

*St. Simon's Church NV  
Pentecost 2014 News*

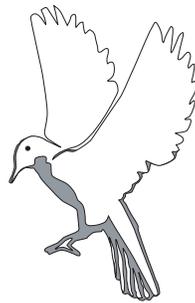


Pouring Out  
God's Spirit  
At Pentecost

*Praising, Serving, Sharing Christ  
In the Power of the Holy Spirit*

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### *Pouring out God's Spirit at Pentecost*



Dear St. Simon's NV family,

What an amazing gift that God has given us at Pentecost. He did not leave us orphans. Shockingly Jesus saw his leaving earth as an important step so that the Holy Spirit could come and live within us. The early disciples were just recovering from the trauma of their Lord dying on the cross. I could imagine them saying to Jesus: "Good, you're back. Let's get on with the mission." Wouldn't it be easier to reach the world if the resurrected Jesus hung around on planet earth? But he had a different plan: the outpouring of the third person of the Trinity on the Day of Pentecost. It birthed the Church and changed everything.

This same Holy Spirit now indwells every believer. I am so grateful that every one of us has been given spiritual gifts that we can use to reach the world and build up the Body of Christ. The Bible encourages us to be filled with the Holy Spirit on an ongoing basis. God is continuing to pour out his Spirit upon all flesh. He warns against our grieving the Spirit, resisting the Spirit, quenching the Spirit, and vexing the Spirit. A key to being filled afresh is surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.

My challenge to you as we prepare our hearts and minds for the Day of Pentecost on June 8th is to seek a deeper surrender to the Lord. *Have thy own way, Lord, have thy own way. You are the potter. I am the clay. Fill me and mold me, in Jesus' wonderful name. Amen*

Ed Hird+

## POURING OUT GOD'S SPIRIT AT PENTECOST – IN THE DAY OF HIS POWER



As I pondered this passage from Acts 2:1-21, the phrase ‘in the day of your power’ kept coming to me over and over again. But I had a problem! Where is that Scripture? I got out my concordance and searched every conceivable word and phrase relating to it. Now I am saying to myself, “try Google!” and so I finally did. Bible Gateway showed me the way through. Modernize Margie!

*“The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies! Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.”*  
(Psalm 110:2, 3 NKJV)



So I want to share a few thoughts with you about the Day of Pentecost as the day of His power. In the day of His power: He sends the rod of correction and guidance; He rules even when the enemies of our souls seem to overwhelm us; we His people will be His willing volunteers for service and for sacrifice. We will be characterized by the beauty of holiness – people set apart from ungodliness and sin; being fresh as youth and fruitful even in old age!

There are young people and older people continuing to volunteer to join WEC International to go to the *Unreached Peoples* of the world, the hard places which we call creative access nations to preach, teach, disciple and proclaim that *“whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”*

As I write all WEC leaders are in Korea at Intercon – a conference which takes place every four years. The Canadian delegation are: Mike & Laurie Boling, Gateway Directors; the Sending Base Leaders Mick and Caroline Brown; Randy and Heather Barnes, Candidate Directors. Please pray they will be blessed, encouraged challenged and renewed in Spirit for the task for which God has called them.

Margie Knapp  
*WEC International*  
*serving with Gateway Missionary Training*

JOIN US FOR A PUBLIC MEETING OF WEC  
What is God doing around the world?  
What is God doing among children in crisis?  
Hear from missionaries on furlough and celebrate!  
DATE: Saturday, June 21st  
TIME: 7:00 – 9:00 pm  
VENUE: Gateway Training Centre, 21233 32nd Avenue, Langley

*Margie is a missionary with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.*



“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place”. Verse 1 of Acts Chapter 2 reminds us that the disciples were meeting together when the fire of God descends. The power of God divides so that it comes to rests on every head individually. Verse 4 tells us that all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. The power of God is not only a group thing, but also a matter of a powerful personal experience.

Each one of us, too, plays our own personal and individual part in bringing in the kingdom; it can never be simply left for someone else.

This is why I am so blessed to have a team of supporters around me both here and in Rwanda who have caught my vision and are committed to building God's kingdom in rural Rwandan villages. Lives are being changed and the people there are praising God for the support they receive from Embrace Rwanda.



The growth of our projects and the expected expansion to several other Dioceses in the next year are signs to me that the Spirit of God is at work. Just as the disciples were equipped for their ministry, I am seeing how God is bringing the right people at the right time to be involved in Embrace Rwanda. They are coming from different countries, different cultures and with different tongues. Yet when the fire of God rests on them and kindles the passion of each individual heart we have a common bond. We work together in the spirit. Yes, we have to develop organizational structures and strategic plans but when this originates with inspiration from the Holy Spirit working in each of us, it joins us all together and we can say ““Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit”, says the Lord Almighty” (Zechariah 4:6)

Thank you all for being part of that team. Your prayers and financial support help us to see God's spirit being poured out in Rwanda.

Blessings, Hilary King

*Hilary is the Director for Embrace Rwanda and is a missionary with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.*

## ***NEWS FROM BYE, BYE MALARIA***

The Bye, Bye Malaria Society is moving forward.

Up until now we have concentrated on preventing deaths from malaria by establishing village clinics, or ZoClinics. The fact that Artemisia tea has been proven effective, even against dormant malaria is a game changer. It is now possible to eliminate malaria itself.

The concept of ZoClinics was pioneered in the remote village of Darzo in Mizoram, India. The 160 ZoClinics now in operation have proven that early detection can eliminate deaths from malaria. Now Darzo is conducting an experiment which should prove that malaria can be eradicated village by village.

Experiments have already proven that even dormant malaria can be cured with Artemisia tea. Artemisia is now being propagated around Darzo and by fall of this year every person in Darzo will receive a full treatment of Artemisia. Provided we can kill every malaria parasite in the community and prevent re-introduction from outside, Darzo will be malaria free forever.

The Artemisia plant is propagated through cuttings and a single plant can produce up to 1000 cuttings in just two months. Therefore, it is possible to treat very large populations. The Cdar project near Aizawl, which works with thousands of farmers, has started a major propagation program with the aim of supplying enough Artemisia to treat the entire Mizoram population within two years. Malaria has been by far the leading cause of premature deaths in Mizoram.

Artemisia can be grown in virtually every malaria-prone area on earth. Therefore, it is feasible that malaria can be eradicated worldwide at very little cost. We are already encouraging groups in Kenya, Zambia, Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda to copy the experiments of Mizoram. We can now dare to dream that the dreaded disease of malaria, which, over the centuries, has been the leading cause of premature deaths world-wide, can be eradicated.

When St Simon's Church in North Vancouver began supporting ZoClinics there were only 25 villages being protected. The donations from this church have primed the pump and now living water is flowing around the malaria-prone world.

Thank you St Simon's.

*Submitted by: Stuart Spani President  
The Bye, Bye Malaria Society.  
[www.malaria-defeated.org](http://www.malaria-defeated.org)*

### **OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

We appreciate 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 form titled *Information Request* which can be found at the table by the back door. Our envelope secretary Adele Easto will be most happy to assist you with obtaining your own offertory envelopes, usually by the next Sunday. Another way of giving is online through our St. Simon's NV website at <http://stsimonschurch.ca> (look for the *Canada Helps* logo on the home page).

## The Reasonable Explanation

### An Article on the Pouring Out of God's Spirit at Pentecost



The events of Pentecost according to Acts 2, when God poured out His Spirit on His people, are always a great reminder to how great God is and how He is actively involved with His people. As Christians we read what happened here and see how God moved among the people

and indwelt within each of them. Yet we can look and see the fulfillment to scripture that is happening here in the book of Joel (2:28-32), but what does that mean to one who doesn't know the scripture or to those who do not except the explanation for what is happening. In this article, we are going to briefly look at why we have good reason to believe what happened at Pentecost that day and why it is still relevant today.

In order to understand the objections that could be brought up against what is happening, we need to have a quick look at the events that are taking place. First, we have a large gathering of people from many nations for the sole purpose to celebrate Pentecost. In Acts Chapter 2, verses 9 to 11 describe just how many different people groups are represented there. Suddenly a great gust of wind came in and what appeared to be flashes of fire hovered above the apostle's heads. This caused a great commotion and had drawn a great crowd into the house. At that moment, many people whom the fire passed by, started speaking in different languages that the others in the room from different people groups spoke in their own nation. This is just a brief look at the setting of what is happening here and an even ground that all can agree with.

With a factual setting in place that all camps agree on, let us look at a couple of the possible objections. The first one is from the story itself when one of the bystanders explains away the behaviour of the people that are speaking in different languages as being filled with new wine (vs. 13). In the culture at the time, it was more than likely that was wine to drink and there was a large group of people around, so the notion is possible, but with it comes many presumptions. First of all, it presumes that the apostles who were speaking different languages had prior knowledge of the language and could speak it fluently without anyone knowing, which was highly unlikely due to the fact that everyone knew them as Galileans (as in vs. 7) and not from other cultures. It also ignores the customary prayer time that was taken place.

The time that this was happening, according to Peter, was at about 9 in the morning (vs. 15) or otherwise known as "the third hour of the day, extending from eight to nine o'clock in the morning, [which] according to the modern computation, was the first of the three stated hours of daily prayer...the Israelites were not allowed by devout usage to partake of food and drink until this hour had expired<sup>1</sup>." We can see, therefore, that it would have been improper for a Jew to be drunk of wine at this time of the day. This view also completely ignores the fact of a large gust of wind and flames above the apostle's heads. We can reasonably say that due to lack of evidence and ignorance of the facts, that the Holy Spirit descending upon the disciples and speaking through them is the more reasonable choice to believe.

Someone could take this view of the wine though, a skeptic, and add more presumptions to explain what is happening. Well what might that like then? A skeptic could explain that these Galileans, although growing up in Galilee, could have learned these other languages on their own. Who is to say they could not? Perhaps they were drunk from new wine, being towards the end of the hour and starting celebrations early. It is possible that this could have taken place, but how would a skeptic reason the large gust of wind and fire over the heads. They might say that it was a very gusty morning, enough to knock open windows. It was also early enough in the morning that there were candles lit in darker places to light up where they were meeting. If the disciples were drunk, then would not their very breath be noxious and slightly flammable? This gas would hover above their heads, thus the flame from the candles when blown by the wind could have caught light above the apostles heads. This is also a possibility, but the likelihood of this scenario is highly unlikely. Again, due to lack of evidence, we can say that the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples is the reasonable choice.

We can give several scenarios to try and explain what happened here simply because anything is possible. But we, as Christians aren't defending what is possible, but more so what is reasonable, and based upon the evidences given here and the many before and after this time in history, we can reasonably believe what happened at this crucial event in Christendom. We don't need to prove the scenario 100% but merely enough so that is the most reasonable of the many other scenarios that could have occurred.

*(Continued on page 9)*

## *Pouring Out His Spirit On Outsiders*



Spring is here. Days are brighter long into the evening. Flowers are blooming. Old friends we haven't seen in a while show up for a meeting or at a drop-in center. Sometimes, if we haven't seen them in a while they ask us what we are doing now to minister among those who seem to experience life on the margins, those we might call "outsiders."

We tell them about gatherings of women and men with bilingual English-Chinese meditations and music at drop-in centers. We share stories of Gateway interns with whom we had the pleasure of participating in their training and providing a cross-cultural outreach opportunity for them at our weekly Christian recovery meeting. The excitement is obvious as we describe the group that meets to study the Gospel of Mark each Wednesday evening.

We share about discipleship opportunities we have as we provide chaplaincy services at a local drug and alcohol recovery center. Sometimes their eyes widen when we begin to tell about chapel and visitation experiences in prison. We invite them to come to monthly celebrations where we pray and support individuals who seek to serve God in their local setting.

As I reflected on the numerous opportunities we have each week to share about Jesus with people in unlikely places, I was reminded of Peter's experience when he visited the folks gathered at the home of Cornelius in Acts 10. He was telling them stories of Jesus and their encounters with him.

"No sooner were these words out of Peter's mouth than the Holy Spirit came on the listeners. The believing Jews who had come with Peter couldn't believe it, couldn't believe that the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on "outsider" non-Jews, but there it was—they heard them speaking in tongues, heard them praising God." (Acts 10:44-46 NIV)

It is our longing and prayer that this will be our experience as well and the experience of each person we come in contact with. God is up to the task of pouring out His Spirit on "outsiders". God's generous heart is so evident as He comes close to those who have felt alone for so long and pours out His love and power into their lives.

Thank you for partnering with us in these "outsider opportunities." Your prayer and financial support make these moments available to God as He works to fulfil His purposes in the power of His Spirit.

We rejoice in God's presence and your partnership in this ministry of the Gospel. Through it all we are aware that God is alongside us daily, to guiding and empowering in the work He has prepared for us to do. *"For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him."* (2 Chronicles 16:9 NIV)

Blessings to all.

Elsie

For all of us at Partners in Hope

*Elsie is the Director for Partners In Hope and a missionary with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.*



For other information and events go to their website at:  
<http://www.partnersinhope.ca/home>

## ***POURING OUT GOD’S SPIRIT – TRANSFORMATION***

What comes to your mind when you think of Pentecost? What is the first word that jumps into your head? For me it’s the word “transformation”. The disciples had walked with Jesus for 3 years, had their world views radically shifted, and had walked through the reality altering events of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. Yet until the day of Pentecost they were still in the upper room.

The pouring out of God’s Spirit at Pentecost is not just an anointing of boldness and courage. It is the pouring out of power that transforms. We usually focus on the miraculous signs and the numbers saved on the day of Pentecost, however, in this reading from Acts 2:1-21 I found myself looking at the disciples themselves. After Pentecost, they were not the men they had been. Now there was assurance, authority, wisdom, maturity, anointing, clarity, stability, grace, boldness, “ears to hear”, “eyes to see”, and the list goes on. Noticeable at Pentecost is their singleness of focus on Jesus without being distracted by circumstances as they well might have been just days before.

I was Skyping with my friend and teammate, Dorjee, in Asia today. She recently returned from her home (and my focus) country where she was for testing and treatment of what seemed initially to be a potentially serious medical issue. She has a major testimony of God’s faithfulness, provision, healing, and loving care. However, it was as she shared about her time staying with her sister and brother-in-law that my radar particularly started to vibrate.

As she told me of speaking into their lives regarding husband-wife relationship issues that seem to be rather typical for the culture, I was suddenly aware of how mature in the Lord Dorjee has become in the five years I’ve known her. The word transformation jumped into my mind. Not as dramatic perhaps as the initial event of Pentecost, nevertheless in this example it was the power of the Holy Spirit at work in her that enabled her to speak life into this couple’s relationship. At the same time, the Spirit was speaking to her personally, further transforming her own marriage.

As I am personally walking through a major time of transformation, I am acutely aware that without the transforming power of the Holy Spirit we all can remain in upper rooms at least in some portions of our lives. I am so grateful to God that just as at Pentecost, he doesn’t leave us in our upper rooms. Rather he blasts into our lives at just the right times to bring transformation in each upper room, and that transformation then powerfully effects others in His name and power. Especially at this time, therefore, I find our church’s purpose statement deeply meaningful - praising, serving, sharing Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Bless you all.

Jane Holloway

*Jane is a missionary serving with YWAM 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.*



*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.*



## Brief Update from Sharyn's Corner

Sharyn has been a busy lady these days with plenty of travels and meetings, having been appointed in a new role leading the work of SIL in Mali and Burkina Faso after spending 20 years in the work of translating the New Testament into the language of Buamu people.

Please continue to pray for safety and stamina in her travels. For wisdom as she continues learning the ins and outs in her leadership role and “filled to overflowing with the knowledge of His love and grace.”

Cathie Bolan, Editor

Here's some information from Sharyn:

Dear friends,

The recording of the Buamu New Testament is now available on-line. How cool is that? You can find it at <http://www.bible.is>. Just select Buamu as the language you are looking for - or any of the other 915 languages you might be interested in.

Sharyn

*Sharyn is a missionary with Wycliffe Bible Translators with partial financial support in our annual St. Simon's NV budget.*

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## Our Recent National Leadership Conference with Dr. Terry Walling

We are very grateful for the wonderful conference with great worship, fellowship and motivating speakers. Dr Terry Walling was in fine form teaching us about getting out of the boat for leadership breakthrough. The Venerable H. Miller spoke about how God has been shaping him over the past few years. The Rev. John Cox lead us in a moving time of waiting on the Lord and receiving prophetic impartation. There are a number of video clips about the conference that can be accessed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/EdHird>



*(Continued from page 6)*

### *A Youth Standpoint*

It is this way of thinking that we need to approach talking to youth who are asking questions. It is easy for a teen or preteen to reason away believing something that seems outside their world-view, but it is our responsibility as Christians to show that Christ is the right choice not only through words, but through action as well and being prepared to give an answer at all times. As a youth pastor it is my responsibility to connect with the youth near our church as best as possible by both words and action. This means building relationships and asking the challenging questions, which I like to do to the teen and pre-teens when I volunteer at Parkgate Youth Center. As challenging as it is, it leaves youth questioning their own world-view and what they consider to be good. It is through this standpoint of being ready to show reason and by being a Christian in my actions as well that I am reaching the youth. It is God that changes hearts and causes them to turn to Him. All we can do is to be there to answer the questions and support them.

Lange, J. P., Schaff, P., Gotthard, V. L., Gerok, C., & Schaeffer, C. F. (2008). *A Commentary on the Holy Scriptures: Acts* (p. 40). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

# Home Study Groups

Home study groups are great places to learn and grow in a comfortable atmosphere. Getting to know more about God through studying His Word helps one's spiritual growth as well as becoming rooted in this present life. At St. Simon's Church, everyone is encouraged to take part in a home group. Below is a list of groups available on the North Shore.

## Monday

Youth & Young Adults have a flexible schedule. For more information, please contact Tyler Gibson at 778-321-6092 or send an e-mail to: [tjgibson@pacificlife.ca](mailto:tjgibson@pacificlife.ca)

## Tuesday

7:30 p.m. at Sid and Marina Ireland's home. Study on "Prophecy in Context." Please call 604-929-6570 for more information.

8:00 p.m. - Worship Project. A study on what Scriptures says about prayer, praise, and worship and a time of singing at the home of Peter & Elsbeth Turner. Call 604-929-4224 for more information.

## Wednesday

7:00-8:00 a.m. at the Belmodo Cafe. Separate men's and women's meetings for breakfast, fellowship and study of God's Word. Call Peter Turner (for men's group) or Elsbeth Turner (for women's group) at 604-929-4224 for more information.

## Wednesday (continued)

7:00 p.m. - At the home of Rev. Ed & Janice Hird. For information, please call 604-929-5350.

## Thursday

10:00 a.m. at the home of Genevieve Tobin with Rev. Ed. For more information, please call 604-929-3625.

7:00 p.m. - Men and Women's Home Group; for more information, please call Hilary King at 604-929-1837

## Saturday

9:00-10:00 a.m. in the modular's meeting room. Come and join us for an hour of prayer to pray for the needs of St. Simon's NV and the community around us.

*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.



## UPCOMING EVENTS for St. Simon's Church NV

**Sunday, June 8th**

**Day of Pentecost Service**

9am and 10:30am

Gymnasium of Kenneth Gordon

Maplewood School

*Special Guest Speaker*

Marty Schoub is a Jewish believer who has spent the last eight years living in Israel. He will be teaching about the biblical meaning of waiting during Pentecost. At the last North Shore Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, Marty shared with the pastors about preparing our hearts and minds for the Day of Pentecost.

**Sunday, June 15th**

**Father's Day Service**

9am and 10:30am

Gymnasium of Kenneth Gordon

Maplewood School

Fathers are encouraged to bring their families to celebrate the love of the Father on Father's Day



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**JUNE 8TH**

**EMPOWERED 21 CANADA**

**3 pm Pacific at Pacific Academy in Surrey BC**

Hosted by Empowered 21 Canada, a unified expression of multiple church organizations and networks who are committed to *"help shape the future of the Spirit-empowered movement throughout Canada by focusing on crucial issues facing the movement and connecting generations for inter-generational blessing and impartation"*

For more information, please go to the web site link as follows:

<http://empowered21.com/2014/04/crossroads360-empowered-21-canada-2014/>

**BC Christian Ashram Retreat**

**6pm Friday July 25th to 1pm Sunday July 27th**

The speakers are the Rev. John Cox from our sister church Jericho Road in Port Alberni and Rev. Peter Klenner from our sister church All Saints in White Rock/Crescent Beach. Tyler Gibson will be leading our youth section at the Christian Ashram retreat. The theme is *Embracing the Jericho Road*. The brochure and online registration is available on the church's web site.

**October 1st to 4th**

**National Anglican Mission Canada Summit**

At our sister church Jericho Road in Port Alberni.

Our senior Bishop/Apostolic Vicar Philip Jones will be speaking along with Archbishop Yong Ping Chung from Malaysia. Please mark your calendar for this key gathering.

## ST. SIMON'S STAFF - CONTACT INFO

ST. SIMON'S CHURCH, NORTH VANCOUVER  
420 SEYMOUR RIVER PLACE

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Rev. Ed Hird  
604-929-5350  
ed\_hird@telus.net

Youth & Young Adults Pastor:  
Tyler Gibson  
778-31-6092  
tgibson@pacificlife.ca

Rector's Warden:  
Chris Wiggins  
604-915-9077  
songster@shaw.ca

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

Honorary Assist. Priest  
Rev. Mel Waddle  
604-913-0096

Director of Music:  
Janice Hird  
604-929-5350  
janicehird@yahoo.ca

People's Warden:  
Glenn Houghton  
604-825-0746  
glenn@mayiprayforyou.com

Children's Ministry  
10:30am  
Annalisa Gibson  
778-840-9404

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 9  
#112-1151 Mt. Seymour Road  
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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 604-929-1613 or  
send an e-mail to confirm

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

## CHECK OUT ST. SIMON'S CHURCH WEB SITE

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

*Our St. Simon's NV sermons are posted online on the church's web page.*

*You may also like to check out Rev. Ed's 400+ articles mostly written for the Deep Cove Crier and the North Shore News. It can be viewed online at: <http://edhird.com>  
Over 635,000 people have dialed into Rev. Ed's articles in the past four years.*



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

<http://www.discipler123.blogspot.ca>



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St. Simon's Church NV is a member of the Anglican Coalition in Canada  
and follow the leadership of the Anglican Mission in the Americas (Canada).

