



FALL
2026

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

THE DRAGON FLYER



this issue

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My brothers, sisters, and siblings in Christ,

No matter how old I get, September always feels like the start of something new. Whether you are an elementary school student or have been out of school for decades, each September still brings a sense of new possibilities, of new adventures, and new relationships.

This September is indeed a new chapter for St. George's. It is a time of discovery, getting to know new people. It's a time of reflection, looking at where we've come from. It's a time to remember that God is in our midst, Emmanuel – 'God with us', as we start down a new path together as the Body of Christ.

In what is my first opportunity to write to you, I want to express my sincere thanks to you all for the warm welcome you have offered me and my family as we have arrived at St. George's. With each greeting, each friendly question, each supportive offer or gesture, even if it was to simply remind me of your name, you have shown us such wonderful hospitality.

Thank you!

I look forward to hearing your stories - what has brought you to St. George's, what has been your experience of faith in Christ, and what the story of St. George's has been as we live into the next chapter now unfolding. Similarly, I look forward to sharing my story with you.

As we begin this new season, I would invite us to open our hearts, eyes, and ears to God's leading. What do we see in our parish neighbourhood? What are we hearing around us and from one another? What are we discerning, together, that God is calling us toward?

Rather than assuming that we already know exactly where the path will lead, might we be attentive to one another and attentive to the Holy Spirit's direction? There will be joys to celebrate, challenges to face, griefs to console, and undoubtedly surprises along the way.

Through it all, our calling as disciples of Christ remains the same: to love God, to love all our neighbours, and to share the good news of Christ in word and deed.

May God bless you all as we begin this pilgrimage of faith. I look forward to all we will witness, together.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Brendon Bedford
Rector



Getting to Know You

Murray Gamble – Receives the 2026 Engineers Canada Meritorious Service Award in Calgary, May 21, 2026



Murray Gamble, (BASc '85) P. Eng, Chair of the University of Waterloo Board of Governors and President of the C3 Group of companies, has been selected as the recipient of the 2026....The award, presented annually by Engineers Canada the national association of Canada's engineering regulatory bodies recognizes outstanding Canadian engineers for their contributions to their profession, their community and the safety and well being of Canadians.

“Receiving this award is an honour and highlight of my career. I have been fortunate to work with many great organizations and so many remarkable people over the years. I am grateful to all those who were involved in my nomination.”

What distinguishes Murray's four decades of community involvement isn't the breadth of his commitments, it's the quality of them. He is known for taking on roles where the stakes are real, asking the hard questions early and remaining engaged long after others have moved on.

The quality of sustained commitment is perhaps best illustrated through his relationship with Waterloo alum Matt Rendall, co-founder of Clearpath Robotics and OTTO Motors. Gamble first met Rendall in 2008, when Rendall was a student at Waterloo's Master of business Entrepreneurship and Technology (MBET) programme and Clearpath was little more than an idea. Gamble joined an early mock board of directors, became one of the company's first angel investors in 2010, and remained on its official board through to its acquisition in 2013. Fifteen years of involvement across every stage of the company's growth! Clearpath is one of more than 20 early-stage companies that Gamble has supported in this way across the region over his career.

The same instinct carries through Gamble's work well beyond the startup world. During a twelve-year tenure with the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, he launched the Adopt an Artwork programme and backed early-stage pilot projects, including Walk the Talk Tours and an Education hub that the Gallery said could not have moved forward without his support. He has held Governance roles with Centre in the Square and THEMUSEUM, contributed to newcomer integration through the Immigration Partnership Council, and helped found the Waterloo Economic Development Corporation where he is past chair.

Gamble has served on the University of Waterloo Board of Governors since 2021 and has chaired the Board since 2023. He also contributes to the Faculty of Engineering's Dean Advisory Council and previously helped found and chair the Board of Advisors for the MBET programme. Both Gamble and the C3 Group of companies have generously supported the University through gifts for scholarships, athletic awards and entrepreneurial resources.

“Murray exemplifies the kind of thoughtful, long-term leadership our communities depend on,” said Dr Vivek Goel, president and vice-chancellor. “He brings sharp judgment, genuine curiosity and a deep commitment to building stronger institutions across this region. We are fortunate to have him as part of the University of Waterloo community. This recognition reflects the lasting impact of his contributions.”

Murray Gamble's Engineers Canada recognition follows earlier honours including the Waterloo Region Record's Barnraiser Award (2013) and the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce's Michael Follett Community Leader of the Year (2017).

Wardens' Message

May the Lord Bless Thee and Keep thee and make His Face Shine Upon Thee...

In our last message to you, we were thinking about rest, rejuvenation, and reinvention. Well, summer has come and gone – perhaps too quickly for most of us! And we hope that you are rested and rejuvenated as we have an exciting fall ahead of us!

We bid a fond farewell to Rev Sharla on August 30th with a potluck luncheon and presentation ceremony. We are very grateful for her time here when she brought us much healing and renewed joy! We wish her and Rev Paul all of God's blessings in the future.

Rev Brendon Bedford and his family (Ashley, Lillian and Roy) have weathered the move from Meaford and are established in our Rectory! It has been quite a journey for them, and we hope the rectory and St George's now feels like “home”.

The Property Committee and several outside contractors have invested many hours in revitalizing the Rectory as it needed an overhaul. Our budget was \$20-\$25K and we were able to stay within it!

Fr. Brendon celebrated his first Services with us on September 6th. We formally welcomed them to our Parish at our Back-to-Church BBQ the following Sunday after the 10 am Service.

Over the Summer, we enjoyed:

- Worshipping at our single, combined Services at 9 am on Sunday mornings alternating between BAS and BCP
- And we were very grateful for the enormous work by the “de Kluttering Krew”!

This Fall will see the following:

- **Regular Programming:** We are now back to 8:15 am BCP and 10:00 am BAS Services with the startup of our regular fall/winter/spring programming.
- **Stewardship:** Start of a new diocesan-wide Stewardship Initiative
- **Sunday School:** during the 10 am Service. Additional teacher volunteers are warmly welcomed.
- **All Church Committees:** New volunteers are most welcome!
- **Choir:** Sr Choir rehearsals have restarted: Thursday at 7 pm. Newcomers are welcome!
- **Church rentals:** Outside groups such as the Teachers' Choir, Soul Sauce, Art Class, Sparks & Scouts etc. have restarted.
- **Children's Community Closet:** Please prepare for the CCC giveaway of fall and winter clothing to be held on Saturday October 24th. (See the Outreach News Bytes for more info.)
- **Completion of Phase 3 of our Accessibility Project:** New concrete sidewalks/thresholds at our front entrance and our north entrance to Thompson Hall will occur. Lastly, our rear entrance stairs will be refurbished! Huge thanks to all who have contributed monetarily to the last phase of our Accessibility Project.
- **Special Vestry October 18:** Cindy Kellett and her husband, Ross, are moving to North Bay soon.

Sincere thanks for all the work that she has contributed to St. George's and most sincere prayers for success up north!

- **Replacement of our St. George's Sign:** We are getting a new and larger sign above the rear entrance/stairs.
- **St. Andrew's Cupboard:** Every week you provide so many needed items to the less fortunate in the community! You are the hands and feet of Christ in our community!
- **Ice Cream – St. John's Kitchen:** Many thanks for your support of our Ice Cream Ministry throughout the summer
- **Our Christmas Market is Coming Soon:** Mark your calendars for November 14. Please, consider

Continued on next page....

Shirley Mennel – Winner of the Township of Wilmot 2026 Senior Citizen of the Year Award

For decades, Shirley has given her time to causes that support health and wellness and community care. Her volunteer work includes serving with the Wilmot & Wellesley Resource Centre food bank and supportive outpatient chemotherapy care at the Grand River Regional Cancer Centre for more than 20 years!. Shirley has also contributed to the Great Ride & Stride for Cancer and has volunteered with the Children's Wish/Make-A-Wish for more than 30 years. More recently, Shirley began helping with the Blood Donor Clinic at Steinman Church in Baden. Her many years of service reflect a steady commitment to improving the lives of other and strengthening the community around her. Your parish family of St George's also wishes to give you a standing ovation and round of applause for all aspects of your ministry!!



Shirley

making a few extra jars of canning and jams that you can donate. Hold on to your books after you have read them as you know the book room is popular. Start collecting bottles for the bottle pull and consider baking treats for the Bake Tables.

- **FaceBook:** people love pictures and Good News celebrations of births, marriages, baptisms, birthdays, vacations, etc. So, take a moment and send us some photos to share with our parish family!!
- **Book Club:** Meets monthly on second Tuesday at 1:00 pm in the Fireside room.
- **Bible Study:** Meets every Thursday at 1:30 pm in the Fireside room. Consider joining us!

May the Lord Lift up His Countenance Upon Thee and Give Thee and Give Thee Peace...

Your Wardens: Deb Zanon-Barclay, Catherine Carlson, Nelson Cuthbert, Cindy Kellett



Summer Coffee Hour with Old Friends



Sewing Cancer Turbans



George, Catherine, Fr Brendon, Nelson Welcome!



Fr Brendon and his family- June 26



Murray & Ray- Welcome Back BBQ



Susan & Anne

Parish Profile

OUTREACH OCTOBER NEWS BYTES

St. George's Outreach – a community working together to do God's work

- Collaborate to lead initiatives supporting those in need in our community
- Aid to KW agencies
- Reaching those in need in the world around us
- Environment of caring

Your Outreach Committee has been very busy over the past few months. Thank you all so much for your caring and generous support. We have been able to accomplish together amazing things in support of others in our community and beyond.

ST. ANDREW'S CUPBOARD

Over the past couple of years, St. Georges has been helping support the St. Andrew's Cupboard! Through your generous weekly donations, we can help so many less fortunate individuals and families. The cupboard is only open 3 days a week and it is by appointment only. It is very well organized so everyone on their list gets a chance to come in once a month to pick out needed items with limits on how much can be taken. The many volunteers are there to keep things running smoothly! It is estimated there will be 500+ visits in 2026 and there were 450 last year. There are currently eighty clients on the active list and sometimes they get emergency requests as well. None of this would be possible without the amazing support of our St. Georges congregation!

THANK-YOU FOR YOUR CARING AND SHARING

INNISFREE

Every year in June, the Outreach Committee collects most needed items to help support Innisfree Hospice. This year our wonderful parishioners have come through again and we were able to deliver a significant quantity of food items needed at Innisfree. These items are to help the chef at Innisfree in making wholesome soups and baked goods for the patients and families visiting their loved ones! They do such a wonderful service for families going through such challenging times! They are so appreciative of everything we can supply to help support them. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!

ST. JOHN'S KITCHEN

WALK A MILE IN MY SHOES PROGRAM

Thanks to all of you who so generously donated many items to St. John's Kitchen Shoes Program in support of those experiencing homelessness. Since June, we have been able to donate to St. John's Kitchen an additional twenty-six pairs of shoes.

These donations have made a significant difference in the lives of many; thank you so very much!!!

ICE CREAM

Once again, this year our volunteers served thirty-four tubs of ice cream along with syrup and toppings to the clients of St. John's Kitchen. They appreciated it very much. Thanks to John Ryrie and Catherine Carlson for leading the team, for the many volunteers from St. George's that helped serve the ice cream as well as the parishioners who donated to this great event.

GROCERY VOUCHERS

Did you know that by purchasing grocery vouchers/gift cards each Sunday, you will be supporting our Church financially? If you purchase a grocery voucher, roughly 4 per cent of the face value of the card is kept by our parish. It is a simple, easy and painless way to support St. George's, so please consider buying the vouchers in the Narthex each Sunday. Charlotte and Wendy will be very pleased to look after you. Thanks for your support!!!!

Parish Life

Ice Cream Outreach:

By the end of summer we had served up 34 large tubs of ice cream plus oodles of syrups, peanuts, jelly dots and laughter to the folks at St John's Kitchen. Thanks to the generosity of those who contributed funds-- \$1258.15 worth-- to see this happen! And special thanks to those who scooped, squirted and sprinkled every Friday: Alf & Roberta Butler, Catherine Carlson, Elizabeth Ceres, Kathy Glaser, Ivan Mariapen, Brent Matheson, Jan Melega, John Ryrie and Dominique Van Gent.



Serving the weekly Fri. scooping



Buffet- Sept PC BBQ



CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY CLOSET

We will be hosting another CCC event on the morning of Saturday, October 24th where we donate gently used children's clothing and used children's toys to members of our community. If you have some items to donate, please bring them into the church and place them in the bin marked CCC in the Narthex.

Set-up for this event in Thompson Hall will begin on Thursday, October 22nd at 6pm. Volunteers are needed to fold and sort the clothes and toys. If you can help or have any questions, please contact Debra Zanon-Barclay.

The Outreach Committee

Thank you for your continuing support! Your generosity has been amazing!! ☺

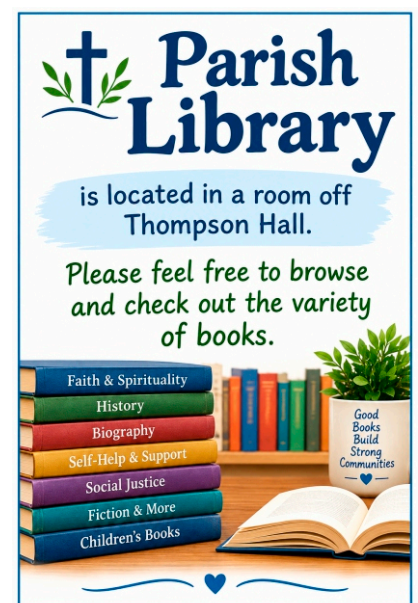
Just a reminder, new members are always welcome. If you would like to get involved in Outreach, please contact Heather Murphy (519-998-4975) or Dianne McCandless (519-807-9205).



Welcome for BBQ - Fr Brendon & Family



Rev Sharla Blesses Vesta's Prayer Quilt



Parish Life

Greetings from the de Kluttering Krew

We have finished the major part of de cluttering the church building and, surprisingly, have not had to dispose of too much.

For your future information we would like to point out where we have stored supplies etc.

- All kitchen supplies and food related event supplies are now situated in the three cupboards in the downstairs hallway, (opposite the toilet doors). Current supplies are in the kitchen.
- All seasonal decorations and supplies are in the “Grotto” – the area under the old staircase – this includes Christmas Market supplies. Christmas trees, though, are in the closet in the Fireside room.
- The bookcase in the Fireside room contains photo albums of our church history and a number of bibles. If you or someone you know needs a bible please feel free to take one home with you.
- Paint supplies etc. for house decorating, are in the closet adjacent to the Grotto.
- Some office supplies are on the shelves above the paint supplies.
- Church Cleaning supplies are in the white cupboard in the furnace ante room.
- Toilet supplies are in the handicap washroom.
- Tools, light bulbs etc. are stored in the electrical room.
- Supplies that are not currently in use e.g. youth group supplies, advertising supplies, video equipment etc., are stored in the room next to the Fireside room.
- The first room in Thompson Hall is now a dedicated church library. It can also be used as a small meeting room.
- The middle room is the refurbished nursery.
- The third room contains Sunday school supplies.
- Card tables and assorted odd tables are under the “new” staircase.
- White folding tables and chairs are housed in the cupboard in Thompson hall.
- Office supplies and records are stored in the new units under the bulletin board in the narthex and in the grey cupboard in the counter's room.
- Decorations for the large Christmas tree, erected in the Sanctuary, are behind grey drapes next to the chapel, along with two card tables used on a regular basis.
- There are a variety of “odds and ends” that have been stored in the furnace ante room.
- We do have outside groups using our facility. Their supplies have been re-housed and they have been made aware of the fact.



- We have a wheel chair and some walkers stored in the vestibule, (on the parking lot side), that can be borrowed if there is a need. Please feel free to take one and let the office know.

The de Kluttering Krew will continue to work to keep the church tidy but would really appreciate it if, once something has been used, it could be returned to its rightful place. We would also like to point out that we have quantities of various supplies and encourage you to check before anything is purchased.

St. George's is a warm and welcoming building filled with welcoming people. We encourage you to claim it as your own and to take responsibility for keeping it clean and tidy.

Many thanks for all the support we have had on this journey.

Your de Kluttering Krew

Cancer Turbans

The turban group started September 14th with some new members from Maycourt. Although we were missing some of our regular members, we managed to finish 45 turbans that I took to the Cancer Centre. The volunteers that greeted me were excited to receive them. While chatting with the volunteers I was led to believe that we are the only group that is making head coverings for the chemo patients.

If you are looking for something to do on the second Monday of the month, join us in Thompson Hall from 1:00-2:30 pm for friendship, and laughter while doing basic hand sewing for a worthy cause. – Fran Rotherberg

FYI: Can you imagine...this group has been quietly and passionately committed to this ministry for 20 years now??

Milestones



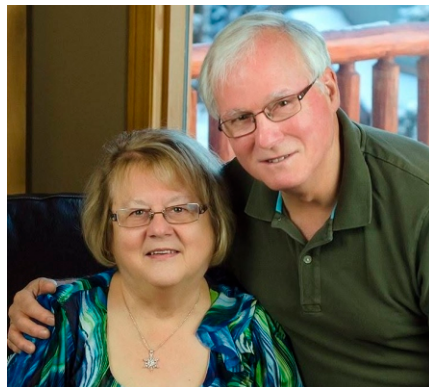
*Sandeep & Prathiba Celebrate
6 Years Married*



Jim & Pauline Celebrate 51 Years!



*Cindy & Ross North Bay's Newest
Residents*



*Celebration of Life for Linda & Mike
Stredwick*



*Rob Thanks Nancy for 5 Decades of Ministry in our
Choir*



*Aiden Barclay Graduates from
Uof W*



Fr Don & Rev Sharla- August 2026