

Wardens' Fall Message

With cooler morning air, the Virginia Creeper taking on tinges of deep red, and commercials announcing *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year*, all of us are reminded that fall and return to school is upon us! With that also comes the change in summer worship and a return to two Sunday morning services. That is what we call the Old Normal routine. However, the pandemic has changed all of that. There is a New Normal which is more precarious and less predictable. As Fr Stephen has been reminding us for the last 18 months, "Things are fluid." Translated: we can make plans, but we are prepared to pivot when the Department of Health and the Bishop tell us to!

But we have been heartened by the return to in-person worship this summer. It is so clear to us that St George's has a vibrant and connected parish whether we are wearing masks and keeping our social distance or previously we are sliding into pews and hugging one another and coming together to celebrate our faith in this building. We are happy to take coffee hours after service outside on the grounds and keeping our fingers crossed that with increased vaccination rates we may return to sharing coffee, laughter and conversations in Thompson Hall.

This year you may all expect to see regular use the Survey Monkey tool to assess the number of services offered as well as predict how we may safely re-open Sunday School and committees meetings in-person. The month of September will find us launching our new Fall Advertising Campaign to reach out to those in our community and invite them to join us in worship. As well, we look for ways to organize social events like a Car Rally or Christmas Market in a new and vital fashion. Rest assured, we are all anxious for outreach, social justice initiatives, bible study and fellowship to resume robustly starting in September.

It is our Livestream production team which has kept us all connected on Wednesdays and Sundays. It is impossible to find words that adequately express our sincere thanks to them. Let us express our deepest gratitude to all congregants who continue to give generously to our operations at this parish. Our spiritual leadership under Fr Stephen and Rev MaryLynn has been the bedrock that has lead us all by precept and example with deep faith, good humor and true compassion.

Many projects like the Memorial Sign revamp seem to be moving at a snail's pace, but as companies work to catch up on orders we will see it happen. We have some exciting speakers invited and will announce all as plans are confirmed. Our Bishop, Todd Townshend, will lead worship on September 26th as we host confirmation for a number of the Kitchener Waterloo congregations.

The pandemic has hampered the way we stay connected in-person with our parish family or even grieve the loss of those who have passed, but not our will to do so. For the strength of St George's remains the people who make up the congregation. We look forward to seeing each and every one of you as we move into this next New Normal! By God's grace we live and worship in this vibrant fall season and count our blessings.

Wardens: Greg Butler, Catherine Carlson, John Dale, Tim Goodison; Senator: Jim Fox



John- Summer Livestream Team

Parish Profile

Fall Advertising Campaign



Fall Advertising Campaign



Coffee Hour Hosts - Cheryl & Jim



August Coffee Hour



August Parish Council



Coffee Hour Outside