

ANGLICAN NETWORK IN CANADA

St. Matthias and St. Luke Church

Worshipping at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

320 East 15th Avenue, Vancouver

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Parish Profile

Mission Statement

To equip and empower our community of believers through small groups ministries and common worship, to care, to witness, to serve one another and to bring into fellowship, new people from surrounding areas.

Parish Vision

Our Church will be a Christ centered multi-cultural orthodox Anglican community that brings people to Christ and to maturity.

Our Core Beliefs & Values

Our Core Values are Worship, Discipleship and Evangelism. We have also identified Youth Ministry as a special focus.

Statement of Faith

1. We hold to the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed.
2. We believe in the Triune God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit whom we worship, obey and serve. We believe that the Triune God commands us to guard the gospel, reach out and witness to the people around us with the gospel until the day He comes again.
3. We believe the Holy Scriptures to be the Word of God handed to the early Church by God to guide believers to live the life and walk the path that God calls us to travel. We are committed to keep and practice the teachings contain therein. We believe the Bible contains all that is necessary for our salvation.
4. We believe that God the Father is our creator and preserver. God's only Son is Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. God the Holy Spirit lives in us and he convicts, comforts, guides and leads us to the eternal life Jesus has bought and prepared for us.
5. We believe the Church is set up by Jesus Christ to be the family of God on earth. We exist to obey, serve and glorify God, and to mutually support, encourage, love, protect, help and comfort one another. We believe the Church to be the community where believers experience a taste of the eternal life that God has promised to those who will keep their faith in Jesus.
6. We believe that through the Holy Spirit, God is involved in the world and in our lives. He inspires us, encourages us, guides us and convicts us to move in the direction of God's plan for us and for the world. We need to invite him into our life and heart and to let Him have control of our minds and wills and transform us so that we may walk with God in our life journey and influence the world to his glory.
7. We believe that we cannot find salvation apart from God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit and it is only through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the Cross that we are saved. We believe we can best find salvation within the community of the Church committed to

keeping the Word of God that has been handed down to us and where putting them into effect in our lives under the guidance of the Holy Spirit is priority.

8. We believe faith in Jesus Christ, God's only Son and our Saviour, is to be expressed not in thoughts and words only, but in attitudes, actions, and witness in our everyday life.
9. We believe that all glory belongs to God alone and no believers deserve any credit for any good thought, word or deed – not even our belief in Jesus as God's only Son and Saviour and our decision to accept Him as our personal Saviour and Lord.

Introduction

St. Matthias and St. Luke Church is a multi-cultural, multi-lingual Church that welcomes everyone who seeks to know God and to find his or her own purpose in life. We want every member to know we care for them and their family. Our desire is to help make God real to our members and to offer to them any assistance we can toward the growth of their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Many programs and ministries are available in our Church. Our hope is through these programs and ministries we will meet our members at their point of need and help them to enjoy the exciting life of knowing God and trusting Him. We encourage our members to join at least one of them in addition to Sunday Worship.

Our parish ministry strategy may be summed up in the following four words:

Gather:

Having accepted Jesus as Saviour and Lord and received his forgiveness, we seek to follow Him, to worship Him in our daily living both as an individual and as a gathered community on Sundays and special occasions. We also seek to bear witness to our unity in Christ.

Grow:

Through teaching and the study of God's Word both at worship and in small groups, we strive to build a strong Biblical foundation and devotion to Jesus Christ.

Give:

God has given us resources, talents and abilities which we seek to use to serve others and to build up our community. We encourage the biblical principle of tithing as a response to God's love and command.

Go:

The joy of God's forgiveness motivates us to share with others God's love for us. We encourage each member to share their faith with someone who does not yet believe. We want every member to experience the joy and excitement of leading a person to faith in Jesus Christ.

Our Location

St. Matthias and St. Luke Church is currently worshipping at 320 East 15th Avenue, Vancouver.

A Brief History

St. Matthias and St. Luke Parish began in July 1997 as an amalgamation of two then existing congregations – St. Matthias Anglican, a mainly Caucasian Church and St. Luke's Anglican, a multicultural Church. The Parish was officially established on July 16th 2000 and was named St, Matthias & St. Luke Anglican Church.

St. Matthias Anglican Church was originally established in 1960 and was the last Anglican Church to be built in the city of Vancouver. It was positioned in the heart of a city and grew to become a large and vibrant Church. At one time there were plans to develop it into the Diocesan Centre; however, the plan never came into being.

St. Luke's Anglican Church was established in 1894 and was one of the oldest Anglican parishes in Vancouver. In 1993 St. Luke's began its ministry to the Chinese and a Cantonese service began. A group of Chinese Christians moved from Good Shepherd Church to St. Luke's to form the core group in the Chinese congregation and served as the catalyst for rapid growth that outgrew their premises.

The amalgamated Parish of St. Matthias & St. Luke incorporates the traditions of the two former parishes. It ministers not only to the people of the former parishes but reaches out to people around it and to immigrants from mainland China. A Mandarin outreach, with a particular focus on new immigrants, began in late 2003 with a fellowship and Bible studies. These have developed into a weekly evangelistic fellowship and worship ministry. A Japanese community from Holy Cross Anglican Church joined us in 2005 and began an afternoon service in Japanese. Although the afternoon service in Japanese was suspended in 2008, the Japanese congregation has joined our English or combined language service on Sunday. The focus for St. Matthias and St. Luke Anglican Church continues to be outreach and spiritual growth.

At the Synod 2002 of the Diocese of New Westminster, a Motion authorized the bishop to give consent to the blessing of same-sex unions in parishes within the Diocese was passed. Eight parishes including our parish walked out of the Synod in protest of this unbiblical move. Together with the other seven parishes we formed ourselves into a coalition called the Anglican Communion in New Westminster.

In February 2008, the congregation voted in favor at our Annual Vestry meeting to accept, the Episcopal oversight of Bishop Donald Harvey, moderator of Anglican Network in Canada (ANiC), under the Primatial oversight of Archbishop Gregory Venables of the Province of the Southern Cone.

In April 2008, Rev Simon Chin and Rev Beverly Chapman along with other ANiC clergy received clergy licenses from Archbishop Gregory Venables and St. Matthias and St. Luke Church became a member parish of the Anglican Network in Canada. ANiC is a diocese of the province of Anglican Church in North America.

In May 2010 the inaugural AGM was held after St. Matthias and St. Luke Church officially came into existence as an ANiC parish with Rev Simon Chin as the first Rector of the parish.

In November 2010, the B.C. Court of Appeal upheld the November 2009 BC Supreme Court decision to award the church properties to the Anglican Church of Canada Diocese of New Westminster.

In January 2011, the parishes applied for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.

In June, 2011, the Supreme Court of Canada refused to hear the appeal brought by four Vancouver area parishes including St. Matthias and St. Luke Church.

In August, 2011, we started to worship at the new location: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 320 East 15th Avenue, Vancouver.

Our Worship

We are a liturgical church, and we follow traditional Anglican rites and liturgies in our worship services. As worship is one of our core values, we strive to make our worship meaningful to the worshippers and we help our parishioners to understand the beauty of and the spiritual meaning behind Anglican worship liturgies.

After we moved to the new worship location at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, we currently have one combined language (English and Cantonese) service each Sunday at 11:00am. The average attendance for the combined language service is around 60. We use the bilingual Holy Eucharist: Rite Two compiled by the Diocese of Hong Kong & Macao. Two languages are used in our worship. The sermon is preached in either language and translated by the interpreter. The arrangement of two services in either languages (English or Cantonese) will be reviewed in the near future.

Once a month, on the first Sunday, we have a contemporary service of Prayer and Praise at the combined language Service followed by the traditional Anglican Holy Eucharist

For Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals, we use either the Book of Alternative Service (BAS) or the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). On special feast days, we conduct special services designed by our own worship committee.

Our People

Our Parish family consists of mixed ethnic group of people. We have Caucasians, local born second and third generation Chinese; Chinese immigrants from Hong Kong, Malaysia, China, Taiwan, Fiji, and Philippines. There are around 90 people on our registered voting member list, Of these registered members, about one-third is first generation immigrants from Hong Kong; some of whom have been in Vancouver for over twenty years. 30% of our members are comfortable in the use of both the English and the Cantonese languages; 30% are comfortable only in the use of the English language; while 40% are comfortable in the use of the Cantonese language. There are also a few members of our congregation from the Saturday Mandarin fellowship group who speaks mainly Mandarin, while there are a few members from the Japanese congregation who speaks Japanese and English. Of the people who are comfortable only in the use of the English language, some are Caucasians, while others are second or third generation Chinese.

There is also a good mix of different age groups in our parish family. The young families are mostly Chinese. The Caucasian parishioners are mostly seniors. There is also a supportive middle age group, mostly of first generation Chinese immigrants, who have been in Vancouver for a long time.

Because of the uniqueness of this Parish, our ministry is not bound by a geographic boundary. Our parishioners commute from all over the Lower Mainland to worship at St. Matthias and St. Luke church.

Our Community

Please see the web site <http://www.livingin-canada.com/living-in-vancouver.html> for the information about the community where St. Matthias and St. Luke Church is called to serve God.

Our Parish Structure

Our Parish is centered in Christ; directed by God; filled, supported and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Leadership is provided by the Moderator and the Bishops of ANiC, the clergy (reporting to the Bishops), and elected representatives - the Directors and the Parish Council. The parishioners, clergy, Parish Council and various church groups work hand-in-hand to support the Parish. We believe that everyone in the Parish is called to use their gifts to serve God, each complementing one another.

Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors consists of a minimum of Six (6) and a maximum of Eight (8) elected Directors, elected by the members at the annual general meeting.

The Priest is an ex officio member of the Board of Directors with the right to vote at meetings of the Board of Directors.

Parish Council:

Formed under the Bylaws, the Parish Council comprises the stipendiary clergy, wardens, secretary, treasurer and the Board of Directors. The Priest chairs the Parish Council meetings. The Board of Directors oversee the Administration and Finance of the Church, The Parish Council oversee the daily operation of the Parish.

Current Ministries

- *Alpha – to be resumed*
- *Adults & Couples Fellowship*
- *All Saints Fellowship (adults Cantonese speaking fellowship)*
- *Children's Sunday School*
- *Chinese Bible Study*
- *Choir & Praise Team*
- *English Bible Study*
- *Mandarin Fellowship*
- *Prayer Group*
- *Youth Fellowship*

NOTE: All the ministries are currently led by lay members, but clergy involvement is expected.

Our Future Goals

- To be a growing Church made up of disciples of Jesus Christ who make disciples
- To focus on the spiritual growth of the members
- To strengthen the youth and children's commitment to God
- To be a Church strongly participating in Evangelism and Missions
- To be a Church where members are actively seeking to plant Churches

NOTE: 1. The priest will work with the congregation to achieve future goals by creating a plan.
2. The parish is moving forward with respect to our goals.

Our Challenges

- To help members recognize that being a Christian is not just going to church on Sundays, It should also include Bible Reading, Prayer and Worship. Christian living is living out the teachings of the Word of God and leading the life modeled by Jesus Christ.
- To encourage members to participate in various church ministries in addition to Sunday worship.
- To improve communication between ministries.
- To form meaningful relationships in our church.

Our Financial

The financial statement is available upon request from the applicant who is selected for interview.

Searching for a Priest

We are seeking a Priest to minister to our people and to continue leading all the ministries in this parish.

Pre-requisites :

1. Must have a close personal walk with God and passionate about his/her faith, be able to lead his/her flock by example
2. Must have the support of his/her family
3. Must subscribe to the Montreal Declaration, the GAFCon Jerusalem Declaration and the Thirty-nine Articles of Faith
4. Must be an Anglican priest or in the process of becoming an Anglican priest
5. Must become a member of the Anglican Network in Canada
6. Must be experienced in shepherding a church
7. Must be biblical in ministry and teaching
8. Bilingual (in English and Chinese) is preferred and must appreciate the different cultures. Fluency in both Cantonese and Mandarin is an asset.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. **Preaching:** The Priest will be responsible for the preaching ministry of the Church. At his/her discretion (s)he may oversee a program of preaching by members of the congregation and guests; the priest will preach on a regular basis.
2. **Teaching:** The Priest will ensure the provision of teaching and training in discipleship, ministry development and evangelism, in coordination with other ministry leaders .
3. **Pastoral care and counseling:** The Priest will ensure that the pastoral needs of the congregation be addressed.
4. **Christian formation:** The Priest will provide preparation for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation and Marriage.
5. **Outreach and evangelism:** The Priest will provide leadership in developing and implementing strategies for outreach and evangelism.
6. **Worship services:** The Priest will administer Holy Communion each Sunday and lead services for healing, marriage and burial. The Priest will oversee the integration of music teams, speakers, and lay leaders for the Sunday services.
7. **Representation of St. Matthias and St. Luke Church:** The Priest, along with congregational delegates, will represent St. Matthias and St. Luke Church at the annual Synod of the Anglican Network in Canada (ANiC).
8. **Oversight of administration:** The Priest may oversee the administration of the church and will ensure the completion of ministry, business, facility and logistical support functions through lay volunteers. The Priest will coordinate and may chair the Annual General Meeting, the Directors and Parish Council Meetings.

Estimated Time Allocation :

1. Outreach and Pastoral Ministry	20%
2. Fellowship groups activities	10%
3. Preparation of sermon/Sunday Service	30%
4. Teaching Ministry	20%
5. Diocesan Meetings	10%
6. Church Meetings	10%

Remuneration :

Salary Package in the range of C\$60,000 to \$75,000 per annum
(Includes: benefits / allowance / vacation)

Bishop's Expectations :

1. As a priest in the Multicultural Missionary Diocese in Formation within the Anglican Network in Canada (ANiC) Diocese and the Province of the Anglican Church in North America, a Priest is expected to give leadership in the development and maintenance of the relationship between the parish, the Missionary Diocese, ANiC, and ACNA.
2. The Priest is expected to take an active part in the Diocesan Synod, the Diocesan Clergy retreat, and meetings and activities of the Multicultural Missionary Diocese in Formation of ANiC, demonstrating through these involvements the interdependent life of the Body of Christ.
3. The Priest is to be canonically obedient to the Bishop and other chief Ministers, following their godly admonitions and submitting to their godly judgments in all things lawful.
4. The Priest is to work collegially with all other clergy in ANiC, regardless of age, gender or race.
5. The Priest is expected to maintain a disciplined spiritual life through daily prayer and meditation, and through annual personal retreats.
6. The Priest is expected to actively pursue an ongoing systematic continuing education program and, in consultation with the Bishop, to take advantage of study leave and sabbaticals.
7. The Priest is expected to encourage and enable members of the parish to be actively involved in leadership in all spheres of parish life – stewardship, Christian education, worship, parish administration, mission, evangelism – and in the pursuit of their baptismal ministries in the wider community and world.
8. The Priest will develop a mutually supportive working relationship with all assistant clergy in the parish, whether stipendiary or non-stipendiary.
9. The Priest, in consultation with the Bishop and/or Dean, will undertake an annual review of his/her ministry and will encourage and enable such a review for all leaders in the congregation.

Note

An appropriate response to this Parish Profile with reference to the position advertised will be expected from all applicants.

Please send the application to:

The Rt. Rev. Stephen Leung

189 West 11th Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia, V5Y 1S8, Canada

Closing date for receiving application is February 29, 2012.