

THE ST. GEORGE'S DRAGON FLYER

In this issue

- ✓ St. George's Online
- ✓ Camp Little Dragon
- ✓ Parish Check-up
- ✓ Habitat Build
- ✓ \$14,000

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. GEORGE'S OF FOREST HILL ANGLICAN CHURCH

JUNE 2008



www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com

ST. GEORGE'S ONLINE!

Our re-launched website has been designed as a bright, welcoming and modern electronic doorway for current parishioners and those looking for a church home.

St George's has been fortunate to have a web-site for several years but there have been many changes in the use of the Internet in the intervening years. In updating our site we have made a large number of changes to enable us to communicate more effectively as a church family and to reach out to those who are looking for a church.

What's New and Improved?

There is a new look to the entire site. Much of the content is new or has been expanded upon with more pictures. There are descriptions of our services and of the many groups functioning around the

parish including information about each group and how to become involved. The site includes information about what's happening at St George's and when. There is a calendar of events as well as detailed information about the more significant events and activities i.e., Habitat, Little Dragon Day Camp. You will find an archive of church bulletins and Dragon Flyer editions.

The content will be parish driven. To keep it alive and continually relevant, parish groups will be responsible for providing up-to-date news and pictures from their groups and events to the office.

What's not new?

The web address is still www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com.

What Stage 2 for the Site?

Current plans are to expand the use of the site by setting up an "e-mail" news facility. Interested parishioners, who file their e-mail address with us, will be able to receive e-mail copies of Sunday bulletins, new issues of the Dragon Flyer, and e-mail reminders of special services and events along

Some days you get the lawn....
some days the lawn get you!



We're always looking for volunteers to cut the grass!

with dates and times.

Comments or Suggestions?

If you have comments or suggestions please send an e-mail note to the parish office: stgeorgefh@golden.net

FROM YOUR WARDENS

This year has been an extremely busy one here at St. George's with plans moving ahead for the Habitat for Humanity build during the summer. If you can donate a week of your time please consider doing so. It is a great way to give something tangible back to your community.

Your Stewardship Committee under the very capable direction of Marc Mennel has been active with initiatives centred around outreach. A welcome mailing to the Activa community has paid some dividends with several new mothers and their children joining the Mothers and Tots morning together with an initial family Fun Night where one new family attended. A number of other activities are in the works so stay tuned.

Please take the time to check out St George's streamlined web site which went live on May 25th with a gala launch. Many thanks to Alison Olmsted who spearheaded this very large job. Well done Alison. The web site is only as good as the information it contains so the onus will now be on you to provide timely, informative and relevant information.

An opportunity to look back on our successes as well as to look forward occurred on May 2nd when approximately 55 people contributed to a very interesting Parish Check-up.

Great discussion took place which resulted in many new ideas. Stay tuned for further follow-up on this event in the very near future.

One of the highlights of the first six months took place on Mother's Day with a very successful Pentecost service. The children of the parish played an integral part in this service and did a fantastic job. St George's was really rocking on that day. I suspect more such events are on the calendar. Many thanks to the organizers as these types of events require a lot of organizational effort.

St George's experienced a loss in May when Father Michael left us to assume duties as a parish priest in London. Thanks Michael for all your efforts during your time with us and best wishes for success in the future.

As we enter the summer or as some would call it "road repair" season there will be extensive construction on our portion of Fischer Hallman as the Region installs a bike lane along with other improvements. Our entrance will remain open but it may require some care when making the turn. Please bear with us and we thank you for your co-operation.

Finally, all the best for a happy and safe summer. We look forward to seeing you during the summer at the new 9 A.M. service starting June 29th and look forward to the start of activities in September.

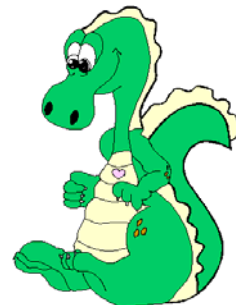
Wayne, Jim, Reta and John.

CAMP LITTLE DRAGON

Camp Little Dragon is up and running again this summer. Our summer camp provides a safe and fun place for children to be in a Christian environment. Our

councillors are in their teens and have lots of energy. Our overall theme this summer is "GOD'S CREATION – THE RAINFOREST ADVENTURE" with weekly sub themes. The councillors will be transforming the church hall into a Rainforest to enhance our theme. There will be swimming at Forest Heights Pool, guest visitors and a trip to the Earth Sciences Museum.

Our daily activities include prayer, sing/song, arts & crafts, outdoor recreation, inside



games and lots of new and old friendships. Our main focus is to help the children understand that everyone deserves the right to be treated with love, respect and acceptance no matter what their race, colour, belief or socio-economic status is.

St. George's provides a limited number of bursaries to families who are experiencing financial difficulty. This enables children to attend, who otherwise would not be able to enjoy the camp experience and see the love of God at work in our community.

Our camp is a very important part of the Outreach Ministry that St. George's provides, and is non-profit, running on a break even basis. If you wish to support our summer camp, there are special camp envelopes on the bulletin board, or you can call the church office.

Check out our new web site for registration forms and more information.

PARISH CHECK-UP

Several years ago interested members of the St George's family got together for a day and a half of discussion to develop a vision for St Georges. It covered a number of things including Outreach to the community around us as well as within St Georges.

The result was a new committee structure to plan and implement our vision. We have made great strides in the past 2 years, both within our parish and in our outreach activities. Recently our Stewardship committee recommended a review of our vision plan so that we could see what we had accomplished and remind us of any areas that we might have overlooked

Most recently, on the evening of Friday May 2, parishioners were invited review progress to implementing that vision. The Very Reverend Terry Dance, Dean of the Cathedral in London, gave us a very upbeat presentation to get us thinking about how we might spread God's word both within and outside of the walls of St George's.

The Reverend Karen Kovats was our facilitator for the evening and did a fine job of keeping us focused and on track. Using our original vision objectives from 2005 we split into 7 different groups to brainstorm how we might accomplish the objectives.

Rev. Kovats summarized the evening for us and her report can be found on the parish web-site,

www.stgeorgesoffhill.com, under Exciting Projects and click on Parish Check-Up.

Next Steps

At the close of the meeting there was concern that the enthusiasm to work on our goals didn't fade away. The result is that a motion is being presented to our Parish Council at the May meeting to create a Strategy Committee to coordinate activities between our parish committees to make sure that we don't lose sight of our goals.

HABITAT BUILD

Congratulations to St. George's of Forest Hill and to our Deanery partners, All Saints Waterloo, Church of the Holy Saviour, Church of St. Columba, Christchurch Ayr, St. George's New Hamburg, St. John the Evangelist, St. James, Preston, Renison College plus individual contributors.

Your Habitat Steering Committee is pleased to announce that our \$65,000 build target has been achieved. The final cheque will be hand-delivered to Waterloo Region Habitat for Humanity on Monday May 26th.



The St. George's Men's Duffer's Club
led by Head Duffer Doug Johnson

Come on out and enjoy a round of golf With your friends at St. George's.

To get on the list email Doug at stgeorgesdufferclub@hotmail.com



Well done, fellow Anglicans. Now it is time to put down our cheque books and pick up our tool belts. Let's get started!

Leonor, our volunteer co-ordinator at Habitat reports that she is pleased with the volunteer response to date, however, our target is to have a "closed build" which means that we, along with our partners, must supply ALL of the volunteers required so lets push hard so that we can indeed proclaim a "closed build"

Please mark Wednesday July 2nd at 7am on your calendars. This is the official "Build Kick-off" at Cherry St., organized by Habitat. It is their usual kick-off celebration and all volunteers who are scheduled to work that day should try to arrive by 7:00 a.m.. More details will follow shortly.

Thumbs-up, St. George's, lets' get to work!!

\$14,000

That's the amount that St. George's raised and donated to the Primate's World Relief and Development Hunger Fund during the month of May. May was declared as PWRD/HHF month at

St. George's and the response was exceptionally generous. The PWRDF/HHF disributes monies raised locally, nationally and internationally.

The Diocese of Huron raised a total of \$64,000 for the fund during the month of May.