



August 24, 2021



Parable from the Pastor

The Parable of the Pastor came into being in early 2020, prior to COVID's influx which changed the way that we function in life and in work. This Week at St. Andrew's (TWASA) was invented as a weekly newsletter in February 2020 to share news, insights and upcoming scheduled events more effectively.

A Parable was certainly not invented at the same time as TWASA. In fact, the parable served as a primary teaching tool of Jesus to communicate relevant truths to his disciples and other followers. In the research paper I wrote for a seminary class LONG AGO, "a parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning." In Jesus' day, his parables were about farming and fishing (since his audience consisted largely of farmers and fishermen!) Other parables were about hated, despised persons who were the rejects of society and how these persons possessed and displayed deep inherent value often not readily seen.

Parables have a way of communicating deeper truths when describing something simple such as planting a seed or losing a coin and the spiritual truths hidden within. For example, our new home has a frequent visitor. Sometimes she comes in the middle of the night and most often recently during the afternoon. She looks amazingly like our evening visitor in our previous house that we lovingly came to know as Fern. Our new visitor could be Fern's sister, but this visitor has an orange necklace and an obtuse tag protruding from her ear lobe. She seems nonplussed by our presence from a distance. She hungrily eats from the margins of our yard, even dining on dead leaves that had fallen in our driveway. I wanted to hand her and all of her friends an invitation to return to dine upon all she wants in the middle of Fall leaf season!

Our visitor may be considered unwelcome by many. Her presence is even a sad commentary of the decreasing amount of wild space which continually shrinks due to the swell of development in every area of city and country. The larger question is: How do we live in harmony with those who seem out of place? How do we provide for those whose lives have been changed and challenged by "progress?" What is our responsibility to the vulnerable and who gets to define just who make up the vulnerable in our society?

For me, I welcome Fern and her sister to dine at our "table" as often as they want. I treasure God's creations and the privilege of living beside them. What do you think?

Blessings, Pastor Mitch



The sacrament of Holy Communion will be
Sunday, August 29 during our
10:25 AM worship.

Whether you are in-sanctuary or
worshipping from home, please join us for
this sacred celebration.



The voice of my beloved!
Behold, he comes,
leaping over the mountains,
bounding over the hills.
-Song of Solomon 2:8



Join us Thursday afternoons, between 2 & 4pm, outside in the laneway.

Come for the iced tea, shortbread and conversation or just to sit in the shade and enjoy seeing familiar faces.
All welcome! Questions? Call Sheelagh - 250 385-5157

Volunteers Needed!

The two rooms that the Thrift Shop is currently in are being redecorated for new uses. Are you able to help pack up the items in the Thrift Shop, which will then be donated to other charities or suitable causes? If so, please contact Patricia Shuckburgh (250-381-1615) regarding access and scheduling, which we are coordinating to help keep people safe during COVID.

We appreciate your help with this task!

With thanks, Mission and Outreach Committee



**WE PRAY FOR STAFF AT THE SHINING
HOSPITAL IN NEPAL AS THEY TREAT
ILLNESSES AND PROVIDE
VOCATIONAL TRAINING WITH
SUPPORT FROM PRESBYTERIAN
WORLD SERVICE & DEVELOPMENT.**

 The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Earthquake in Haiti

In the early morning of August 14, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit the southern peninsula of Haiti. Felt across the entire country, the earthquake destroyed homes, schools, churches and businesses. Access to food, water, electricity, communication and transportation is critically difficult.

[Click Here](#) to learn how you can help through PWS&D
If you don't have a computer you can contact PWS&D
at 1-800-619-7301 ext. 291

We need your submissions!

Please send photos and write ups
of summer celebrations for the
Link. Weddings? Anniversaries?
Special birthdays? Email
thelink@shaw.ca
The deadline for submissions to
The Link (our congregational
newsletter) is Aug 29th



Reservations for Sunday

[Click here](#) to fill out the reservation form for this Sunday's service.

Those who do not have a computer are welcome to call Whitney
at 778-587-1227 to reserve a spot at the service. Reservations
need to be made by Friday afternoon.

Read From Your Bible This Week

- Song of Solomon 2:8-13 and
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9
- James 1:17-27
- Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

