

Dear People of St. John's,

Last Sunday I announced at all the services that the Parish of St. Andrew's Cowichan Station will be disestablished on Sunday July 18th 2010, and that there would be a final service possibly being held on Sunday July 11th. I mentioned that we, along with the parishes of St. Peter, Quamichan and St. John the Baptist, Duncan would be initially sharing responsibility for the maintenance of St. Andrew's cemetery. I also mentioned that I would email you all this week to confirm the date of the final service. The final service at St. Andrew's has now been scheduled for **Sunday July 18th at 10 am**, not on July 11th. The following is an excerpt from a letter I received this week from The Venerable Bruce Bryant Scott, announcing this event:

The Parish of St. Andrew, Cowichan Station will be disestablished on Sunday, July 18, 2010. The final service will take place that day at 10:00 am. The Dean of Columbia, the Very Reverend Logan McMenamie, will preside and preach at the service on behalf of the Bishop. On behalf of the Bishop and Diocese I invite you and the people of the Diocese, and especially the people of the neighbouring parishes, to this service in which we will celebrate many decades of faithful ministry.

After much prayer and discernment the Reverend Dawn Braithwaite has submitted her resignation to the Bishop, effective July 19, 2010, and has indicated her intention to relinquish her exercise of ministry "according to the terms of Canon XIX of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada." The Bishop has received this resignation and intention to relinquish with regret, and wishes God's blessings on her in the days to come.

I have attached a copy of a letter which was read to the parish on Sunday, July 4, 2010. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

I ask your prayers for the work of our Diocese as it continues in the Cowichan Valley.

Yours in Christ,

Bruce +
The Venerable Bruce Bryant-Scott
Executive Archdeacon

Our thoughts and prayers are most certainly with our sisters and brothers at St. Andrews, Cowichan Station as they prepare for that parish to be disestablished as an Anglican parish in the Diocese of B.C. It will be a sad day for many parishioners who have attended, worshipped and given their ministries to St. Andrew's for so many years as they say goodbye to their beloved church building and hall. Although the parishioners who remain there have decided to

continue apart from the Anglican Church, fortunately, they will continue to be part of the Body of Christ which unites us all. They will be gathering as a worshipping community in a new location under the name: *Cowichan Centre for Progressive Christianity*. As a neighbouring parish for the last 100 years, let us offer them our prayers and our presence for their final service next **Sunday July 18th** at **10 am** and wish them God's richest blessings as they form a new community. While it is not possible for us at this short notice to cancel all our services, I would still like to encourage as many of our parishioners as possible to represent St. John's by attending their last service. I see this as part of our new mission as the hub church of South Cowichan to reach out those beyond our own community.

May God bless the people of St. Andrew's and all of us as we share in our common mission to bring the presence of Christ to our communities and to our world.

Sincerely and with every blessing,

Scott

The Rev. G. Scott Pittendrigh, Rector

cc: The Venerable Dale Huston, Archdeacon of Cowichan
The Venerable Bruce Bryant Scott, Executive Archdeacon