



## IN THIS ISSUE

**St. Paul's Welcomes New Rector**

PAGES 4 &amp; 5



New Lenten Vestments Blessed at Christ Church Cathedral

PAGES 6 – 7



World Day of Prayer Observed at Holy Trinity, New Westminster

PAGE 9

## Celebrating Generous Congregations

ROBERTA FRASER

Priest of the diocese of New Westminster, 2019 Stewardship Event Planning Team



Doug Williams of Epiphany, Surrey presents to the plenary. PHOTO Wayne Chose



LEFT Dianne Stebbing of Epiphany. LEFT MIDDLE Doug Williams of Epiphany. RIGHT MIDDLE Some positive energy from a St. Michael's team member. RIGHT Bernie of St. Mark's, Ocean Park asks a question of the St. Faith's team. PHOTOS Wayne Chose



The Rev. Glover presenting at a breakout session in the Trendell Lounge. PHOTO Wayne Chose

On Saturday, March 16, more than 90 people from 30 parishes gathered at the Synod Office building to focus on Stewardship. The theme this year was *Celebrating Generous Congregations* and the focus of all the various plenary talks and workshops focused on sharing tools, practices and suggestions to help parishes grow in generosity and sharing. Members from four parishes led plenary sessions or workshops on various aspects of stewardship in their parish.

After the introduction and worship, Doug Williams and Dianne Stebbing from the Anglican Parish of the Church of the Epiphany, Surrey (Epiphany) shared details of their Capital Campaign to raise money to replace their buildings. This multi-year project has resulted in pledges from more than 90% of the parish membership. They reached their initial pledge goal of over \$500,000 just a few months into the initial campaign in 2013, and more has come since then. Currently there is \$600,000 being held by the diocese in the Consolidated Trust Fund for Epiphany. The planning and campaign included significant consultations with the parish membership, hiring a paid consultant and regular communication with the appropriate Synod staff. Their presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

Next, the Stewardship Team from St. Faith's, Vancouver (Rev. Christine Wilson, Heather Hamilton and John Wheeler) shared resources and ideas from their year-round stewardship program (time/talent as well as donations for parish operations). Following a PowerPoint presentation on different aspects of their stewardship program including their annual schedule of stewardship focused activities, picking annual themes, resources used in the fall financial focus as well as a spring time/talent focus, and lots of humorous cartoons they opened the floor to questions. Other parishes were invited to share their own successes and ideas from their stewardship program with the whole group and lots of good ideas and suggestions were shared.

After a delicious lunch, five members of St. Michael's Multicultural (East Broadway), Vancouver gave short presentations on ten aspects of stewardship in their multicultural parish. These included "strategic" facets like ensuring their stewardship team reflects diversity; linking the stewardship team to the other teams and plans of the parish; ensuring there are regular stewardship homilies throughout the year; and doing ongoing parish education on ministry. They also covered some "tactical" facets of their program including promoting Pre-Authorised Donations (PAD); sending a team to the annual diocesan stewardship workshops; and being accurate and timely in issuing tax receipts.

Then the participants were invited to pick one of two workshops being offered — either *Creating a Culture of Generosity*, led by the Reverends Tellison Glover and Roberta Fraser, or *Preparing a Narrative Budget* led by Dawn Parrott of St. George's, Maple Ridge. The workshop on *Creating a Culture of Generosity* focused on the need to have a clear and explicit understanding in the parish of the link between our faith and our parish ministry so that people can feel "ownership" of the ministry. This includes ministry that focuses on the needs (spiritual, emotional and/or physical) of people other than just those who are already members, since generosity is about more than giving to keep our own needs met. It also included suggestions for actions to support and promote the ministry focus as it develops.

In the *Narrative Budget* workshop, Dawn's team from St.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



# Celebrating Generous Congregations

CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE



LEFT The St. Faith's team: The Rev. Christine Wilson, John Wheeler, and Heather Hamilton, ODNW. MIDDLE The Rev. Wilmer Toyoken, Rector of St. Michael's. RIGHT Dawn Parrott of St. George, Maple Ridge. PHOTOS Wayne Chose

George's spoke about using *Breeze ChMS* to help prepare a narrative budget to show the details of the parish budget in a story that is meaningful to parish members. While the prospect of producing a narrative budget appeared daunting at the beginning, they did not get bogged down in details and started by using the information they had. Fine tuning can occur as the budget is updated and more information gathered. The team shared that the production of the narrative budget is just one of a number of changes made recently at St. George's which together has helped their average Sunday attendance grow from about 45 two years ago to more than 100 today.

Finally, everyone regathered in small groups (sometimes from one parish and sometimes from several parishes) to use the resources and ideas from the day (as well as some resources prepared for this workshop) to prepare a draft plan for their own parish stewardship program for the year. They were invited to look at whatever it is that they are currently doing for stewardship and see what the "next steps" would be to enhance it.

Members of the Planning Team for the day circulated to help answer questions and provide suggestions.

A closing prayer was said at 3:30pm and the participants dispersed back to their homes with new plans and helpful resources in hand. ✠



The Reverends Roberta Fraser and Tellison Glover during their presentation. PHOTO Wayne Chose



## In His Steps

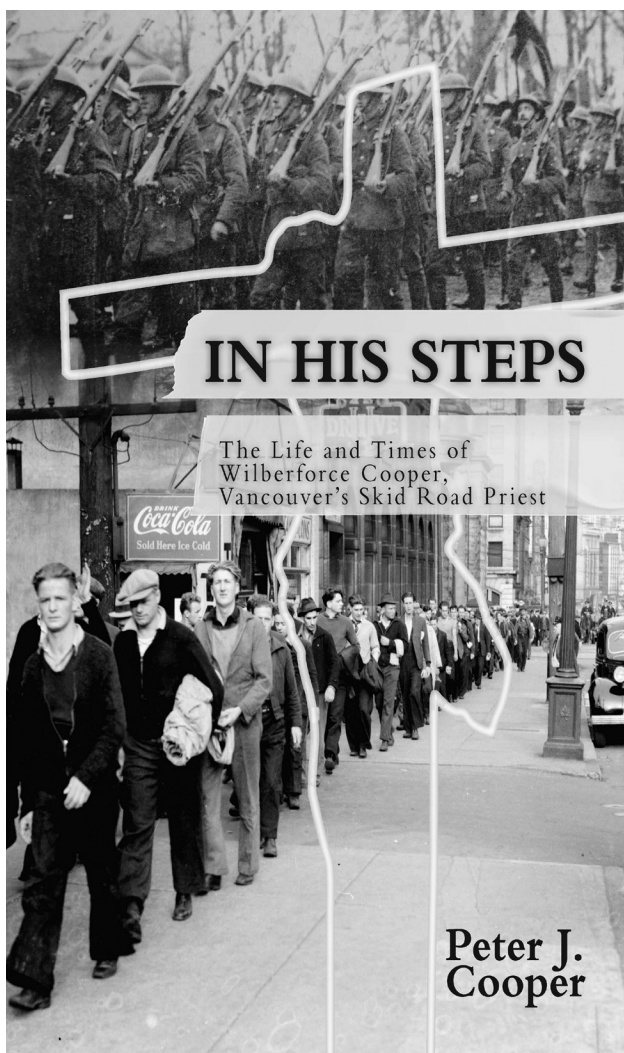
### The Life & Times of Wilberforce Cooper, Vancouver's Skid Road Priest

A new book about the Rev. Fr. Wilberforce Cooper of St. James', who ministered to the people of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside from 1921 – 1952 has been written by his great-nephew Peter J. Cooper and published by Friesen Press, and will soon be available on Amazon.ca and in your local bookstore.

The Rev. Cooper began his ecclesiastical calling in the slums of London and then as a British Army chaplain in the hospitals and trenches of WWI before moving to Canada — first to the BC Cariboo and then to be the rector of St. James' Church in Vancouver. During the early-mid 1900s the east end of Vancouver was home to most of the city's poor, homeless, addicted and unemployed, and was a magnet for illegal intoxicants, disreputable venues and prostitution. In addition, the east side was where Chinese and Japanese immigrants had settled and their presence attracted the continuing attention of white racists. All this vice and prejudice was enabled by a corrupt Civic Administration that depended upon graft. This was the parish that Father Cooper presided over and where he became well known and loved as someone who cared and fought for the physical as well as the spiritual wellbeing of each individual resident. The author has made use of unpublished memoirs as well as stories in newspapers and other writings to document his great-uncle's life and times. While a number of references to Rev. Cooper's religious thought and outreach can be found in the literature, this is the first book to address his work and actions solidly within the context of the social and political milieu of the Lower Mainland during his tenure.

#### The Author

Peter Cooper is a retired engineer with a background in research, who has had a life-long interest in history. His first book of historical research documented the life of his great, great-uncle titled *Samuel's Story: A Journey from Yorkshire to New Hampshire through the American Civil War*. His next book *Bombs and Babies: A War Bride's Diary* described his mother's day-to-day life in WWII Britain. Both books were published by Friesen Press, in 2015 and 2017 respectively. Both received good reviews from the Writer's Digest Self-Published Book Awards and the Whistler Independent Book Awards. Peter resides in Sidney, British Columbia.



This first edition includes a foreword written by *Topic* Editor Emeritus and current *Topic* columnist and diocesan communications consultant, Lyndon Grove, ODNW. ✠

.....  
Here is the link to the book on the Friesen Press website <https://books.friesenpress.com/store/title/119734000081077856/Peter-J.-Cooper-In-His-Steps>

## Growing communities of faith in Jesus Christ to serve God's mission in the world.



Published ten months a year as a section of the *Anglican Journal* by the Archbishop and Synod of the diocese of New Westminster.

**Editor** Randy Murray  
rmurray@vancouver.anglican.ca

**Designer** Jennifer Ewing, BDes

**Issue** This is the 5th issue in the 50th year of publication

**Deadline For Submissions** July 26 for the September issue; August 23 for the October issue.

**Subscriptions** Following the June 2019 issues of the *Anglican Journal* and *Topic* only those readers who have sent their names and addresses to the National Church will be subscribed.

**Address changes in writing to:**  
Topic c/o Anglican Journal,  
80 Hayden Street, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 3G2  
or visit [www.anglicanjournal.com/subscribe](http://www.anglicanjournal.com/subscribe).

**Printed & Mailed By Webnews Printing Inc., North York, Ontario**

**Circulation 5,275**

**The Anglican Church & The Anglican Communion**  
A global community of 80 million Anglicans in 64,000 congregations in 165 countries.

**Website** For the latest news and events go to [www.vancouver.anglican.ca](http://www.vancouver.anglican.ca)

#### The Anglican Church of Canada

A community of 640,000 members organized into four ecclesiastical provinces, including British Columbia and the Yukon.

#### The diocese of New Westminster

The Anglican Church in the Lower Mainland, the Fraser Valley and on the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia, located on the ancestral lands of the Coast Salish First Nations, consisting of 69 worshipping communities.



#### The Archbishop of New Westminster

The Most Rev. Melissa M. Skelton

**Address** Diocese of New Westminster

1410 Nanton Avenue,

Vancouver, BC V6H 2E2

**Phone** 604.684.6306

#### Contributors & Helpers for this issue

Deborah Bianchi Courienne, Stephen Black, Leslie Buck, Tasha Carrothers, Wayne Chose, Hilary Clark, Peter Cooper, Rob Dickson, Jane Dittrich, Frances Fagan, Roberta Fraser, Tellison Glover, Goh Ballet (Lukas Dong), Peter Goodwin, Lisann Gurney, Bob Hardy, Ronald Harrison, Mary Horton, Jade Martin-Seedhouse, Elizabeth Murray, Herbert O'Driscoll, Leah Postman, Mike Roberts, J. N. R. Ruddick, Vivian Seegers, Trudi Shaw, Archbishop Melissa Skelton, Sig Stark, Eric Stroo, Dave Walker, and Paul Woehrl.

**Thank you!**