

Summer Dragon Flyer, St George's of Forest Hill

Wardens' Summer Message

As we are now officially in our summer, we are all celebrating this season of "transition". Not only are we saying hello to summer, but we are also bidding good-bye to lockdowns and social protocols imposed by two plus years of Covid. It is with enormous relief we can begin to see people return to weekly worship services and events we previously held to mark life at St George's. This could not happen without the co-ordination of our spiritual leadership team: Fr Stephen, Rev. MaryLynn and Fr Craig. Our choir, under Rob and John's guidance, has not only led us in song, but helped us lift our voices and spirits with familiar songs of praise. We give special thanks to those committees within the church who offer us coffee, food and fellowship—and laughter!!

We are blessed to be associated with such a generous giving community who support such initiatives as the Innisfree Hospice, Winston Park, St John's Kitchen, PWRDF, The Deanery Refugee Committee, Dreamcatcher Bursaries for First Nations Mohawk Youth, to name just a handful of our outreach and initiatives. Your unwavering contribution to weekly givings allows us to plan and move into the summer with confidence. We offer our humble thanks.

We are rejoicing in our Year End Indoor Picnic which wrapped up Sunday School and eased us into the traditional Wednesday worship in the chapel and single Sunday services of the summer. We are grateful to our videography team that works diligently and tirelessly to allow folks to worship with us via Livestream whether they are in the KW community, in cottage country or connecting internationally. We look forward to our start-up barbeque in September and a full Dragon Flyer issue with news bytes from all of our committees and dates that should be set aside for fellowship, fund-raising and expanded worship opportunities. Over the coming months, stay tuned for e-blasts which will remind you of initiatives or upcoming events throughout July and August.

It is our prayer that each and every one of our members enjoys a summer to both appreciate life's blessings and remind us of all we have to give thanks for. Stay connected with us through Facebook, TikTok and Livestream. May your travels be joyful and your worries be few!

Greg Butler, Catherine Carlson, Tim Goodison, Ann-Marie Shaw

From the Deacon's Bench

Happy Summer Time!!! This year we can enjoy the company of our families and friends either wearing masks or not---we have a choice. We are going to one service for July and August, and being on holidays doesn't mean we need to take a vacation from God, as God never takes a vacation from us. Remember to acknowledge God's amazing creation when outdoors. Talk to God wherever you have a moment as prayer does not need to be structured. Look for the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit wherever you may be. Enjoy your summer!
Deacon MaryLynn

Let us do good to everyone...

There have been times in my life that good people have done good things for me where there was no way I could repay them. Have you had a similar experience? Perhaps you were the one who was doing the good deed that was more than appreciated. Professional people don't accept gifts for services rendered - but are encouraged when people say thank you in a manner that comes from the heart. But maybe...there is something more we can do than just saying thank you. We could give a cash donation to a person's favoured charity. Do something tangible to assist someone who is struggling in life by making a cash gift. There could be a good deed needed to be accomplished that has your name on it. *But there is a stipulation.* No one must know that it was you. If you are giving a cash donation of some kind - you don't ask for a receipt. If you are giving a gift - you don't ask for recognition and you don't get a thank you card.

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. *Galatians 6:10*



By God's grace you know where I will be as much as possible? My prayer for you is to have a wonderful, refreshing and safe summer too.

Red Pine Lake Haliburton



Are You a Good Samaritan to Your Neighbours? (Luke 10:25-37)

I think that the Good Samaritan story is about extravagant generosity, unbelievable compassion and quite simply restores our faith in humanity. This story contains a transformational message beyond common social norms and leads us to consider what our responsibility to our neighbours may be. The story itself seems quite simple. It begins with an unexpected event when someone is wandering in a dangerous part of town resulting in him getting robbed, mugged and beaten. Our storyteller, Jesus Christ, has a priest and a Levite pass by the gruesome scene. It is a Samaritan who chooses to take the enormous risk of stopping to help a neighbour. He not only bandages his wounds but takes him to a place where he can heal and rest. In this extraordinary story the Samaritan even agrees to pay any extra expenses that his wounded neighbour may incur. Hadn't he already done enough? Indeed, hadn't he already done more than enough? Clearly the story is about more than a "casual handout".

We are encouraged to help and support our neighbours. The only way we can really do that successfully is to take the time to get to know them. Perhaps a situation will occur this summer in your neighbourhood where one of your neighbours will need your assistance. Perhaps it's helpful to remember the words from scripture, "Love the Lord your God with all your body, mind and spirit and love your neighbour as yourself."

The summer time can provide an opportunity for us to get to know our neighbours in new ways. Perhaps we arrange a BBQ or a visit to the pool or maybe a simple chat while washing our cars. One theologian talked about the importance of getting to know our neighbours at a transformational level. Herbert O'Driscoll wrote about the Good Samaritan story. He said, "When Jesus makes His central character a Samaritan, He extends the concept of neighbour far beyond the conventional bounds of social acquaintances and traditional lifestyles. Jesus seems to suggest that true neighbourliness is created by reaching beyond these easy and comfortable commonalities."

I remember a story about a husband and wife who had been happily married for 50 years. Every morning they shared breakfast together at the kitchen table. Their morning view was a huge window that looked upon their neighbours. The woman often commented upon the activity in the neighbourhood. Her husband often said, "It's none of your business." One day the woman happened to be looking out the window and watched a small child playing on the edge of an above ground pool. Suddenly the child disappeared. The woman raced to the telephone. She called the police and fire department. Within moments the child was rescued from the pool. Her well-intentioned concern for her neighbours saved the child's life.

May we all be well-intentioned prayerful neighbours this summertime.

Blessings,
Stephen

Coming Events



Fall Gathering Sunday

Sunday, September 18
Following the 10am service
Everyone welcome
Bring your family
Rain or shine



Newcomers Gathering

Wine and Cheese event
Where: Parish Hall
When: October 29, 2022
This is a gathering of Newcomers to the Parish