



SPRING
2022

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

THE DRAGON FLYER

this issue

St George's Celebrates Its Clergy
Wardens' Message
Getting to Know You
Parish Life



THIS IS A SIGN
of Hope & Peace

PLAN TO CELEBRATE WITH US

Palm Sunday, April 10
8:15 am | 10:00 am

Wednesday, April 13
10:00 am

Holy Saturday
8:00 pm

Monday, April 11
7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday
7:00 pm

Easter Sunday
8:15 am | 10:00 am

Tuesday, April 12
7:00 pm

Good Friday
10:00 am



**ST. GEORGE'S
OF FOREST HILL
ANGLICAN CHURCH**

321 Fischer-Hallman Rd, Kitchener, ON stgeorgesofforesthill.com



Andrew's Baptism



Holy Baptism



Taya, Receive the Light of Christ



Blessings of Baptism



*Social Justice- Dream Catcher Bursaries
- John, Catherine & Rev Rosalyn Elms*



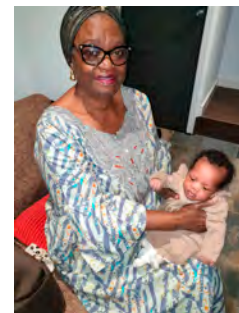
*Rob & the Choir Prepare our
Easter Music*

Milestones for Funke Talabi

Funke has joyfully welcomed two beautiful grandbabies into her family this year and travelled to spend time with each. Not only can she count those births as blessings, but in her hometown of Lagos, Nigeria, she was honored on Mothering Sunday for her creation of an Outreach project. Two years ago, she suggested to the women in her parish of The Resurrection in Victoria Island, that they might begin a Food Kitchen to meet the needs of the poor and hungry in their community. Her inspiration came from St George's connection with St John's Kitchen here in Kitchener! This initiative in Nigeria not only fed the people in her community, but also grew the congregation with new members. It is interesting how seeds are planted and harvested. We celebrate Funke as her parish honors her. May we remember we are all the hands and feet of Christ in this world.



Funke's 1st Grandbaby



Another Grandbaby for Funke

Wardens' Message

Sometimes it takes hard decisions to bring life under control and redefine our priorities, focusing on our Father's blessings and letting everything else shift. After two years of the impact of Covid on our faith family, we are joyfully sharing the good news of our Risen Christ. By Palm Sunday, the Bishop has given us permission to remove the bits of red and green tape from the ends of the pews in the Sanctuary and begin to worship at full capacity as we did before a pandemic changed the world. We will still need to wear our masks at all times in worship, but we are no longer required to maintain two metres between social bubbles. In saying that, please, be assured we have planned for areas in the church where if you still need that distance to feel comfortable in worship, you will be happily accommodated! Our choir returns to lead us in song, masked but visible. The length of our services can now increase. Livestream continues on Wednesday and Sunday mornings. All familiar! All most welcomed!

We may also have some time for fellowship for twenty minutes following service. While we cannot eat or drink within the building, we are making plans for coffee outside in our green spaces and parking lots. If the snow ever entirely leaves, this will be welcomed! We want to remind the men in the parish that the monthly Men's Breakfasts has started up again and the Atmosphere Committee which organizes events for fellowship is now planning for the spring! Signs we are moving into a New Normal, with Old Roots and Traditions....

There is so much to celebrate as the Lenten Season concludes and Easter joyfully arrives!! We cannot collectively forget to give each and every one of you thanks for your continued financial support of the parish buildings and our operations. It is so hard to plan for what we have never have experienced previously! Our Outreach Committee is to be

congratulated for the wide range of initiatives at Winston Park for residents to have new nighties and body wash and blankets, etc. We have fed the clients at St. John's Kitchen to mark an Easter Dinner. (Certainly we keep our fingers crossed that next Easter we will see folks from St George's in the kitchen preparing and dishing out a meal to those who regularly attend St John's.) In late June and through the summer we hope to be able to return to scooping ice cream—complete with toppings!!—on Fridays at St John's Kitchen.

Our Social Justice Committee has continued with its plans to mark the peace and reconciliation process with our First Nations youth in Brantford by supporting four \$500 bursaries for First nations' Youth who will move to post-secondary institutions. We give God thanks for our partnership with Rev Rosalyn Elms in this endeavor. Stay tuned for updates on that front.

Our Atmosphere Committee has begun to plan for Social events that will allow us fellowship and fun while we share our deep faith. Let us fully welcome those new people who are looking for a place to share their faith experience. All special events outside of the worship service let us converse and get to know one another fully. Get ready to mark your calendars and invite your family and friends to participate. One thing we have never forgotten at St George's is how to laugh and how to love one another!

Gratitude comes from having the right perspective. It is being able to look at what we have and be thankful for that, rather than longing for what we cannot control and no longer have. We give God thanks for always providing us direction and a way when we are willing to work together. We feel incredible gratitude as wardens in this Faith Family of St George's. Remember, it is the Lord who is in control. Remember His goodness in the past and celebrate his closeness in the present. Remember His power for our future.

From the mouths of Babes

JACK (age 3) was watching his mom breast-feeding his new baby sister... After a while he asked: 'Mom why have you got two? Is one for hot and one for cold milk?'

STEVEN (age 3) hugged and kissed his mom good night. 'I love you so much that when you die I'm going to bury you outside my bedroom window.'

SUSAN (age 4) was drinking juice when she got the hiccups. 'Please don't give me this juice again,' she said, 'It makes my teeth cough.'

DJ (age 4) stepped onto the bathroom scale and asked: 'How much do I cost?'

CLINTON (age 5) was in his bedroom looking worried when his mom asked what was troubling him, he replied, 'I don't know what'll happen with this bed when I get married. How will my wife fit in it?'

MARC (age 4) was engrossed in a young couple that were hugging and kissing in a restaurant. Without taking his eyes off them, he asked his dad: 'Why is he whispering in her mouth?'

TAMMY (age 4) was with her mother when they met an elderly, rather wrinkled woman her mom knew. Tammy looked at her for a while and then asked, 'Why doesn't your skin fit your face?'



FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

I would like to share with you a **Prayer For Inner Peace** that I read in a small book entitled: "Celtic Prayers & Revelations". I

wonder if most of us have been feeling a bit like this during these past two years of the pandemic.

Longing for Quiet

God of harmony and order, I feel frustrated and in a muddle.

Everything seems to have gone wrong today, despite my best efforts to stay calm,

I am edgy and irritated by things beyond my control.

Give me a vision of a quiet place—

A green meadow with a creek burbling through it, where I can be still and feel your

Waves of refreshment wash over me.

Amen!

Rev. Deacon MaryLynn

NEW EVERY MORNING

is the love our wakening and uprising prove; through sleep and darkness safely brought, restored to life and power and thought.

Hymn CP 7 by John Keble

It's Easter. So what's new? I'm inquiring about your faith. Are you stronger, have you learned some precious truth, are you managing better, are you closer to Christ, are you loving life more? The tragedy of the modern Church is that many of our people have become "Cultural Christians" - non believers who enjoy "churchy stuff" but don't take it all that seriously. The resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ commands attention and renewal of our commitment to Him as Lord. Not some frivolous activity that makes us feel good, but a celebration of our redemption, the victory in life and over death.

I've been learning about death rituals and practices of major religions and I was saddened to learn that other religions are joyful with the expectation of new life. I say saddened, because we Christian folk seem to be plagued and burdened with all kinds of fears and anxieties.

What is it we really believe? What does it mean to live the life in this generation? What is it that we celebrate and is there something new? I believe there is. I hope you believe that too.

Jesus Christ is risen. Jesus Christ is risen indeed. ALLELUIA!





Easter.... In the blink of an eye God chose to embrace the world in love. He did this by sending Jesus Christ into the world to offer a message of love and forgiveness. Our world changed forever when we received the Son of God. Everything

became new. The biblical evidence is found in the Gospel of John 3:16. "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." This message is also echoed in 1 Timothy 1:15. "This is a true saying, and worth of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

Answers... The world had spent hundreds of years searching for answers about the meaning and purpose of life. There had been a tumultuous relationship between God and humanity as God consistently invited people into healthy relationships based on faith and obedience. And yet, up until now, it was clear that people struggled profoundly with their egos and often made unhealthy decisions, damaging relationships, and disappointing the God of the universe. Jesus Christ became the answer to the questions: Who are we? Where are we going? How do we get there? Who is in charge? The invitation is stated clearly in the Gospel of Matthew 11:28: "Come unto me all that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you."

Salvation.... Jesus Christ brought the message of salvation. It is a message of love, compassion, clemency, and concern for all humanity. The message is quite simple: people everywhere need to ask for forgiveness for their mistakes. God's response is to forgive. This allows humanity a new beginning with new opportunities to live life to its fullest without a constant sense of regret and remorse about the past. Salvation is the assurance that we accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We return God's embrace of us, with our embrace of Christ believing that He is truly the Son of God, the Messiah of the world. This message is also stated in 1 John 2:1-2: "If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the

righteous; and He is the propitiation for our sins."

Trust.... So much scripture is about how can we learn to trust God through Jesus Christ. This may be one of the most difficult things that human beings try to do. Many experiences in our lives have taught us to not trust others. What makes it more complicated is that we can see the people around us, but we cannot see Jesus. We tend to function so much on our senses that it is difficult to trust someone when we cannot see them. Notwithstanding, we can see the cause and effect of Jesus in the world around us. We can see how forgiveness, mercy, and clemency, have changed people's lives giving them a fresh start, a clean slate, and a new beginning. We are invited to trust God and believe that as He has responded to our needs in the past, He will respond to our needs in the future.

Empathy.... You and I are encouraged to have empathy for a broken and shattered world. We are to be intentionally concerned about issues of social justice, war, and abuse of others. We are encouraged to step up and speak when we believe that the events and activities around us would not be approved by Christ. We need to be a voice for justice... For peace... For hope... And for love.

Resurrection.... The resurrection is the answer to life's most complicated questions. God provided Jesus Christ as Lord and Messiah for all humanity. But without the resurrection, Jesus would have simply been an extraordinary communicator and phenomenal healer. It is in the Resurrection, and therefore the celebration of Easter, that Jesus is identified as the eternal Son of God. Not even death could stop Him from fulfilling His purpose. As the Savior of the world God allowed His death but with an intentional plan in mind to raise Him from the dead. This promise extends to our experience for it is absolutely true that when we are done with our human bodies, and when life has ended on earth, we will rest in peace and rise in glory in the presence of God. I invite you to read the Resurrection story during Holy Week this year (John 20:1-30).

May God bless you and those you love this Easter.

Yours in Christ,

The Reverend Doctor Stephen Hendry

Pastor and Priest