide malaria kills over one million people a year, that is 3,000 every day. The majority of these are children. It is said a child dies of malaria every 30 seconds.

For a one time tax deductible donation of \$275.00 an entire village can be saved from malaria. This buys a microscope, blood pressure and blood sugar meters and enough medicine to get the clinic started. In Mizoram the government pays for the training. The technician performs the tests and treatment at a very modest price and buys more medicine as needed. The whole operation is self-sustaining.

To learn more visit [www.malaria.defeated.org](http://www.malaria.defeated.org) or to save a village now fill out the following form and mail to:

Stuart Spani  
1858 Beaulynn Place  
North Vancouver, BC  
V7J 2T1

You will receive an income tax receipt and a poster featuring the technician of the village you saved from malaria.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed my cheque for \$275.00 to purchase equipment for a ZoClinic.

If you wish to specify a particular village or denomination please send an e-mail to Stuart at: [stuart@lightspeed.ca](mailto:stuart@lightspeed.ca) along with your phone number and he will contact you to discuss possibilities.

Cheques should be made out to Reachout 2 Africa who receipt the donations.