

## 2023 HOMELESS ACTION WEEK: OCTOBER 9 - 15



Each year, in mid-October, Homeless Action Week is marked by communities and organizations throughout the region, with the City of Vancouver acknowledging that community and grassroots events and projects are essential to provide as much aid and comfort as possible to those who remain unhoused.

For the Westside Anglicans Neighbourhood Ministry (WANM) volunteers, homeless action outreach is not a yearly event but a weekly one. The WANM, founded in 2007 by the Revd Dr. Pitman Potter, consists of volunteers from the parishes of St. Anselm's, UBC; St. Helen's, Point Grey; St. Philip's, Dunbar; St. John's, Shaughnessy.

Each week, teams from the four parishes pack food, toiletries, sleeping bags, mats, clothing and other supplies for WANM outreach volunteers to deliver to our friends on the streets. The street outreach volunteers also provide Information about services offered in the City of Vancouver and those offered by the WANM's twice-monthly Mobile Care Unit held at Kits Showers—housing applications, tax forms, ID replacement—and doctor's assistance when available.



On average, WANM street outreach team members and Mobile Care Unit volunteers connect with nearly 2,000 people annually.

The Greater Vancouver 2023 Homeless Count, which occurred March 7-8, 2023, identified 4,821 people experiencing homelessness—a 32% increase compared with 2020, the last time the count occurred and the highest spike between consecutive counts since the homeless count report began in 2005. The City cancelled the count in 2021 and 2022 due to the COVID pandemic.

Notably, the 2023 Homeless Count did not include those experiencing homelessness on March 8, 2023, nor those living in substandard housing or unstable tenancies, which generally number even more than those experiencing homelessness.

During the 2023 Homeless Count, survey respondents were asked what caused their most recent housing loss. The most common response was that they did not have enough income (35%). The other most common reasons were substance use (24%) and mental health (16%). Consistent with 2020 results, Indigenous persons continue to be overrepresented, with 33% (821) of the respondents identifying as Indigenous.

This continued increase in homelessness in Greater Vancouver vividly demonstrates the need for support and services for the most vulnerable in our society. We thank all the members of this parish who strengthen this ministry with their prayers and contribute to the supplies WANM volunteers deliver each week. Your gifts allow us to connect one-on-one with our neighbours in need and demonstrate to them in a tangible way that homelessness does not mean hopelessness.

**Joan Stewart**

*Co-chair WANM Board of Management*



Dear volunteers and supporters of the Neighbourhood Ministry:

Thank you for participating in set-up, food preparation, serving, and cleanup at the Monday, October 9, Dunbar Apartments Thanksgiving luncheon. Additional thanks to those who dropped off food items for the event.

The luncheon was opened with a word of thanksgiving, after which the residents enjoyed a bountiful feast of turkey, ham, vegetables, casseroles, pancakes, and scrambled eggs, followed by a host of desserts, including pumpkin pies, cakes and other assorted goodies.

We were pleased to welcome our youngest volunteer, Sophia, home for Thanksgiving from Toronto, where she is at university and who began serving with this ministry when she was 12. She promised to be back at our Christmas celebration.

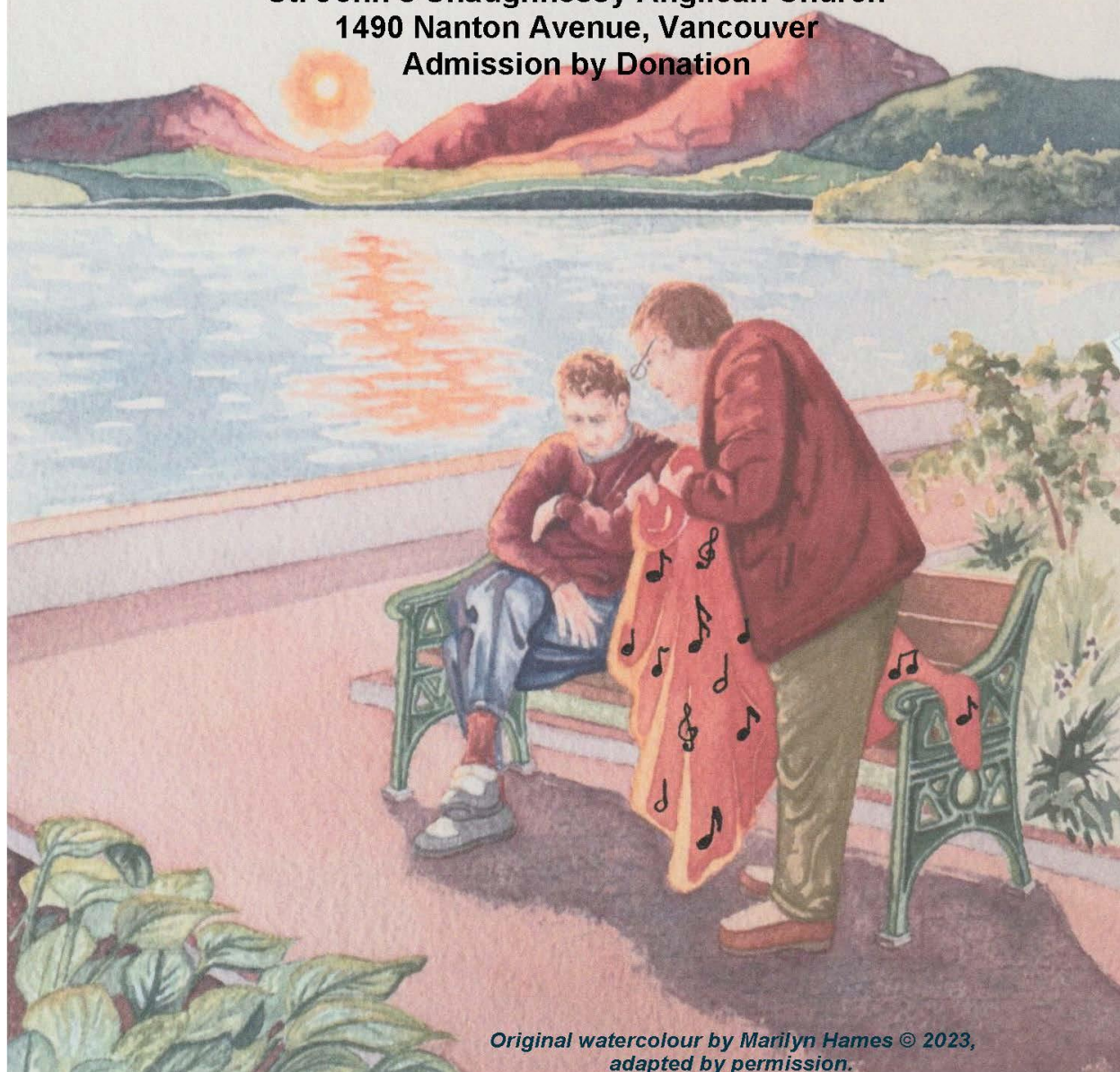
Special thanks to Cristalle from St. John's Shaughnessy, whose piano renditions provided a lovely touch to the luncheon and were thoroughly enjoyed by Dunbar's residents.

Thank you to the parishioners at St. Philip's and St. John's Shaughnessy for their Thanksgiving altar fruit, vegetables and gourd decorations used at the luncheon.

The Neighbourhood Ministry could not have provided this luncheon without the help and support of everyone involved. So thank you all; your service to the residents at Dunbar was a wonderful way to demonstrate universal thanks for all we enjoy in this life.

**Benefit Concert**  
**For**  
**The Westside Anglican Neighbourhood Ministry**  
**With**  
**Neighbourhood Gospel Band**  
**Special Guest Jim Byrnes**

**Sunday, October 15, 2023 4:00pm**  
**St. John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church**  
**1490 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver**  
**Admission by Donation**



*Original watercolour by Marilyn Hames © 2023,  
adapted by permission.*



## Small Group for Spiritual Practice A Tree of Life

Oct 17th - Nov 21st (5 Tuesdays, no session on Nov 7th)

7:00pm - 8:00pm

in person at St. John's parish

Facilitated by James Hwang and Karin Fulcher

Using scriptures and literature related to the metaphor of a tree, we will find God in our hearts and within our daily lives.

It will be a time for us to find God-seed in us, be rooted in God, connect inner and outer life, discover seasons of our journey, and open a fruitful life throughout 5 weeks course.

Each session will last about an hour and involve reflection and sharing.

If you are interested or have any questions,

Please email : [jhwang@sjs.net](mailto:jhwang@sjs.net)

## Parish Administrator Transition

We are delighted to announce that Deanna Ferguson is joining our team as our new permanent parish administrator beginning on Monday, October 16. Deanna comes to us with ten years of experience in parish administration, most recently at St. James Anglican Church. Deanna will be in the office Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please join us in welcoming her to St. John's!

We are grateful to Ann Houghton for serving as our interim administrator for the past seven months, and we wish her all the best in her next chapter. If you would like to send Ann a personal note of thanks, you can contact her at [annelizabethhoughton@hotmail.com](mailto:annelizabethhoughton@hotmail.com).



**Beginning** next **Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>** the **Labyrinth** here at St. John's, Shaughnessy will be open for walking on Thursday mornings from 8am to 9:45am.

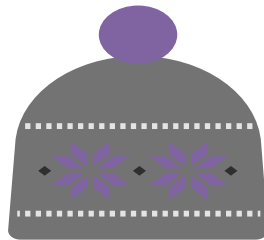
For those who would like to stay, a service for Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers begins at 10am followed by a low-key Bible Study.

# Westside Anglican Neighbourhood Ministry

As always, we are very grateful for the generosity of parishioners for packet materials that go out to the folks on the street.

Here's what we are a little low on at the moment:

- Socks (always socks, but especially as Fall is here and Winter is approaching)
- Meal Replacements (Ensure or Boost)
- Soft Granola Bars – not crunchy
- Fruit Cups
- Clothing: warm and waterproof jackets, shirts, sweaters, gloves, hats or toques





**Saturday, October 21, 9:30am to 12:30pm being held at  
Epiphany Chapel Vancouver School of Theology  
6030 Chancellor Blvd. Vancouver**

Our current culture of isolation and unaffordability is impacting everyone - from students, to families, to retirees; uncertainty, instability and loneliness crosses demographic lines. The conversations and news stories around housing challenges are prolific today.

Is there a better way to do "do home"?

Through presentations, workshops and storytelling, you are invited to reimagine how we can approach our understanding of home. Peche Kucha style displays - short, visually driven presentations offer an opportunity to hear from experts and those with lived experience in areas of shared living, porous and invitational hospitality, economic practicalities and considerations and more.

There will be time to share your ideas and hear from others. Come ready to participate, learn and contribute. Join in with other curious people to expand your understanding and challenge our preconceived ideas of how we consider housing and home.

Registration includes snacks and lunch and an invitation to connect and converse with the presenters

[\*\*Register with Eventbrite\*\*](#)





# Solemn Choral Evensong

for All Faithful Departed

with prayers for those who have been  
laid to rest in the Garden of Remembrance

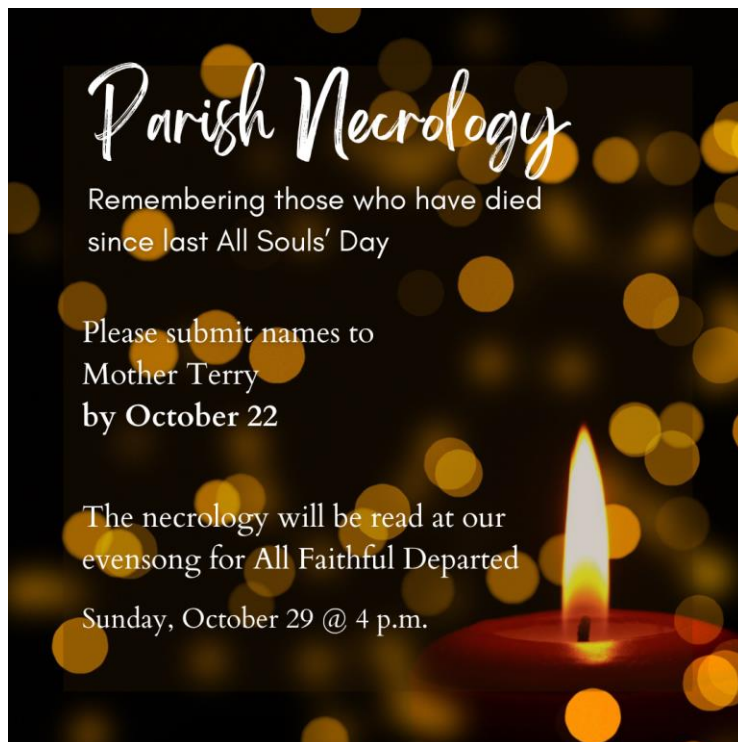
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 @ 4 P.M.  
ST. JOHN'S, SHAUGHNESSY  
1490 NANTON AVE.**

## Parish Necrology:

**Please submit names by  
October 22**

At our choral evensong on October 29, we will observe the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed. While this is a service to remember all those who have gone before us, there is also a long tradition of reading the parish necrology, or list of those who have died since the last All Souls' Day.

If you have family members or close friends who have died in the past year, please submit their names to Mother Terry by October 22. Please also reach out to their loved ones to let them know about the worship service, and that they will be named in our prayers that evening. Often their relatives will choose to attend, and it can serve as a wonderful way to offer support to those who are still grieving.



donations of candy for this event. **Please contact Father James to sign up or for more information.** Thank you!

## Trick-or-Treating at Church Sunday, October 29 after the 10 a.m. service

Children and “children at heart” are invited to wear costumes to church the morning of October 29. (Please keep costumes “family friendly.”) After the service, young people are invited to trick-or-treat around the church. Volunteers to host a station for trick-or-treating are needed. We would also be grateful for

# !!HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR!!



The original organ for St John's, Shaughnessy was an 'organ transplant' from Canton, Ohio's CrossRoads United Church containing 1478 pipes crafted in 1920 by the Estey organ company for their opus 1869. By the early 60s this instrument was due for a significant overhaul, and it was determined more cost effective to replace with new, which also enticed the prospective organist Fred Carter to immigrate from Armagh Ireland to SJS. The \$85k (equivalent to 3 Shaughnessy homes at the time) contract was awarded to the Hallman organ company of Kitchner Ontario.

What was salvageable of the redundant Estey organ was incorporated into a hybrid house

theatre style organ in Victoria. When the 3600 pipes of the Hallman arrived in 1968, it enjoyed the title of being GVRD's largest pipe organ until 2001. In addition to its grand size, it has several novel features: two sets of pipes which sound below audible range (16Hz); 9 sets of pipes sounding antiphonally from the gallery, a horizontal copper state trumpet, a gallery console and movable master console on the chancel. Though having had exceptional care for decades by local technician Marianne Huestis, by its 50th year, it too needed a significant overhaul. Headed up by Music Director Michael Dirk and the exceptional talents of Steve Miller of Calgary, the electronics were updated from analog to digital, and several

other enhancements including a few more ranks (oboe, clarinet, flute, and string), chimes, new silent blowers and swell expression motors.

Dedicated Oct 28, 1968 by Archbishop Godfrey Gower, the 55th anniversary will be celebrated the night prior on Friday Oct 27, 7:30pm by local members of the Royal Canadian College of Organists Vancouver Centre (for whom Michael Dirk serves as co-president). This free/by-donation recital features local organists dressing up in costume and offering the spookiest and scariest music written for the 'king of instruments' (Bach Toccata & Fugue in d minor, Phantom of the Opera, Böellmann's Suite Gothique etc). Costumes are encouraged, and there are Halloween treats for the kids and the young at heart!





# Upcoming Events

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Benefit Concert for the  
Westside Anglican  
Neighbourhood Ministry  
*featuring the Neighbourhood  
Gospel Band, with special guest  
Jim Byrnes. Reception to follow.*

## **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27**

7:30 p.m.

18th Annual RCCO  
Organ Spooktacular  
Halloween Concert

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29**

4 p.m. Choral Evensong  
for All Faithful Departed

## **EVERY THURSDAY**

10 a.m. Healing Eucharist and Bible Study

St. John's, Shaughnessy  
1490 NANTON AVE.

Calendar

## Prayer List

If you request that someone's name be added to the prayer list, please keep in touch with us. At the end of each month, all names will be removed, so you will need to add the names again at the end of each month. Please also let us know if you want someone removed from the list. Email the office ([church@sjs.net](mailto:church@sjs.net)) anytime! Thank you.

## Financial Support – Stewardship

If you would like to make a financial contribution to help support the worship and ministry of St. John's Shaughnessy, please do! You can use this QR code (point your phone's camera at it) and it will take you to the donation page of our website. If you have recently made a contribution online or by cheque, thank you so very much!

If you currently give by Pre-Authorized Donation, thank you! Our church has been affected by COVID-19 in many ways and financial giving is certainly one.

If you would like to give via monthly Pre-Authorized Donations (easy to change and easy to cancel), please contact the office ([church.office@sjs.net](mailto:church.office@sjs.net) or 604-731-4966).



If you would like to give to the church using a credit card, please use the DONATE button on our website (Canada Helps on top of page one, and Paypal on the bottom of page one). Cheques may be mailed or dropped through the church mail.

## ST. JOHN'S, SHAUGHNESSY STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

*Please contact the parish office if you would like to be added to our mailing list, so that we may let you know about upcoming events.*

### Clergy and Staff

The Reverend Terry Shields Dirbas, Rector	<a href="mailto:terry.dirbas@sjs.net">terry.dirbas@sjs.net</a>
The Reverend James Hwang, Curate	<a href="mailto:jhwang@sjs.net">jhwang@sjs.net</a>
The Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, <i>Honorary Assisting Priest</i>	
The Reverend Karin Fulcher, <i>Honorary Deacon</i>	
The Reverend Pitman Potter, <i>Honorary Deacon</i>	
Michael Dirk, <i>Principal Organist and Artist-in-Residence</i>	<a href="mailto:organist@sjs.net">organist@sjs.net</a>
Ann Houghton, <i>Interim Parish Administrator</i>	<a href="mailto:church.office@sjs.net">church.office@sjs.net</a>

### Trustees

The Rev. Terry Shields Dirbas, Rector	<a href="mailto:terry.dirbas@sjs.net">terry.dirbas@sjs.net</a>
Ken Pepin, Rector's Warden	<a href="mailto:ken.pepin@sjsparish.net">ken.pepin@sjsparish.net</a>
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