



THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE PEOPLE OF
ST. GEORGE'S OF FOREST HILL
ANGLICAN CHURCH
www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com

THE DRAGON FLYER

SUMMER 2013



this issue

FROM FATHER DON
FROM YOUR WARDENS
ANNUAL SPRING TEA
MENSAJE PASTORAL
GETTING TO KNOW YOU
TIME'S A-WASTIN'

FROM FATHER DON



In parishes where I served previously, there was a great sense of slowing down that began in the middle of June as the pattern of the church's life moved into a summer rest. I've come to realize that things never truly slow down at St. George's. As summer approaches, the Sunday School program winds up its year's work only to be replaced by the steady activity of our summer day camp.

Sunday worship decreases from three services to two, yet parish life continues to move along at quite a clip. St. George's is different from most other parishes: a sign of our genuine commitment to our Mission and Ministry. Our work of proclaiming the Gospel is far too important for us to take a two month vacation from it!

As a part of the Diocese of Huron, we are being called to participate in the RENEW program, which I believe has much to offer to a congregation that takes Mission and Ministry seriously. Bishops Bob and Terry have asked every parish in the diocese to take a good hard look at its ministry, and to dream a little about where we believe God is calling us to go. The Bishops have made it clear that a strong and healthy diocese can only exist when it is made up of strong and healthy parishes. RENEW is committed to building up the

ministries of churches across the diocese. For far too long, we have heard of the closure and deconsecration of one church after another. It is clearly time for the Phoenix to rise from the ashes.

At St. George's, several focus groups have produced great ideas that will help guide our future path. The Parish RENEW committee has begun to distill those ideas into common themes and priorities. Meanwhile, I have been researching ministry in other parishes to help us to deal effectively with those priorities. Moving forward, your Executive and Parish Council will be spending considerable time this summer preparing new programs, new worship, and new ministry for the Fall. It is an exciting time to be part of St. George's!

I know that many of you will be using summer vacation time to relax and renew yourselves (I look forward to getting some down time myself!). Just remember, when you are in town, St. George's is still here. Please join us for worship!

May you enjoy a wonderful summer and return in September refreshed and RENEWed – eager to support your church as we head boldly into the MISSION and MINISTRY that God is calling us to.

Faithfully,
Don+

COME CELEBRATE! Sunday, June 9

Wear your favourite t-shirt and join us for a BBQ lunch and summer celebration following the 10 a.m. service. Recognize the hard work of all our Sunday School volunteers and thank retiring co-directors Kate Durdan and Alison Olmsted. See you then!



CHECK OUT OUR
NEW, IMPROVED
WEBSITE!

St. George's website has a new look and is now easier to navigate and update thanks to more user-friendly software. That will be a bonus for everyone, including new web administrator, Valerie O'Reilly (a.k.a. Church Secretary).

Our website is a valuable source of information for online "visitors" and will also help members keep up-to-date on parish happenings. We encourage all committee chairs to send Valerie articles, news items and event photos to ensure our website remains current and exciting!

If you haven't accessed the website recently, check out the changes at:
www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com

– Your Stewardship Committee

15TH ANNUAL SPRING TEA DELIGHTS DOZENS!

On May 8, more than 70 people gathered in Thompson Hall for another fabulous spring tea. Gathered around beautifully decorated tables, they indulged in delicious desserts and enjoyed wonderful anecdotes shared by professional storyteller Mary-Eileen McClear. Proceeds from this delicious event will support our foster children.

– Reta Risto and Roberta Finnie, Organizing committee



Ladies enjoy dessert at one of 12 tables beautifully decorated in a story telling theme.



Here are the dapper waiters who served us tea and coffee (left to right): Paul Brown, Gerry Gross, Wayne Matheson, Marc Mennel and Ray Finnie.



Tables of mouth-watering desserts were too tempting to refuse!

38TH KITCHENER SCOUT GROUP CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The 38th Kitchener Scout Group was created in 1963 when St. George's of Forest Hill agreed to be the sponsor. This spring, from May 4 to 5, current and former members of the 38th Group and their families gathered to celebrate 50 years of scouting at St. George's.



Preparation for our anniversary actually began last fall with the redesign of the Group's crest. Our new badge incorporates the grey cross and burgundy lettering of our original neckerchiefs and is now worn by all members on their uniforms.



On behalf of St. George's, Fr. Don accepts a 50th anniversary plaque from 38th Scout Group Commissioner John Gould. Back row (l-r.): Bill Yurkiw (Scouts), Natalie Fedy (Beavers); Jennifer Birdsall (Beavers), Bob Thorn, Section Leader Beavers; George Mudry, Section Leader Cubs, and Brother Mark.



Thankfully, the weather on Saturday, May 4 was great! Approximately 80 people attended our BBQ and campfire. They viewed photo displays and articles. They enjoyed all the food that Scouter Bill Yurkiw had prepared. After the BBQ, Brother Mark (a scouting chaplain for more than 20 years!) opened our campfire. Many songs and skits and cheers followed. The evening concluded with some of the youth toasting marshmallows.

Sunday morning, several participants arose early

enough to enjoy Bagel Sunday at the church.

The 10:00 a.m. service was led by members of Scout Group. To start, Brother Mark conducted a Scouter's Own service during which we remembered those members who have passed away. John Gould, commissioner for the 38th Scouting Group, presented a plaque to Father Don to thank St. George's for 50 years of sponsorship. After the service, our celebrations concluded downstairs with cake and coffee.

– George Mudry

FROM YOUR WARDENS



Susan Butt



Jesus Castillo



Nelson Cuthbert



Vivian Harris



MaryAnn Millar

Greetings as we enter the summer season! It's time to reflect on our successes, consider what needs improvement, and look forward to new opportunities in the Fall:

- **PALM SUNDAY & EASTER:** The Easter Season was filled with many opportunities for praise, worship and prayer as we walked with our Lord through the darkness and into the light. In addition to our clergy and musical leadership team, we extend a sincere thank-you all those who made this journey so significant for our parish community: our Choirs, Altar Guild, Sidespeople, Greeters, Easter Vigil volunteers and many others!

- **NEW WEBSITE A DELIGHT:** Thanks again to Alison Olmsted for working throughout the past year to make our website more user-friendly. She was assisted in the design phase by Wayne Matheson, Marc Mennel and Nelson Cuthbert. You can explore our new and improved website at <http://www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com>. Committee Chairs and others with parish news or photos should submit them via email to new web administrator Val O'Reilly.

- **T-SHIRT SUNDAY, BBQ & SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION:** On Sunday, June 9th, come celebrate another successful year of Sunday School and Youth programming and the beginning of summer! Wear your favourite t-shirt and stay for a BBQ lunch after the 10 a.m. service. Join in the fun and show your gratitude to our Sunday School Teachers, Youth Leaders and Coordinators for their dedication and hard work throughout the year. We are blessed indeed to be able to offer such a vibrant and significant weekly program for our children and youth! We will also recognize Kate Durdan and Alison Olmsted as they complete many years of dedicated service as Sunday School Coordinators. We extend a very special thank-you to both these wonderful women.

- **HELP STABILIZE THE BUDGET!:** New Church Treasurer, Najive Naranjo, reports that we are still behind in our regular budget givings – funds that are essential for the general operation, maintenance, payroll, etc. for our Church. Some parishioners have redirected their STARS donations to the general budget and that is definitely helping – thank you! If you

haven't already done so, please examine your annual contribution to St. George's to see if you can increase your givings to help balance our budget. Secondly, if you are away during the summer, it is vital that you continue to make regular contributions to St. George's as we still have all of our bills to pay. A very convenient way to give regularly without having to remember is through our auto-debit program. We now have 63 families in our parish who donate to St. George's in this manner. This easy method of payment helps you balance your budget and helps us stabilize our monthly income throughout the year! Please contact Val O'Reilly in the Church Office or Nelson Cuthbert, Envelope Secretary, for more information and/or to setup a pre-authorized auto-debit program tailored to your budget.

- **RENEW NEEDS YOU:** To make this initiative successful, we need active participants to help us act on our priorities. If you would like to be part of our "RENEW" campaign committee, please speak to Fr. Don or any of the Wardens.

- **GIVINGS SUMMARY:** A detailed printout of parishioner donations from January 1 to April 30, 2013 was made available in May. If you did not receive yours or you have any questions about it, please contact Envelope Secretary, Nelson Cuthbert [519-578-8671] or e-mail [cuthben@golden.net]. This is the first of several summaries that will be prepared this year to assist parishioners in tracking/reconciling donations to St. George's.

- **MASTER CALENDAR:** There is a Master Calendar in the church office from which we do all our planning. If you have an activity of any nature which requires a room(s), a program(s), and/or personnel, please ensure that that you call or e-mail Valerie to update the Master Calendar!

Finally, a huge thank-you to all parishioners for your continued support, work and service. Your dedication is what makes St. George's such a wonderful place to belong! We are truly blessed! Have a great summer!

Yours in Christ,
Nelson Cuthbert on behalf of your Wardens

Coming Fall 2013:

The Children's Community Closet

Open up your closets and start putting aside any gently used children's clothing that is ready for a new child to love. *The Children's Community Closet* outreach initiative will connect local families with children's clothing that needs a new home.

Please watch your Sunday bulletins for more information on when we will be accepting clothing donations.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

The story behind familiar faces at St. George's



Elizabeth Stuckless

“Small but mighty” is an apt description of one of our congregation's senior members. When you've raised 15 children, worked 53 years and had a 62-year marriage, even the word “mighty” seems inadequate!

Still going strong at age 94, Elizabeth Stuckless was born in the small town of Woody Pt., NL. She's been a member of the Church of England and Anglican Church since childhood, singing in the choir and then joining the altar guild as a young teenager. (She's still a member of our altar guild which adds up to a remarkable 80 years of service!)

After she married, Elizabeth moved to Deer Lake, NL where she and her husband raised 15 children (10 girls and 5 boys). She also began working as a cook for local motels and hotels, a job she continued to enjoy for an amazing 53 years, first down east and later in Waterloo. (At age 71, she retired from the Waterloo Inn where she cooked for 17 years.)

Elizabeth and her husband moved to Kitchener in 1970 and joined another Anglican church. When it closed in the late 1980's, she joined St. George's. An active member of our congregation, Elizabeth works quietly behind the scenes. In addition to membership in the altar guild, she knits socks for the homeless, sews vests for the poor, bakes bread and makes baby quilts for our annual Christmas Bazaar, and sews bed quilts for cancer patients.

Elizabeth's husband passed away in 2000. Today she lives with her daughter, Louise, and her husband in Kitchener. Three of her children (and her sister) still live in Newfoundland, while others live in British Columbia, the United States and Thailand! Elizabeth has 39 grandchildren and “29 or 30” (more keep coming!) great grandchildren.

Quite a life so far for this small but mighty Newfoundlander!

MENSAJE PASTORAL DE VERANO: COMUNIDAD HISPANA PARROQUIA DE SAN JORGE



Father Javier

de nosotros hablar de verano es sinónimo de descanso, de vacaciones, de relajación, permítame recordarles que es también un tiempo para ser testimonio de los múltiples regalos y de las bendiciones que día a día recibimos de lo alto. En la Sagrada Escritura y en la Tradición de la Iglesia, Nuestro Señor Jesucristo es presentado como EL SOL que nace de lo alto, Luz para alumbrar a las naciones y gloria de tu Pueblo (Lucas 1,78-19), en torno al cual gira toda la historia y toda nuestra vida. Así como en el sol veraniego ilumina y alegra estos meses del año, también Jesucristo nuestro SOL

Con inmenso gozo espiritual, llenos de esperanza y fe nos disponemos una vez a vivir este tiempo de verano, que por gracia de Dios estamos llamados a participar. A pesar de que para muchos

es Luz y Energía para nuestra vida y la vida de todos los que nos rodean.

Aprovechemos también este tiempo para reflexionar en nuestra de Misión como Cristianos y nuestro compromiso de Pioneros y sembradores de esta nuestra comunidad hispana aquí en la Parroquia de San Jorge. Recordemos que construir toma tiempo, dedicación, sacrificio, perseverancia y ante todo Amor. Poco a poco, en clave de oración vayamos plantando, regando y haciendo germinar esta semillita de Fe que juntos con la ayuda e inspiración de nuestro amado y buen Jesús hemos sabido empezar el verano anterior. Durante este tiempo compartido hemos crecido en fe y en solidaridad, pero es necesario entender que la caminata apenas empieza y la lucha se va haciendo cada día, esparciendo con amor y sencillez la palabra de Dios y atrayendo con nuestro testimonio y compromiso a tantos hermanas y hermanos sedientos y necesitados del amor y de la misericordia de Dios.

La Parroquia de San Jorge, que día a día nos acoge con amor, ofrece para nuestras familias programas fabulosos de crecimiento y soporte Cristiano.

Unámonos mas a ellos, su caminata ha sido larga y su experiencia de servicio es para nosotros un manantial de bendiciones y oportunidades. Elevamos nuestras oraciones a Jesucristo, el SOL que nace de lo alto para que siga bendiciendo la Parroquia de San Jorge y a través de ella todos nosotros: Niños, Jóvenes, Adultos, a fin de que seamos parte integral en el crecimiento y fortalecimiento de nuestra Fe.

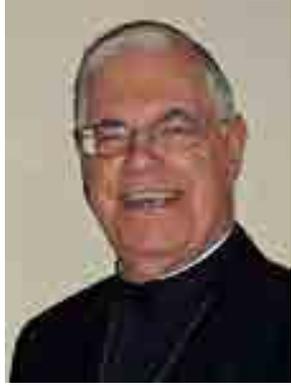
Por último, quiero invitarlos a participar del campamento de verano para sus niños aquí en la Parroquia de San Jorge, una bella oportunidad para que sus niños interactúen con otros niños y tengan un verano inolvidable. Para inscripciones por favor llamar a la Parroquia.

Bienvenidos al verano, disfruten del amor de Dios que viene de lo alto.

En Jesús,
Fr. Javier+

FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

Summer Ramble



Brother Mark, S.B.

I'm at that stage in life when I have good health, enough time, sufficient finances, excellent equipment and the necessary stamina to embrace the woods, streams and lakes of the Great Hub: Algonquin Park, Haliburton Forest and Haliburton Waterway trails.

comfortable being alone. And I'm not really that far from civilization, just far enough to give me a sense of isolation.

I will try new recipes; have fun making camp gadgets; swing lazily in a hammock; stare into the fire; listen intently to the night sounds; think brilliant thoughts and explore secluded trails, read and rest.

My summer ramble is a spiritual time that has no beginning and no end; accomplished anytime during the day or night. I will do all the offices and pray the rosary more often. I will think of God in all his majesty as Reese and I lie on a sandy knoll and look at the starry heavens above. I will have "PT" (People Time), when I commit to God every person I can remember – living or dead. I will be more diligent at the 3:00 a.m. morning prayer for Christians who are suffering or are in danger. I will select one book of the Bible and study a commentary on it. I will remain quiet for extended periods of time ... and just listen...and just breathe.

Whatever you are doing this summer, I hope you take some time to ramble and just listen and just breathe!

BM +

With a base at MacDonald Lake in the Haliburton Forest, I often hike, canoe or drive to more remote locations like Algonquin Park. Although I don't do anything considered high risk anymore, my solo outings are ambitious enough to heighten my spirit, delight my soul and tantalize my love for the immense outdoors.

With my black labrador retriever, Reese, at my side, my trusty staff in hand, my all purpose knife on one side and bear spray on the other, I am confident and



On Sunday, April 7, Bishop Bob Bennett visited St. George's to lead the service of Confirmation for eight young members from our English and Spanish congregations. He was assisted at the bilingual service by Father Don, Father Javier, MaryLynn Forrest and several of the children. The confirmands and their families enjoyed cake and fellowship following the service.

Summer Schedule

Sundays:

One service at 9 a.m.: Sunday, June 30- Sunday September 1 (inclusive)

Note: Two services (8:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.) resume September 8.

Church Office Hours:

Tues. and Wed.: 8:30 a.m. to noon. Thurs.: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

• Please submit Sunday bulletin items early in the week!

PUT A SMILE ON A CHILD'S FACE THIS SUMMER!

Your donation (big or small) to Camp Little Dragon will help provide a child with a fun-filled week where he or she can enjoy games, songs, sports and many other activities.

For families experiencing financial difficulty, our Christian camp is a Godsend. Parents can go to work knowing their child is safe and well cared for.

Your tax-deductible donation will fund full or partial bursaries to cover the \$145 weekly camp fee. Remember, Camp Little Dragon is 100% not-for-profit and relies on grants and personal donations to cover its \$40,000 operating cost.

Every child deserves a safe and happy summer. Make your donation today!



Do you have a Facebook account? Take the time to search St. George's of Forest Hill on Facebook. We have a wonderful Facebook page filled with interesting articles, pictures and videos, upcoming events and so much more. Go to the page and like us online so you can be kept up to date on what's happening at St. George's!

MANY HANDS MAKE . . . A SUCCESSFUL CHURCH DIRECTORY!

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the development of our new directory:

- You, the parishioners, for participating; the volunteers who scheduled and reminded parishioners about the photo sessions, as well as those who acted as receptionists when the photos were being taken. Your help was greatly appreciated and made the sessions run very smoothly.
- Marc Mennel and Father Don for finding advertisers. St. George's received more than \$1000 in ad revenue!
- George Mudry for taking photos for the directory and helping with the layout.
- Nelson Cuthbert for editing assistance and to Val O'Reilly who was my all-round assistant.

We expect the directory will be published by the end of summer. We're sure you'll find it very attractive and useful!

—Fran Rothenberg

MANY THANKS

to the Developmentally Challenged students at Forest Heights Collegiate for stuffing, labelling and stamping this issue of the Dragon Flyer!

OUTREACH AT ST. GEORGE'S

WORKING TOGETHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST!

Some local Anglican churches have formed a "Deanery Outreach Committee" and are now working together on two large projects. One is the Habitat for Humanity build this summer. It is the 25th anniversary for HFH in this area and they have enough funds to finish two homes on Howe Drive and build another six to eight on Keele St. in Kitchener. What HFH needs are people to help with the build, to make lunches and snacks for the workers, and help create a sense of community. For six weeks, starting in July, you can help with these builds. To register as a volunteer, go to the HFH website or speak to Father Don.

The other joint project benefits St. Monica House and Monica Ainslee Place which both provide a home and support for pregnant young women. To-date, we have painted all the girls' rooms and will refurbish those that need it. Michelle Leschak has found volunteers to tidy the gardens at St. Monica House. We are also planning a prom night for the girls at Trinity Church, Galt.

UPDATE ON WHAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR OTHERS!

We would like to thank everyone at St. George's for supporting our numerous Outreach initiatives. Many people fighting cancer have appreciated the gift of turbans made by St. George's volunteers. Our parish donated 400 lbs. of potatoes and many Easter treats to St. John's Kitchen at Easter time. More than 40 gifts and cards were generously donated for our St. Monica House baby shower on April 28. We continue to collect donations for the Food Bank of Waterloo Region, and John and Marg Ryrie deliver

them regularly to the warehouse. Mary's Place tells us that we are the number one church that consistently responds to their need for dishes and towels. Again this summer, John Ryrie will organize the popular ice cream days for St. John's Kitchen. We are also developing a new outreach initiative that will have no cost to parishioners. Watch your summer bulletins or website for more details.

CAMP LITTLE DRAGON 2013

For the 12th year, we look forward to the start of Camp Little Dragon: a fun, safe summer day camp for children 5 to 12 years of age. Returning Co-directors are Helen Protopapas and Alex Couzins, both members of our parish. This year campers will take a trip around the world exploring a variety of different countries. They will enjoy daily crafts, activities, singsongs, and games. Special events will include a visit from Global Exotic Pets (reptiles will visit the camp), and new activities: Organic Groove Drumming and Airborne Trampoline. Once a week, campers will go swimming at Forest Heights pool and also have a weekly splash day. For complete details, check the website. The cost of camp is \$145 per week per child with a limited number of bursaries available. If you can help defray the cost of running our camp, your donation will be tax deductible. Be sure to label your envelope appropriately or ask for a special camp donation envelope. If you have any questions, call the church office or speak to a Camp Committee member: MaryLynn Forrest, Vivian Harris, Susan Butt or Reta Risto.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: "Time's A-Wastin'!"

This statement describes rather well the reaction of many to time. There is just so much time and no more. Of all of God's gifts, time has its limits. The real issue is not the length of life or the number of hours and minutes God gives us. The basic question is how do we use the time a generous God gives to us?



Since we cannot add minutes or recycle time, we continually set priorities. "I'm too busy for that right now...I don't have the time to do that...Ask someone else—I can't spare the time."

Each person must decide how he or she will manage the time given by God.

In your 168 hours a week do you allow:

- Time to give thanks and praise to God who has given you all the gifts of life (time, abilities, resources)?
- Time to see and react to the beauty of God's creation?
- Time to say "I love you" to others, just as God has said it to you?
- Time to use your God-given gifts to help and share with others?
- Time to live responsibly and responsively?

God has given you time to be used as a wise steward. Make the most of it! Enjoy it all. Use it all. Praise God by living life fully and faithfully!

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PEOPLE OF ST. GEORGES OF FOREST HILL ANGLICAN CHURCH

321 Fischer-Hallman Road, Kitchener, ON N2M 4X9

519.744.4751

www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com

church_office@stgeorgesofforesthill.com