



# St. Francis News

Volume 14, Number 2

August 2025

## Message from Reverend Will Ferrey

Hello my friends! It is a great joy to write to you as your new rector, and introduce myself a little bit. I'm so very excited to be here at St. Francis by the Lakes, and I am really looking forward to ministering with you fine folks.

So, to begin at the beginning, my name is Will. Sometimes people aren't sure what to call clergy- we do like our titles, and there are a variety of titles that clergy use. But I will be happy if you just call me Will. It was good enough for my mom, so it's good enough for everyone else too!

I grew up in rural Alberta – a small town called Rocky Mountain House. I attended Holy Trinity Anglican Church every Sunday and was part of the youth group. When I finished high school, I went to university at the University of Victoria in BC. While going to school, I went to St. George the Martyr in Cadboro Bay, which is very near the campus of the university. I felt called to ordained ministry fairly early, and after I finished at UVic, and after a couple years of working, I went to the Vancouver School of Theology. I had a wonderful three years there, learning a lot, and being constantly challenged. I spent one summer in northern BC at the historic gold rush town of Barkerville, working as the minister at St. Saviours (a picture of which is in the Anglican Church Calendar for July 2025). I spent the other summer as a theological student intern working with the Anglican Church of Ceylon, which is the church in Sri Lanka.

I was ordained in 2011 and spent my first two years of ordained ministry working as an assistant at St Luke, Cedar Hill, which is in Victoria BC. I then moved to Tofino, on the West Coast of Vancouver Island. It was here that I met Allie, who was working for the Diocese running summer camps. Allie and I dated long distance for a while, until the opportunity came up for me to move to Nova Scotia, as I took up the position of Rector of Christ Church Amherst. I moved in 2016, and Allie and I were married in 2017.

We have two kids, Simeon, who will be six at the end of August, and Owen, who is two and a half. Simeon, or Sim as we often call him, will be starting grade one this year!

Many of you know that Allie works for our Diocese, as the Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator. She has been in this role for a long time and really loves her work. This summer she is busy organizing and helping to run the Camp in the Community summer day camps that happen across the diocese.

In my spare time I love to read, do a little wood working, and spend time in the garden. One of the things I'm excited for in moving to Lower Sackville is a new challenge in setting up a new garden at our house!

I love parish ministry, and nearly all the aspects that come with it. I'm looking forward to exploring the gospel together with you, to reaching out to our community together, and discovering where and how God is calling us!



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### Letter From Your Wardens

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The day arrived. Rev Will and his family are now members of our St. Francis Family. A huge welcome! It has been a long road to get to this point in time. We are grateful to everyone who covered Sunday Services and to those who helped keep things running from an administrative perspective on a day-to-day basis. Rev Will held his first Service July 20th, and it was great to see a full house in the congregation. A welcoming reception was held following the Service and there was more than enough food to share. This was an initial opportunity for Rev Will and his family to begin meeting people and starting the process of putting faces to names. Meetings with Committee Chairs and/or entire Committees will be held with Rev Will over time.

September for some feels like the beginning of a new year as activities and committee meetings start up again after a summer break. Please consider how you can assist in any way by joining a committee, helping with regular tasks, or offering to take on an initiative as lead. One example is Sunday School is still looking for teachers (see below). Remember, it is our shared efforts of ministry that make St Francis what it is.

We both appreciate all the time and effort many of you have contributed to keeping St Francis a safe and comfortable church.

~Wardens Jane Nauss and Garry Rideout

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### Sunday School

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Sunday School is scheduled to start back up in September, however, we are in need of teachers including someone to lead the program. To date, one individual has offered, however, we still require at least one more person. It would be great if we could have a larger team supporting Sunday School. Without the minimum two people, there will be no program in place for September. Please consider this Ministry and contact Jane Nauss for further information at [jane.nauss@gmail.com](mailto:jane.nauss@gmail.com)

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### Property Committee

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Join Us in Caring for Our Church!

Looking after our church, inside and outside, is vital to keeping our parish strong and our ministries thriving. Regular maintenance ensures our church is not only safe and beautiful but also able to remain a hub for worship, fellowship, and outreach. We're inviting new volunteers to step forward. A few hours of your time can make a big difference. Help with cleaning, gardening, light upkeep and small projects and enjoy the chance to connect and build friendships as we work together to care for our parish home. Contact Elaine Bishop to see how you can help ([bishopem@gmail.com](mailto:bishopem@gmail.com)).

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### Envelopes in this Newsletter

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You may use etransfers as a way to send donations to St Francis. Email address to use is: [stfrancisbythelakes192@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisbythelakes192@gmail.com)

The question "what is the money for" is no longer required, however, please remember to add in the message box a description of where the funds are to go e.g. Sunday Givings. Envelopes are included for your use as well.

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### Ways and Means

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We are looking forward to a busy fall. Events scheduled to happen are:

- September 20 - Hamburger Soup / Fish Chowder Take-out Meal
- October 18 - Roast Beef Take-out Meal
- November 22 – Turkey Take Out Meal
- September 27 - John Snyder Concert
- November 29th – John Snyder Christmas Concert
- December 6 - Annual Christmas Craft Market

We look forward to everyone coming out to support these events. Any inquiries can be sent to [jane.nauss@gmail.com](mailto:jane.nauss@gmail.com).

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## Save the date - Anniversary Celebration

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This fall, St. Francis by the Lakes Anglican Church celebrates half a century of worship, fellowship, and community service. Fifty years ago, July 6, we gathered for the very first time at the local high school. Join Us on **Sunday, September 28** for a Celebration to mark this golden milestone.

### Morning Worship

- 8:00am & 10:00am Services - Let us lift our hearts and voices in gratitude as we reflect on God's blessings throughout our 50-year journey.

### Afternoon Festivities – 2:00pm

- Blessing of the Pets - In tribute to our patron saint, St. Francis of Assisi, we welcome all animals and their families for a special blessing outside the church.
- Open House & Refreshments - Step inside St. Francis by the Lakes for an open house! Explore our beautiful church, view photos and memorabilia from the last five decades, and enjoy refreshments with fellow parishioners and guests.

We look forward to remembering our roots, giving thanks for our shared journey, and stepping forward together in faith and hope. Please come and invite friends and family—everyone is welcome as we celebrate this special anniversary for St. Francis by the Lakes.

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## Celebrating 50 Years – Help Us Remember!

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Do you have photos, memorabilia, or stories from your time at the church? Please consider sharing them with us. You can leave your items in the mailbox in the narthex addressed to Wanda Joudrey (we'll make sure you get them back) or email digital copies to [wejoudrey@gmail.com](mailto:wejoudrey@gmail.com)

Your contributions, both big and small, will help us create a memorable celebration for all. Thank you for helping to share/preserve our history!

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## Anglican Foundation Grant – Accessibility Improvements

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In 2024, the St. Francis community made a strong commitment to significantly enhance accessibility in every aspect of our building and activities, including our worship services. To help guide our efforts, we partnered with a consultant to identify where we should focus our attention. While some changes have already been implemented, others—particularly those involving physical upgrades to the building—will unfold over the next few years.

We are excited to share that the first major change to our worship space, the Nave, is about to begin. The project will create seating options for people who use wheelchairs and walkers, as well as new, more accessible chairs for individuals with mobility challenges.

In the front half of the nave, six long pews will be replaced with six shorter pews previously located at the back of the church. This straightforward solution will allow individuals with mobility aids to sit with their families without blocking aisles.

Additionally, eight long pews at the back of the nave will be removed. In their place, we are introducing individual “church chairs.” Most of these chairs will be 22 inches wide, and we are also acquiring wider 24-inch and 30-inch chairs, to ensure comfortable seating for everyone.



At this time St Francis wants to thank and recognize The Anglican Foundation of Canada for providing a Grant that covered 50% of the cost to purchase the Church Chairs.



The movement of pews will start in August and will be completed by the end of September. If you can help the move please reach out to Garry Rideout. The new Church Chairs will also arrive by the end of September.

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## Outreach Update

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On behalf of our Outreach Committee, we give thanks to you, our St. Francis family for your continued and generous support of our various Outreach activities over the past several months. Without your support we would not be able to impact the lives of those in our community that need our help and support.

We have been able to support the community fridge/cupboard operated by Opportunity Place by supplying them with shopping/gift cards for Sobeys and Walmart which they use to purchase food items or give to their clients to purchase food. In addition to money from our Outreach budget we have had additional donations by individuals of \$700 to support this ministry.

We have purchased the supplies, assembled and distributed 20 of our family hygiene kits some through Opportunity Place and some directly to those in need.

We have supported the youth who use the Den at the Sackville Library with snacks and other items they require from the list provided by those who operate the Den.

We continue to support the Beacon House Shelter by having some members of St. Francis going onsite to serve meals to the guests of the shelter. We also support them with donations of desserts, clothing and other needed supplies. While the need to support the Beacon House Food Bank rises as a parish we make weekly food donations to the food bank. In addition, there are many donations of clothing and small household items from our parish. Any items that we did not sell at our annual yard sale were donated to Beacon House for them to either donate or sell in their retail store. Our relationship with Cobbs Bakery permits us to supply fresh bread and baked goods to both the Beacon House Food Bank and Shelter on a weekly basis.

On July 19, a group from St. Francis went onsite to St. George's Soup Kitchen to supply 192 meals of

ham, potato salad, garden salad, roll and dessert to the guests they serve on a weekly basis. We will be going onsite in late August to provide another meal.

Under our Community Events umbrella we have held two community parties open to the wider community in Lower Sackville. The first was at Easter with games, coloring, cookie decorating, face painting, snacks, pizza and easter eggs. In June, our party had a bouncy castle, axe throwing, darts, face painting, cookie decorating, coloring, card playing, snacks and hot dogs. Each time we had about 100 people turn out and have a great time. In the fall, we plan on holding a community Halloween party. Stay tuned for details.

If you have any questions or would like to become a member of our Outreach Committee, please contact Don Brushett at either email [brushettdf@gmail.com](mailto:brushettdf@gmail.com) or 902-930-3074.

Once again, Thank you for your support.

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## Fundscrip Dates

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With the Fundscrip gift card ordering program St. Francis receives a percentage of each card's value. A list of retailers, card values, and percentages earned is available on-line. There are also retailer lists and order forms available in the church Narthex. To order cards you can contact Shelley at [brushettsm@gmail.com](mailto:brushettsm@gmail.com) or 902-452-1536.

Order dates and times:

MONTH	ORDER (by 6 p.m.)	PICK UP (between 9-10 a.m.)
September	Sunday, August 31	Sunday, September 7
October	Sunday, October 5	Sunday, October 12
November	Sunday, November 2	Sunday, November 9
December	Sunday, November 30	Sunday, December 7



