



FALL
2022

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

www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com

THE DRAGON FLYER



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Marg, Austin, John Ryrie at Coffee Hour



St Georges Billboard- Spreading the Good Word



CCC First in-person Event



Baker Quilt Christmas Bazaar Raffle - Nov 19



Lay Readers Receive their Licence - Joyce, John, Allan & Catherine

Milestones



*Canon Chris Pratt with
GG Mary Simon in Ottawa*



*Abigail Matheson & Lillian
Presenting her Quillow*



Rob, Sandra & Nathaniel Asmizes



*Marjorie Celebrates
her birthday*

Wardens' Message

Brothers and Sisters of St. George's, welcome to the fall Dragon Flyer message from the Wardens. As we look to write this message, we have to stand still a moment and reflect on where we are now, where we were just six months ago and the stark contrast of our society and in a lot of ways, the mental health of everyone. Looking back, we were going into year 2 of on and off again lockdowns, the never-ending mandate of masking in public, social distancing, hand sanitizing, a lack of physical contact and so on. You could see on people's faces (and more specifically in their eyes), the fatigue of what we had continued to be put through. Jump ahead to the first few services after the restrictions being lifted, you could see people slowly coming out of the isolation shell. People who were comfortable, removed their face coverings. We could read each-others expressions again. We could start to get close to one another; be it sitting in the pews, lining up for communion, exchanging of the peace (physically) or even meeting indoors to enjoy the first coffee hour in a long time. Fast forward to our combined services throughout the summer, you can really feel the connection to everyone again. There is life in the building and in the parish once again!

It must go without saying that our social media outreaches (be it Live Streaming, the website, Facebook, TikTok and so on) have been the life blood of keeping us alive and continuing to support everyone throughout the lockdown (and even into the new normal for today). We would like to continue to thank everyone who's been a part of those ministries over the years for their contributions. Without you, St. George's would have been struggling to find a way to continue to share God's word, to continue to share in the message of hope and continuing to share a message of love in a dark time. Another shoutout needs to happen to those involved in the Ice Cream outreach at St. John's Kitchen. During announcements at the end of the

services, it has been such a pleasure hearing about how this ministry impacts the community and drives home messages of what such a simple gesture can do to change the lives of everyone involved. Thank you to all those who help donate (time, money and energy) and make this possible

As we look ahead to some of the upcoming activities, the CCC (Children's Community Closet) is hosting its first event in more than two years. At time of write, the event has not taken place yet, but give the success of past years event and the need in the community, we know that this will be a big hit and it will be helping out countless families who are in need of these services. We also would like to thank our Coffee Hour and Bagel Sunday initiatives. They (as mentioned above) are helping us all return to the new normal and helping us all to reconnect to the one's that we've so missed. Looking ahead slightly into the month of September, we have many things to look forward to; the start up barbeque, a return of children into the worship space, Sunday school, the youth groups, and so on.

As we head back into our 8:15 and 10 AM services, remember to be kind and loving towards one another. Continue to help support your Brothers and Sisters as we continue to transition to the new normal. If people need to continue to wear masks or ask for space, please respect their wishes. For some, it may just take time or this is the new normal for them and that's OK!

We wish you all a safe and happy remainder of the summer. We look forward to having you back with us in the fall. Come energized, come hungry and come prepared to help St. George's continue to grow and flourish into the coming years!

Sincerely yours,

The Wardens (Greg Butler, Catherine Carlson, Tim Goodison, Ann-Marie Shaw)

Parish Life



*Thanks Tim!
Summer
Livestream*



*Adriana & Adam-
Junior Youth Leaders*



*Summer Ice Cream
Outreach*



*Setting up for the
Children's Community
Closet*



*St George's Welcomes
Seminary Students*



*Bagel Sunday- Back by
Popular Demand!*



FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

I hope your summer was relaxing, rest-filled and rejuvenating!! I had the pleasure of filling in at St. Columba Church in Waterloo for two weeks and St. George's, New Hamburg for one week where I provided Morning Prayer and the sermon. I was well received and enjoyed both of those experiences. I covered some vacation time at St Mary's Hospital this summer two days a week. I was covering the cardiac units and all the ICU units. During this time I heard many stories, saw many tears and prayed many prayers. I was with families while they removed life support, held many hands and gave much needed hugs--being masked at all times. I heard from one person who had a heart attack that they saw "Death's Door" and were scared. Another person saw Angels about twenty minutes before they died and was ready to walk with the angels.

One thing I learned this summer is that there is nothing needed more, nor nothing more Christ-like than being able to provide a listening ear, a gentle touch, a loving smile or comforting words that show the love and compassion that God provides us with. Life is too short; let us be kind to one another and lift each other up. Peace to All!

Rev. Deacon MaryLynn

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING



It's been sometime since I've prayed for myself. [God already knows my needs. Matthew 6:8. and the Holy Spirit intercedes for me. Romans 8:26] I don't pray for causes, issues, cures, the demise of individuals, political parties, institutions, or the success of anything, anyone or any initiative. The Daily Office is more than enough to meet those needs. So as a Religious what do I primarily pray about? I focus on people individually, preferably by name. I am particularly interested in the marginalized, people in danger and those dealing with difficult individuals, and "all sorts and conditions of people", especially those who have been brutalized, or crushed by life's experience. I remember children and youth. I pray for the dead and continue to be a member of the *Guild of All Souls. I regularly pray for trees, flowers, water, animals and the environment as a whole. [We know that all creation is still groaning and is in pain. Romans 8:22] I express thanks as often as I can and I praise God constantly for his love and mercy and for the people who care for me. I petition the Lord to return soon. [Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! Revelation 22:20] And I wait...for the celebration of life in Christ.

I hope that you have had an opportunity to refresh, relax, and rejuvenate this summer. Blessings!




Parish Life



As the summer comes to an end, it has been a time of intentional rest and reflection. While floating in a boat on Lake Kegawong off Manitoulin Island in early August, I was thinking about the majesty of God's creation, including the

beautiful blue water and the brilliant sunshine. I was mesmerized by the incredible tree line on the nearby shore with large rock formations that are thousands of years old. As I was being rocked by the gentle waves waiting for the fish to decide that my lure was irresistible I came to the conclusion that I could stay out there for days. Later in the summer I was biking on the shoreline of Turkey Point again mesmerized by the water and so grateful for God's creation. Most recently while fishing near Amherstburg Ontario, I experienced a breathtaking sunset reminding yet again of the splendor and beauty of God's creation. All these experiences reaffirm for me our responsibility to care for God's creation so that it may be shared with generations to come. I hope that you have had a summer filled with warm sunshine and starlit nights. I pray that you joined me in times of intentional rest and reflection so that you too may be

re-energized for the season that will soon be upon us.

Some of us are able to develop a delicate balance for a healthy body, mind and spirit during the summer season. It tends to be a time for sleep, healthy meals and a focus on our spiritual vitality. My prayer for you is that all of that will continue as you reengage your busy life this Fall season. I acknowledge that it is a delicate and sacred balance to remain focused on healthy minds, bodies and spiritual formation. May the pleasant experiences of your summer form into new habits that contribute to a fresh start for the fall season.

I pray that this letter finds you in good health and that you are ready to re-engage in the very active ministry at St George's of Forest Hill. We have some amazing preliminary plans for the Fall season. This newsletter may well provide you with plenty of information about the events and activities that are forthcoming.

Lastly, I have spent considerable time gazing into a bonfire or eyes lifted into the dark starlit sky thinking of the benefits of Psalm 46:10. These words continue to remind me of our need to "be still and know that I am God". May your Fall season be blessed with many moments of quiet stillness that remind you of the God that loves you for who you are and invites you to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

*Yours in Christ
Stephen*

Mark These Dates in your Calendars!

Sept 11 - 2 services: 8:15 & 10:00 – Sunday School Registration

Sept 13 - Worship Committee – 7:30

Sept 17 - Men's Breakfast – 9:00 @ Kypreos

Sept 18 - Gathering Sunday & Baptism – BBQ after 10:00

Sept 20 - Book Club

Sept 25 - Evensong Service – 7:00pm

Oct 15 - Men's Breakfast – 9:00

Oct 22 - Fall Retreat – 9:00 - noon

Oct 29 - New members Gathering – 7:00

Nov 19 - Christmas Bazar

Stay Tuned!! Our Social Committee is looking at the Survey Monkey Results and planning Events for Fun & Fellowship



New Deck at the Rectory!

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