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HURON CHURCH NEWS

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF HURON • Huron Church News is a section of the Anglican Journal • APRIL 2019

What is it like being poor in London

An evening panel and discussion at St. John the Evangelist revealed a dispiriting picture of poverty in London, Ontario, where one in five children live below poverty line. St. John's Outreach Committee continues to stand for the marginalized groups in the area and plans a panel on homelessness for May 1.

By Cory Davies

At least 125 Londoners from all over the city travelled to St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church through snow and cold on February 26 to attend a panel of three speakers addressing poverty in London.

The panelists for "What it's like being poor in London" gathering were: Dr. Don Kerr, professor of sociology at King's University College, Dr. Sharon Koivu, medical specialist in palliative care and substance abuse, and Elizabeth White, former manager at City of London's Social Services.

The speakers pointed in different ways to the complexities of poverty, to the misunderstanding of London as an affluent city (it was in the past and it is not now), and to the misplacing of blame on the poor and jobless.

Dr. Kerr's presentation dispelled the inaccuracies of current published stories of London's unemployment rates and established a direct link between the real numbers and the existence of structural poverty in the city. Dr. Koivu talked about poverty as a social determinant of health in London, while Elizabeth White spoke about her



London is no longer the affluent center it once was: London's MPP Terence Kernaghan during the discussion on February 26.

Photo: Simon Davies

45-year long experience of supporting London's poor.

A dispiriting picture of poverty in London emerged—a picture that all of us often miss. Each panelist spoke for 20 minutes. A discussion followed with questions from an open mic.

Terence Kernaghan, MPP from London North Centre, summarized the evening's issues and urged all of us to realize that London is no longer the affluent centre it once was stating that we need to hope for and work towards a better future for

our citizens.

St. John's Outreach Committee sponsored the event. Its purpose was to make people aware of the needs in London and of how we can communicate these needs to others. In the long term, Outreach hopes these evenings will point to constructive ways to respond to these needs as well. Join us again on May 1 for "What it's like being homeless in London."

Cory Davies is the Outreach Chair at St. John the Evangelist's, London.

Dr. Don Kerr: "Why London's record low unemployment rate is so misleading"

Dr. Kerr's statistics and power point graphs immediately dispelled the inaccuracies of current published stories of London's low unemployment rates. There is structural poverty built into our city now because of loss of industry and many other factors, says Dr. Kerr pointing out that there has been no employment growth to match the city's population growth since 2002. London stands second from the bottom of rankings of Ontario cities in its employment rate and near the top in rankings of social assistance.

Dr. Sharon Koivu: "Breaking the Silence—Poverty as a social determinant of health in London"

Dr. Koivu states that in absolute numbers, London has more overdose deaths than Toronto, and a higher percentage of deaths per capita than Vancouver. She cannot fathom how London can afford a \$2,000,000.00 overpass on Adelaide Street as the City closes 21 beds at Mission Services. Dr. Koivu refers to a recent study in Hamilton which found a 25 year difference in life expectancy between affluent and poor neighbourhoods in the city.

Elizabeth White: "Forty-five years of supporting London's poor"

Elizabeth, a member of St. John's, offered the sad statistic that 1 in 5 of London's children live in poverty, and 1 in 7 (or 4.9 million) people in Canada live in poverty. She argued "that poverty is about lack of resources" both emotional and social. Marginalized, racialized and LGBTQ groups are "hit harder by poverty." Situational (job loss, family breakdown, health problems) and generational poverty are pervasive. Citing Bridges Out of Poverty/Circles as a positive response to poverty (one that has resulted in major savings to Ontario Works), she insisted that people should "continue to learn about poverty, rethink our stereotypes about poverty" and "invest" personally in the community to better understand its complexities.



Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

Our own lives are not necessarily synchronized with the church calendar, writes Bishop Linda noting that "we may be in the depths of grief, struggling with difficult decisions, despairing of a world that will not face the implications of climate change, or any number of challenges that feel hopeless."

How are we to enter the church to a joyous celebration?

The Bishop reminds us of two aspects of Christian life and worship we need to remember:

"The first is that worship is not about how we feel or whether our lives are in a good place. Worship is about God."

"The second is that to arrive at Easter we must enter that joy through Passiontide. We will walk with Jesus into the heart of injustice, pain and death."

So, we enter worship to lift our eyes from the present – whether joy-filled, dull or desperate – to remember, recognize and rejoice.

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

Bishop Linda's message: page 2

**Synchronizing our lives with the church calendar:
God does not stay within the walls of a church building.
He is with us in our everyday lives.
(Ash Wednesday 2019, in front of St. Paul's Cathedral,
downtown London, Ontario)**

Easter, hope, suffering: carry your pain into worship

In a few weeks we will be singing and shouting, "Alleluia, Christ is Risen!"



**BISHOP
LINDA
NICHOLLS**

Our churches will be filled with flowers, rousing hymns and ringing bells as we celebrate the glorious, surprising and joyous realization that nothing is stronger than God's love for us – not even death.

However our own lives are not necessarily synchronized with the church calendar.

We may be in the depths of grief, struggling with difficult decisions, despairing of a world that will not face the implications of climate change, or any number of challenges that feel hopeless. Entering the church to a joyous celebration may not be conceivable. Like the exiles who cried out in Psalm 137 – "How can we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" we wonder, 'how can I praise God when I cannot see or feel any hope?'

This dilemma highlights two aspects of Christian life and worship we need to remember.



The first is that worship is not about how we feel or whether our lives are in a good place. Worship is about God. Worship affirms and celebrates God's presence and activity in the past, present and future. It calls us to remember all that God has done in the past for us and for all people with thanks. It invites us to see God present now in, around and with us. It points us to the promises of the future healing of creation.

We enter worship to lift our eyes from the present – whether joy-filled, dull or desperate

– to remember, recognize and rejoice. We arrive with the burdens of the moment and leave them at the altar while we re-orient ourselves to seeing God's world through God's eyes. It is not about us. It is about God, known to us in Jesus Christ.

The second is that to arrive at Easter we must enter that joy through Passiontide. We will walk with Jesus into the heart of injustice, pain and death. We will see all the frailty of humankind as betrayal, expedience, cruelty, indifference and abuse of power take Jesus from the

acclamations of "Hosanna" to those of "Crucify him!" We will grieve with Mary at the cross and know the hollow despair of the disciples on Holy Saturday when time is suspended between death and an unknown future. We bring all of our personal struggles and those of the world on this journey. Our suffering is reflected in the suffering of Christ.

We may not yet be ready for Easter. We may not be ready to shout, 'Alleluia!'. Yet, in the very act of the journey of the Passion and shouting our praise when we don't feel ready, in the act of acclaiming the power of God past, present and future, our hearts find new courage and a deepening hope that despite all evidence to the contrary in our life in that moment, God is alive, present and active. Courage and hope are reborn in the act of worship, celebration and praise.

So no matter how deep your pain or suffering, carry it into worship through Holy Week to Easter. Lay it at the foot of the cross on Good Friday. Sit with the disciples on Holy Saturday in numb, dark grief. Then enter on Easter Day, ready or not, and shout – "Alleluia, Christ is Risen!" We need nothing more.

+Linda

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Love one another: it begins by listening

ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER



By Rev. Kimberly Metelka

Jesus asks us to love one another, yet how can we do that?

How can we do that when we come face to face with those who are different from us and we lack understanding? We at times can be apprehensive of what to expect from "them".

If we are honest, we are more comfortable when we surround ourselves with similar and like-minded people. We know what to expect – their behaviour matches our own.

Yet in our lifetime we come across people who are different than we are and we are asked to love them. How do we go about that?

I think the first step is to give them the respect that they deserve as a child of God.

What is a definition of respect? "Consideration for the feelings, wishes, rights or traditions of others". At times this can be difficult to do when people are not living up to "our expectations", or we don't understand their lifestyles or the

challenges they face.

Jesus never said being his disciple would be easy, but it is worthwhile. It is easy to fall into the beliefs of the world and judge others according to our standards instead of realizing that we are all equal. We are all sinners who fall short of the glory of God. When we come to Jesus and kneel at the foot of the Cross, there is no difference we are equal in his sight. We are all God's children.

In Romans 12:2 a NIV says, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

The first step in changing ourselves I believe is through prayer. Asking the Lord to change our minds and our hearts to see people for who they are and not who we want them to be. To be present, to listen and to learn. That is what Jesus did, he started by listening.

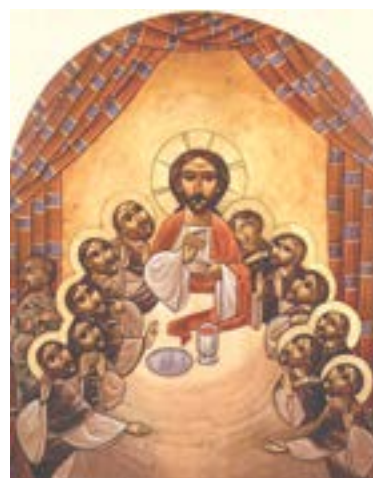
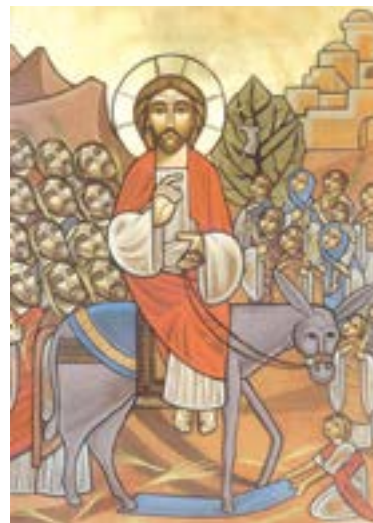
For me it does not matter whether I am sitting with a parishioner in my office or their home or sitting in a drop-in

center with someone who is struggling with an addiction – it begins by listening and respecting who they are. And I will admit I don't always do this well.

To help me to make the needed change – so I can love my brother and/or sister – I crafted the following prayer from the Holy Scriptures and it is found in the book of Ezekiel 36:26: Lord grant me a new heart and put a new spirit within me; remove my heart of stone and give me a heart of flesh.

This August the Justice League which AFP is part of is hosting the Anglican Church of Canada's Justice Camp which is entitled "Respect Justice Camp" in the Essex Deanery. To collaborate with, to walk with anyone who is different than us begins with educating ourselves and showing respect. Please consider joining us this summer and gain a better understanding of what struggles and celebrations our brothers and sisters face each day.

Rev. Kimberly Metelka is a member of the AFP Huron executive.



One sky over all – sixty years of Renison

Being Anglican in the world, serving the world – this was what the founders of Renison had in mind when they started their mission sixty years ago. Today, Renison is a dynamic post-secondary institution with a current enrolment of approximately 11,000 degree and over 1,400 non-degree students. Its presence has been felt far beyond the prestigious University of Waterloo with which it has been affiliated all these years.

“Doing theology at Renison has always been a bit different than in other Anglican colleges”, explains Canon Marilyn Malton, director of the Renison Institute of Ministry. With Huron College in London, with Wycliffe and Trinity in Toronto, there was a sense of wanting to play a different role than just being another theology school.

The result was the creation of Social Development Studies (SDS) which is still Renison’s big signature program. It offers specializations in variety of fields opening a wide spectrum of career possibilities for students.

“From the Social Development Studies program some of the people – though not very many – go on to study theology, some go on to be teachers and many pursue further studies in social work. Renison programs have certainly expanded, now they include Bachelor Social Work and Masters Social Work with an emphasis in Health Care”, elaborates Malton.



Canon Marilyn Malton, director of the Renison Institute of Ministry: Doing theology at Renison has always been a bit different than in other Anglican colleges.

One of the reasons for Renison’s enormous success has been its focus on internationalization including East Asian studies and opportunities to study abroad.

This accomplishment has a visible Anglican thread: different partnerships with schools throughout the world have been forged through Colleges and Universities of the Anglican Communion (CUAC). And it should be noted that this diverse community of students, staff and faculty enjoys programming and pastoral support offered by a dynamic Anglican chaplaincy.

As for Religious Studies program, Canon Malton explains that it has been organized in partnership with other church colleges affiliated with University of Waterloo (Conrad Grebel, St. Jerome’s, St. Paul’s),

thus reflecting the initial desire for inclusiveness and constant discernment about the role Church should have in the world.

In spite of Renison’s growth, its core mission is still recognizable:

“Most people who come to study at Renison are not Anglican, but still this focus on how we serve in the world is very much our ethos.”

This has been reflected in another group of courses offered at Renison.

Renison hosts a number of non-degree programs under the umbrella of CAPE (Community and Professional Education) and these programs, as Malton sees them, also distinguish the college:

“They go back to that core value of our service in the world in trying to make edu-

cation as accessible as possible to as many people as possible”, says Malton.

Many of these non-degree programs are with Renison’s English Language Institute. It serves students coming from 39 countries to improve their language skills and make it possible for them to experience Canadian culture.

Renison Institute of Ministry today also functions under CAPE although it precedes it. The Institute was launched in mid-80s thanks to the efforts of Rt. Rev. Morse Robinson, fifth Suffragan Bishop of Huron. Robinson also served as a chancellor at Renison and recognized it as a good place to launch an educational program designed for lay ministry.

“What would Church look like with a vital ministry of all the baptized? This question has been at the core of Renison’s approach to studies in theology”, says Malton explaining that this is the reason why a lot of lay people come to study at Renison.

According to the director of the Institute, people want to grow beyond Sunday School education:

“There is a hunger to learn more, a hunger to deepen their faith, especially in a rapidly changing world. You can feel this delight of being in conversation with all of these people who have written and taught down through the ages, and with each other as they come here to learn.”

The Institute offers courses for students who want to pre-

pare for ordination to diaconate. In partnership with Huron University and with Canterbury it also delivers courses for the Licentiate in Theology credits. But its main mission has been to make theological education as accessible as possible.

Courses and events are usually held on Saturdays, from mid-morning to mid-afternoon. They are designed for adult learners, and people at the Institute do their best to accommodate different styles of learning. But most of all, they work really hard at offering hospitality and building a community.

“If you came here on Saturday morning you would find people coming early to share coffee and converse. It continues over lunch – people go the cafeteria, share lunch and talk”, says Malton.

It is obvious that mutual support and deep friendships are seen as Renison’s most important trait.

“Our students feel that they are a part of the Renison family. That is why we at the Institute think of it as a place of intersection”, concludes Malton.

Sixty years of Renison has indeed been a period of unprecedented growth of this Anglican college. It has truly lived up to its motto – *Sed Coleum Solum: One Sky Over All.*

Renison celebrates its anniversary in a series of events throughout 2019.

Text and photo: Davor Milicevic

150 years of St. James, Parkhill

Parishioners of St. James, Parkhill, are busy planning the celebration of their 150th anniversary as a parish.

The main event is the Holy Eucharist celebration with Bishop Linda Nicholls presiding on Sunday, April 28. For this event, the parishioners from the sister congregation, St. John the Evangelist, Strathroy, will join the faithful of St. James at 11:00 am. Following the service, there will be lunch.

The parishioners hope that others with connections to St. James (former parishioners, former clergy, relations of members, attended meetings/classes at St. James) will also be present. All are welcome.


Please RSVP to jeanettehodgins@gmail.com or 519-294-6567 by Monday, April 22.

Ann Pickles, St. James', Parkhill



From the St. James' album: 145th Anniversary, May 4, 2014. Bishop Bob Bennet and Rev'd Karen Nelles cut the cake.

The Saugeens Theology Series



Spring Term 1.7th COURSE DETAILS
Tuition: \$300 for credit, \$150 to audit

Course #1: April 27-28
Evangelism: What Makes a Growing Congregation?
Taught by The Rev'd Grayhame Bowcott

Course #2: May 18-19
Liturgy: Forming a Gospel-Shaped People
Taught by The Rev'd Dr. Jay Koyle

Course #3: June 27-28
Administration: Running Healthy Churches
Taught by The Ven. Dr. James Sutton

Course Times: Sat. 9-5pm, 10 A.M. – 6 P.M.

Meet Our 2019 Spring Term Professors


The Rev'd Grayhame Bowcott serves as Rector of St. George's, The Blue Mountains in addition to being a doctoral candidate at the Toronto School of Theology. His current research involves the study of numerically growing congregations in the Dioceses of Huron and Toronto.

The Rev'd Dr. Jay Koyle has been a priest, professor and advocate for transformative Christian liturgy serving in various international, national, diocesan, university and parish contexts. He is the Congregational Development Officer for the Diocese of Algoma and serves as Chair of the Faith, Worship and Ministry Department of the Anglican Church of Canada.

The Ven. Dr. James Sutton has served six parishes of various sizes and configurations in the Diocese of Huron over 35 years and was the Archdeacon of Brant/Norfolk and Oxford dioceses for 10 years. He holds a doctorate from McCormick in Chicago, having specialized in parish revitalization. Dr. Sutton is currently the interim priest at St. Jude's in Oakville, Ontario.

Presented by Huron University College
Hosted by St. George's, The Blue Mountains
166 Russell Street East, Clarksburg, Ontario, N0L1J0

For Registration & More Information, Call: 519-866-3627 or email admin@huroncollege.ca



Celebrate Earth Sunday – choice of two dates

By Sue Carson

As spring approaches, Creation Matters Working Group – a National Church group – encourages your parish to prepare to celebrate Earth Sunday, either on Easter Day, 21st April or the following week 28th April.

A part of the service plan is to sing "All Things Bright and Beautiful", one of the most famous children's hymns written.

When writing the hymn, Cecil Frances Alexander was inspired by the countryside. But now the areas that were bright and beautiful are shrinking because of resource extraction, uncaring multinational companies and an apathy for preservation.

Creatures both great and small are disappearing, in the sea and on land, due to over-fishing, pollution and destruction of habitats.

The world was captivated by the plight of the Orca whale who held her dead calf out of the water for 17 days last summer. Shipping and lack of salmon have made her Orca pod vulnerable. And as for *creatures small* – the plight of the monarch butterfly seems to have motivated so many people to plant milkweeds.

One hopes it is not too late to save these and other creatures, both great and small, that are finding it hard to survive.

Others verses in "All Things Bright and Beautiful" mention radiant flowers. Today, increasingly non-native species are crowding out indigenous plants.

Vibrant birds are still singing, and most of us have heard the loon's wild haunting call, but their numbers are decreasing.

We still have cold winds in the winter; but in the Canadian Arctic warmer winds have been blowing. In her book *The Right to be Cold*, Sheila Watt-Cloutier, the Inuit activist, documents the dangers a warming Arctic is having on Inuit peoples.

Sea ice is disappearing, and it is harder and more dangerous to hunt; polar bears can't find enough food; and melting permafrost is causing homes to sink.

That pleasant summer sun didn't seem quite so wonderful in the summer of 2018 with people dying from the heat in Ontario and Quebec.

The hymn mentions the Rocky mountain splendour. Who could destroy our iconic Rockies? But in the Appalachians Mountains in the US,

coal mining companies are using explosives to blow off the tops of mountains to expose the coal.

The burning of coal is one of the worst climate emitters. The destruction of the mountains leads to soil erosion – causing mudflows so the rivers below are polluted.

In Canada those forests in the fall have become paper or they are destroyed for bitumen extraction. Insects are killing many varieties of trees making them more susceptible to forest fires.

In other parts of the world Rain Forests are disappearing at an alarming rate to provide land for farmers or to grow palm oil.

The final verse of the hymn says, 'He gave us eyes to see them / And lips that we might tell ...' So, what do we need to do about these climate change disasters?

As Anglicans and stewards of creation, we must acknowledge these losses. We must use our eyes to see and our lips to tell; our fingers to write to all levels of Government; our hands to plant trees; our feet and bodies to walk and march; and our hearts and minds to pray.

Our Creator is great, and he has made all things well – it is

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the lord god made them all.*

*Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours,
he made their little wings.*

*The purpleheaded mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning,
that brightens up the sky.*

*The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one.*

*The tall trees in the greenwood,
the meadows where we play,
the rushes by the water,
we gather every day.*

*He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.*

up to us to ensure it stays well. Please celebrate Earth Sunday – not just one day but for 365 a year.

Sue Carson is a member of St. James Dundas and Chair of Greening Niagara. d.carson@sympatico.ca

COURSES FOR LAY PEOPLE & FOR THE LICENTIATE IN THEOLOGY

Expanding your personal development? Seeking deeper understanding of faith?

SPRING 2019 COURSES

\$300 for credit toward the LTh, or \$150 to audit (ask about group rates)

Evangelism: What Makes a Growing Congregation?

Sat., April 27-Sun., April 28, 2019, 10 am-6 pm (St. George's, Clarksburg). Register through St. George's. Instructor: The Rev. Grayhame Bowcott

Journeying through the Bible: A Guide to Leading Bible Studies

Monday Evenings, April 29-June 3, 2019 (Excluding May 20), 6:30-9:30 pm (at Huron) Instructor: The Rev. Janet Anstead

Liturgy: Forming a Gospel-Shaped People

Sat., May 18-Sun., May 19, 2019, 10 am-6 pm (St. George's, Clarksburg). Register through St. George's. Instructor: The Rev. Dr. Jay Koyle

Administration: Running Healthy Churches

Sat., June 15-Sun., June 16, 2019, 10 am-6 pm (St. George's, Clarksburg). Register through St. George's. Instructor: The Ven. Dr. James Sutton

FOR MORE INFO & TO REGISTER

www.huronuc.ca/LTh

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To register for St. George's courses, contact: administrator@stgeorgesclarksburg.ca



Huron
AT WESTERN

Sacred Matter:

Shining Light

on Faith & Mental Health

A community conference about mental health, hope, and the role of faith in the care and recovery of those who live with mental illness

May 10-11, 2019, Huron University



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Rev. Mark McDonald
National Director of Faith & Hope

Friday, May 10

12:00pm-1:00pm Faith & Hope in
the Workplace \$25

Friday, May 10

7:00pm-10:00pm Faith & Hope in the
Home \$10 per person Advance and

Saturday, May 11

9:00am-12:00pm Faith & Hope in the
Church \$10 per person Advance and

A luncheon

12:00pm-1:00pm Faith & Hope in the
Community \$10 per person Advance and

Registration

Advance and Registration \$10 per person
Advance and Registration \$10 per person

To Register & for Complete Details:

<https://huronfaithandmentalhealth.eventbrite.com>

Questions?

kschade4@uwo.ca

519.438.7224, ext. 289



Huron
THEOLOGY

The best way to learn is to teach

Ministry of music at St. John the Evangelist, Leamington is centered around Steven Acott and his engagement in Messy Church program.

By Rev. Andrew Wilson

When did music become ministry? That is the question Steven Acott asks himself often after his nearly seventy years of musical education, teaching and practice.

A long-time parishioner, Steve leads St. John the Evangelist's Messy Church music program. What started as an invitation to play the odd song at Messy Church has turned into dedicated service to God and music, with a full ensemble.

Like many kids growing up in London England, Steve was in Cadets. Playing drums and bugles, he chose his next step after school: at the ripe old age of fifteen he joined the Royal Marines. Considering himself a percussionist, but with that section of music at compliment, he continued his musical studies with the Royal Marine music core until he was able to transfer into the percussion section.

In the Queen's army, religion was included: all Anglicans report for confirmation 'training,' the rest, are excused. After the mandatory twelve year service, where he saw the world travelling with the Royal Navy, he took up further studies in London, and began working in



Seven decades of dedication to God and music: Steven Acott leads Messy Church music program

theatres, television and dance halls for many years.

After hearing from his in-laws about a golden land named Canada, he joined them to, "give it a go for a year." That was around 1970.

Steve was a member of the Windsor Symphony, and again played in theatres and halls. But the business changed, and he needed to explore other options. After years of offering his skills with music to schools for free to introduce students to the craft, he was invited to explore teaching. He went back to school and obtained his degree and taught for many years.

Fast forward to 1990, more changes in the music world

and he moved to Leamington as part of a fresh start. Here he met Fran, the love of his life, a lay minister and eventually his wife. For twenty-five years they played together at retirement homes as he built a business to support them both.

At some point, he was introduced to the local Old Colony Mennonite community. A family was looking for a music teacher for their children but who also had a complimentary faith. At one point, Father quizzed him quite rigorously, and then pursued Steve for six months before he felt he could fit the new family in.

Where did he derive his faith skills?

Besides the Army, Steve remembers Sunday School fondly, with a life-long memory of Mrs. Fashion whose gifts and faith mentor him to this day. Even as he may have drifted to and from church participation, Steven has to admit: "She always gave me inspiration."

Steven's teaching always includes some instruction, not simply how a hymn is in 4-4 time, but why the hymns and words were significant. There is great meaning in the hymns he chooses. It is not simply about correct technique, the songs have substance and deepen faith.

Three years ago this month, tragedy: Fran passed suddenly, leaving him rudderless: "How do I continue?"

Not just his church family, but also his student community of eight families and twenty-plus children opened their hearts and homes and ministered to him. Dinners, which opened with prayer lead to an invitation to him to lead prayers. Recitals at St. Johns, a room packed with extended families, he also opened with prayers.

Movies and other times together eased the pain and gave him new life and a new hope as he learned to live without Fran at his side, but still in his heart.

After some apprehension, because of the tremendous trust he built, his students agreed to perform at Messy Church. He proposed it as ecumenical and non-denominational, but Christ centred and indeed, Church.

What was a chance to perform in front of people is now an important time of community, for all families: Anglican, Mennonite or new to Christ. They felt welcomed and the kids love to participate in the stories and crafts; they were once quite perturbed when we moved the date and some missed attending.

Steve knows that at some point God spoke. He is just unsure of exactly when. Through his loss, God responded to his pain, and said, "I have a plan for you, I'm going to take you and the music skills you've accumulated your whole life and we will form a new ministry together."

Little by little, he found a new spiritual direction, which became, in his words, "my own ministry." Music opened his faith and now he uses it to open others.

It has been a joy to walk this path together and discover his faith and lifelong ministry.

Rev. Andrew Wilson is the rector at St. John the Evangelist, Leamington.

Diocesan Golf Tournament: Get ready, September is approaching fast!

Canadian rock icon Bryan Adams, on a recent tour stop in London, commented on how things are different today than when he was growing up in Eastern Ontario. Commenting on the recent winter weather, he wondered what a Polar Vortex was, remembering "we used to just call it a cold snap..."

However you choose to refer to winter, by this time of year, most of us are looking for any sign that spring might be just around the corner. Your Diocesan Golf Tournament committee wanted to send you a "save the date" for this year's tournament, being held on Saturday, September 7th at the scenic, yet challenging, Ironwood Golf Course in Exeter, Ontario.

This year's event will be the 11th annual tournament and once again, proceeds raised will benefit Outreach ministries around the Diocese. Over the course of the last 10 years, over \$100,000 has been raised and has been directed to Food Banks, Community Gardens, Suicide Awareness Programs, Youth Programs and many others. Applications for grants to be issued this year are now being accepted and should be sent to the Diocese of Huron Church House, attention: Golf Tournament Committee.

The committee is thankful for the on-going support of all of our sponsors and for their generosity in helping us to help our Church make a difference in the lives of those in our communities who are in need. If you can't make it to golf, perhaps you can help us with a sponsorship, or perhaps join us for dinner and fellowship following the golf.

Registration forms and sponsorship information are available on the diocesan website, as

well as invitations to become or continue as a sponsor for our Diocesan tournament.

Look for more information at the Diocesan Golf Tournament table at Synod, as well as in future editions of the Huron Church News. Spring is just around the corner, so mark the date: September 7th, Ironwood Golf Course in Exeter, Ontario. FORE!

Very Rev. Paul Millward,
Golf Tournament Committee



"It's just a cold snap!" Canon Paul Rathbone (left) and Very Rev. Paul Millward in front of St. Paul's Cathedral, February 2019.

Welcoming the new rector in Chatham, Dover



Four members of the Selection Committee – Doug Sulman, Beth Myers, Rev. C.J., Pete Kistulinec and Ann Koop – and the Rev. C.J. after the service on February 3.

On Sunday, February 3, 2019, Holy Trinity/St. Paul's Chatham and St. Thomas Church Dover, Chapel of Ease welcomed their new rector, The Rev. C.J. Adams.

The 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services combined at 9:30 a.m. for a service of Holy Eucharist. Following the service was a reception with chili, soup and cake.

It has been a remarkable journey of two churches becoming one and the third designated a Chapel of Ease in 2017.

We look forward to all the things God will accomplish in our midst and beyond... more than we can ask or imagine.

Ann Koop, Holy Trinity/St. Paul's, Chatham

Photography by Keith Chandler

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

ACW annual gathering

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN'S ANNUAL
Saturday 27th April 2019
Held @ St. Paul's Cathedral, London

Lunch will again be catered by
"NOONERS"
(local restaurant)
The lunch includes assorted sandwiches, wraps, vegetable & fruit trays & cookies
Coffee & tea will be provided
(Gluten free available – see below)

The cost of the lunch is \$10.00 – per person
PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

Please fill in the following information & return to:
Anglican Church Women
Attn: Ellie
Synod Office – 190 Queens Avenue
London, Ontario N6A 6J7

NAME: _____ Home Address _____

Postal Code _____ Telephone Number _____

Church/Deanery: _____

Please make Cheque or Money Order - **PAYABLE to ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN**

Number of luncheon tickets ordered _____ Paid by Cheque _____
Money Order _____

Gluten free sandwiches & salads are available if requested (indicate number of Gluten free lunches)
of Gluten free _____

RSVP for lunch order no later than 18th April 2019. Thank you.

The annual gathering of all women in our Diocese is occurring at our Cathedral on April 27th, 2019. Let's be clear, that is all women in our Diocese. Not all women in our church are aware that they are very welcome to participate in this gathering. We hope to encourage every one of you to attend. It is always an inspiring and spiritual gathering. It is a time to pray together, meet other like-minded women, discuss our challenges, learn something new, make new friends, be exposed to alternate points of view and quite possibly grow your faith.

We are honoured that our Bishop, The Right Reverend Linda C. Nicholls, will be our celebrant. She sets an extraordinary example for us. Surely all of us can now see that women are valued in our Diocese and that we can aspire to any position to which we are called.

Yet, that is not to say that women are without challenges, even here. There are parishes in our Diocese which would not consider a woman as a rector. But most of us have come to know how compelling women in their role as clergy can be, what wonderful preachers they can be, how great they can be at pastoral care and how clearly women, too, are called to ministry at all levels of our church. Just like men.

We are delighted that The Right Reverend William G. Cliff, Bishop of the Diocese of Brandon, Manitoba, will be our Guest Speaker. Bishop Bill has spent most of his career in our

Diocese and is well known to many of us. He is now Chair of the Council of the North and we hope to hear his perspective on the challenges of that ministry.

Please accept this invitation to attend our annual gathering. Refreshments will be available as you arrive. Lunch tickets can be purchased, for modest price, on our Registration Form. Visit Cronyn Hall to see the displays of related ministries and invited vendors. Take a guided tour of our historic Cathedral. Walk the grounds. Immerse yourself in your faith. Make the time to be yourself with God.

We hope to see you there.
Best Wishes,

Bonnie G. Rees, President
ACW Diocesan Council



ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

LAMBTON DEANERY - Spring Meeting

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Trinity Anglican Church

1194 Murphy Road - Sarnia, Ontario

10:00 a.m. - Registration

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist — Rev'd David Hewett

11:30 a.m. Brief Business Meeting

Noon - Potluck Lunch

1:00 pm Guest Speaker

Lois Lafond

(Assistant Director, Sarnia's Nedley Recovery and Depression)

Tools to Help Depression/Anxiety Recovery!

Welcome to all - Bring a Friend!

In Memory

Brant/Norfolk Deanery
Grace Church, Brantford
Catherine (Kay) Mable Chown
Mary Georgina Craig
Louise Grohn
Eira (Glenys) Jones
Pamela Kilpin
Jessie Rosemarie Little
Rena Smith
Carol Dianne Tucker
Margaret Vincent
Joy Nena Ossie Wagner

Lambton Deanery
St. James, Parkhill
Ila Hamilton
St. John in the Wilderness
Betty Greening

London Deanery
Holy Trinity, Lucan
Carol Beatson
Gladys Cunningham
Margaret Elson
Donna Shipley

St. Jude, London
Shirley Donaldson
Lila Roberts

St. James Westminster
Verna Winnifred Carr
Elizabeth Ann Clifford
Marjorie Gordon
Reta May Hubley
Constance Mary Jefferess
Shirley Diane Parke
Nora Emily Reynolds
Joyce Silcox
Lois Stewart
Kent Deanery
St. Matthew's, Florence
Colleen Bilton

Meet your Council

Christine Crouch

Christine Crouch is the Chatham-Kent Deanery Diocesan ACW Council representative.

Born in Sarnia, ON, Christine has made her home in Chatham for the past 48 years, where she worked in the office of a truck manufacturer for 30 years. She has helped raise five wonderful children who now contribute to various walks of life, including a midwife, electrician, auto mechanic, and two successful private business owners. She also has 10 wonderful grandchildren ranging in age from 6 to 16.

Christine was a member of

St. Paul's Anglican Church in Chatham for many years until it closed in 2017. While there, she performed many duties including Parish Council, Alter Guild, Reader, Greeter, Sunday collection counter, ACW Secretary and President. Now she attends Holy Trinity/St. Paul's amalgamated parishes and continues to serve on Alter Guild, and as Reader, Greeter, and ACW Vice-president.

Christine is also a member of C-K Grandee's, a Grandmothers to Grandmothers group organized by the Stephen Lewis Foundation to help Grandmothers in Africa who are raising their grand-

children themselves because their children have died of AIDS.

Being on Council, and getting to know the ladies from all across the Diocese is an experience she feels blessed to be a part of.

One of the best days of the year, that she looks forward to, is the Annual Conference and Meeting of the ACW Diocese of Huron at St. Paul's Cathedral in London being held this year on Saturday April 27. It is a wonderful day out for all ACW Ladies. She encourages all who can make it to join us for fun and fellowship, and to see your Council at work.

Delaware Deanery Spring Meeting

Faith, Fun & Fellowship

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019

St. John's Anglican Church

20 Flora Street

St. Thomas ON

9:30 a.m. Meet & Greet

Guest Speaker: Rev. Canon Greg Smith (PWRDF)

Lunch

12:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist
with Rev. Canon Janet Lynall

PASTORAL PROGRESSIONS

Ordination to the Diaconate

The Bishop of Huron announces that the following will be called to the Diaconate at a service of Ordination to be held on the Feast of St. Philip and St. James, Apostles, Wednesday May 1st at 7pm at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, London. Clergy are invited to vest, the colour being red:

Ms. Hana Scorrar, upon ordination the Assistant Curate to

the Rector of St. James, Westminster, London.

Rest in Peace

The Reverend Edgar (Ed) Healey (retired Huron – wife, Joan) died on February 20, 2019.

Ed was ordained a deacon in September 1979 and priested in September 1980. He served the parishes of Trinity, Galt (assistant curate); the Parish of Six Nations; St. Paul's,

Thedford and St. Anne's, Port Franks; St. John-in-the Wilderness, Bright's Grove and Christ Church, Camlachie and Christ Church, Forest before retiring in 2005.

During his retirement, he served as the priest in Charge of St. Mary's/Calvary, Pelee Island.

A Memorial Service was held for Rev. Ed Healey on March 9 at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Oldcastle.

Where is God in this?



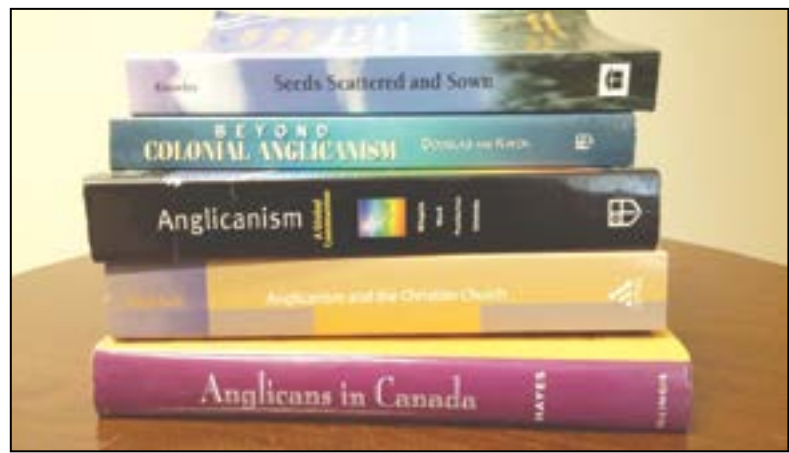
Education for Ministry is spiritual, theological, liturgical, and practical formation for laypeople. Efm is about integrating faith and life, and communicating our faith to others.

by Rev. Val Kenyon

While our first natural and very human impulse in the face of change may be to resist it, at the heart of being disciples of Jesus lays the process of ongoing transformation as individuals and as a community.

We look to the character of Christ himself for our inspiration and in following Christ we commit ourselves to a path of change and discovery. Allowing God's Spirit to work in and through us we hear Paul encouraging us to 'shine like stars in the world' (Philippians 2:15). As Christians, when encountering much of what life brings our way, if we are wise, we will ask, "Where is God in this?"

According to David Heywood, author of Kingdom Learning, the question at the centre of theological reflection is, "Where is God in this?" And quite intentionally, the practice



at the centre of Education for Ministry is theological reflection. The hope is that as we grown in our faith, that question can become a habitual part of our thinking, allowing theological reflection to become an "inhabited wisdom" enabling us to bring our understanding of God and God's ways into any and every situation we encounter.

Best approached prayerfully, theological reflection begins in the 'every day', and creates space for us to wonder together. This is a dynamic process, as along the way feelings and past experiences are taken into consideration, all as we ask ourselves to have an honest look at many of the assumptions we have formed over the years. We look to our tradition and Scriptures, ultimately trusting God to lead us to new insights that will inspire new action and new attitudes.

Looking ahead, we at Efm

(Huron) are pleased to offer two opportunities to learn more about Education for Ministry at an Exploring Efm Open House in the Deanery of Essex on Saturday, April 6th from 10:00am-11:30am at St Stephens, 5280 Howard Ave., Oldcastle, and one in London on Wednesday, May 22nd from 7:00pm-8:30 at St Anne's Byron, 1344 Commissioners Road West. We hope you will be able to join us for one of these events.

For more information about Efm, to register for Fall classes in London, the Windsor area, Strathroy, Lucan, and Kitchen, or to discuss possibilities of beginning an Efm group in your area, please contact Libi Clifford, the Diocese of Huron Efm Coordinator or myself Val Kenyon at EFM@huron.anglican.ca

Rev. Val Kenyon is Efm Animator in Huron.



HCC
a green and growing place

Crickets chirp, birds tweet, bees buzz. Breezes blow, leaves rustle, waves crash! Campers run, splash, shout out loud and whisper softly. What wonderful sounds – music to God's ears.

Follow the joyful noise to HCC! With feet stomping, hands clapping, hearts beating and many voices raised, we'll join a chorus of friendship, welcome and belonging,

Sung Together

– all of us, all creatures, all creation.

One Week Camps

ages 6-14, grades 1-8 \$510 + \$66 HST

Session 1	Come All You People	July 7-13
Session 2	Earth Below, Sky Above	July 14-20
Session 3	Lost + Found	July 21-27
Session 4	A Place in the Choir	August 4-10
Session 5	Surprise!	August 11-17
Session 6	Sing a New Song	August 18-24

Senior Camp

graduating from grade 8 \$1200 + \$156 HST

Session 1	July 7-20	Companions on a Journey 1
Session 2	Aug 4-17	Companions on a Journey 2

Leader in Training

ages 14-16, grades 9 & 10 \$1800 + \$234 HST

July LIT1	July 7-27
July LIT2	July 7-27
August LIT1	August 4-24
August LIT2	August 4-24



Go to www.huronchurchcamp.ca to find out more, watch our video, see lots of pictures and register

For more information contact us at huronchurchcamp@gmail.com or call 519-434-6893 ext 217



BISHOP'S FRIENDS HURON-PERTH 2019

Tuesday April 23, 2019
Mitchell Golf & Country Club

6:00 pm:
Mix & Mingle Reception

6:45 pm:
Dinner and Silent Auction followed by Conversation with Bishop Linda

Tickets: \$30.00 payable to the Deanery

APPORTIONMENT REPORTS



Grace Church, Brantford (Deanery of Brant/Norfolk)

Thank you to everyone who helped their church financially in support of the work of our Huron diocese. 2018 was a strong financial year thanks to all of your generous financial support.

We concluded the year at 99.2% of our apportionment revenue budget! This is a remarkable achievement and the highest achievement on record.

In terms of gross dollars received, at \$3.117 mill., this was only \$24k below the budget. The total revenue received was \$128k lower than 2017's level, but the budget for 2018 was also lower by \$227k.

The strong apportionment in 2018 has resulted in the diocese posting a strong surplus

from operations this past year and, as a result, we have now eliminated our accumulated deficit that we have been burdened with for the last several years.

The diocese will be entering into our financial yearend audit within the next month(s), whereby the final, audited financial results for 2018 will be verified.

Thank you to all for your continued generous and faithful financial support to the work of our Church here in Huron through apportionment. This work allows the ministry that we have upheld as vital to our faith to continue and flourish here.

*Paul Rathbone
Secretary-Treasurer*

DEANERY OF BRANT/NORFOLK	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
Brantford, Grace	36,472.00	40,119.20	36,471.96	100%
Brantford, St. James	9,868.00	10,854.80	9,868.00	100%
Mt. Pleasant, All Saints	9,348.00	10,282.80	9,348.00	100%
Brantford, St. Mark's	48,074.00	52,881.40	48,074.00	100%
Burford, Holy Trinity	11,795.00	12,974.50	11,795.00	100%
Paris, St. James	30,125.00	33,137.50	32,499.96	108%
Port Dover, St. Paul's	24,495.00	26,944.50	26,362.14	108%
Port Rowan, St. John's	11,058.00	12,163.80	11,468.00	104%
Simcoe, St. John's (Woodhouse)	6,216.00	6,837.60	6,216.00	100%
Port Ryerse, Memorial	3,359.00	3,694.90	3,695.00	110%
St. George, Holy Trinity	15,203.00	16,723.30	15,203.00	100%
Simcoe, Trinity	33,705.00	37,075.50	33,704.97	100%
Six Nations, St. Luke's	1,516.00	1,667.60	0.00	0%
Six Nations, St. Peter's	1,489.00	1,637.90	1,690.00	113%
Six Nations, St. Paul's	2,678.00	2,945.80	0.00	0%
Waterford, Trinity	9,046.00	9,950.60	9,045.98	100%
TOTALS	254,447.00	279,891.70	255,442.01	100%

DEANERY OF ESSEX	Apportionment Budget
Amherstburg, Christ	19,976.00
Colchester, Christ	13,315.00
Harrow, St. Andrew's	12,714.00
Cottam, Trinity	11,041.00
Essex, St. Paul's	10,873.00
Kingsville, Epiphany	27,696.00
LaSalle, St. Andrew's	15,951.00
Leamington, St. John The Evang.	31,517.00
Oldcastle, St. Stephen's	15,729.00
Colchester, Redeemer	9,378.00
Pelee Island, St. Mary/Calvary	545.00
Tecumseh, St. Mark's	30,283.00
Windsor, All Saints	29,193.00
Windsor, Ascension	36,264.00
Windsor, St. Augustine's	18,228.00
Windsor, St. David's-St. Mark's	17,782.00
Windsor, St. James	24,614.00
Windsor, St. John's	26,670.00
Windsor, St. Mary's	30,384.00
Windsor, St. Matthew's	26,121.00
TOTALS	408,274.00

DEANERY OF DELAWARE	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
Aylmer, Trinity	14,418.00	15,859.80	14,418.00	100%
Port Burwell, Trinity	9,020.00	9,922.00	9,019.86	100%
Vienna, St. Luke's	3,595.00	3,954.50	3,596.34	100%
Glencoe, St. John's	8,320.00	9,152.00	8,320.00	100%
Mt. Brydges, St. Jude's	3,444.00	3,788.40	3,788.00	110%
Muncey, St. Andrew's	1,419.00	1,560.90	875.00	62%
Oneida, Zion	1,220.00	1,342.00	1,220.04	100%
Port Stanley, Christ Church	9,373.00	10,310.30	9,260.32	99%
St. Thomas, St. Hilda's-St. Luke's	21,859.00	24,044.90	21,872.10	100%
St. Thomas, St. John's	30,696.00	33,765.60	30,696.00	100%
St. Thomas, Trinity	32,760.00	36,036.00	35,490.00	108%
Tyrconnell, St. Peter's & Nativity	6,881.00	7,569.10	7,000.00	102%
West Lorne, Grace	3,477.00	3,824.70	3,825.00	110%
TOTALS	146,482.00	161,130.20	149,380.66	102%

DEANERY OF HURON/PERTH	Apportionment Budget
Bayfield, Trinity	13,199.00
Middleton, St. James	4,238.00
Exeter, Trivitt Memorial	23,766.00
Grand Bend, St. John's	13,466.00
Port Franks, St. Anne's	0.00
Goderich, St. George's	33,575.00
Port Albert, Christ Church	4,658.00
Lucan, Holy Trinity	18,385.00
Parish of the Holy Spirit	
Clinton, St. Paul's	9,994.00
Seaforth, St Thomas	8,923.00



All Saints, Sarnia (Deanery of Lambton)

Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
21,973.60	19,976.00	100%
14,646.50	13,314.96	100%
13,985.40	13,200.00	104%
12,145.10	11,041.00	100%
11,960.30	10,873.00	100%
30,465.60	27,696.00	100%
17,546.10	15,951.98	100%
34,668.70	31,517.00	100%
17,301.90	15,729.00	100%
10,315.80	9,378.02	100%
599.50	545.00	100%
33,311.30	30,283.00	100%
32,112.30	29,193.00	100%
39,890.40	36,264.00	100%
20,050.80	18,228.00	100%
19,560.20	17,782.00	100%
27,075.40	27,086.00	110%
29,337.00	26,674.72	100%
33,422.40	31,000.08	102%
28,733.10	26,331.00	101%
449,101.40	412,063.76	101%

Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
14,518.90	13,199.00	100%
4,661.80	0.00	0%
26,142.60	23,770.14	100%
14,812.60	13,466.00	100%
0.00	1,500.00	110%
36,932.50	33,575.25	100%
5,123.80	5,124.00	110%
20,223.50	18,384.96	100%
10,993.40	9,994.08	100%
9,815.30	8,923.08	100%

DEANERY OF HURON/PERTH	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
CONTINUED				
Regional Ministry of Hope				
Blyth, Trinity	4,574.00	5,031.40	4,574.00	100%
Brussels, St. John's	3,474.00	3,821.40	3,474.00	100%
Hanover, St. James	12,667.00	13,933.70	12,667.38	100%
Wingham, St. Paul's-Trinity	5,404.00	5,944.40	5,423.58	100%
Parish of the Resurrection				
St. Mary's, St. James'	20,787.00	22,865.70	22,787.00	110%
Stratford, St. James'	49,805.00	54,785.50	49,812.00	100%
Stratford, St. Paul's	25,669.00	28,235.90	25,699.00	100%
Stratford, St. Stephen's	16,787.00	18,465.70	20,745.97	124%
TOTALS	269,371.00	296,308.10	273,119.44	101%

DEANERY OF KENT	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
Parish of Rondeau Bay				
Blenheim, Trinity	19,700.00	21,670.00	19,700.00	100%
Erieau, St. Pauls	6,989.00	7,687.90	6,958.00	100%
Rondeau, Grace		Summer Parish		
Chatham, Christ Church	29,143.00	32,057.30	29,128.00	100%
Chatham, Holy Trinity	38,000.00	41,800.00	38,000.00	100%
Moraviantown, St. Peter's	735.00	808.50	805.00	110%
Parish of the Transfiguration				
Ridgetown, Advent	8,506.00	9,356.60	8,506.00	100%
Highgate, Redeemer	2,207.00	2,427.70	2,207.04	100%
Thamesville, St. Stephen's	2,686.00	2,954.60	2,686.00	100%
Dresden, Christ Church	5,514.00	6,065.40	5,680.00	103%
Florence, St. Matthew's	4,064.00	4,470.40	4,068.00	100%
Aughrim, St. John's	3,191.00	3,510.10	3,510.00	110%
Comber, Ascension	2,627.00	2,889.70	2,028.38	77%
Wallaceburg, St. James the Apostle	19,178.00	21,095.80	21,096.00	110%
Port Lambton, St. James	6,716.00	7,387.60	6,720.00	100%
TOTALS	149,256.00	164,181.60	151,092.42	101%

DEANERY OF LAMBTON	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
Bright's Grove, St. John's	19,919.00	21,910.90	19,919.00	100%
Courtright, St. Stephen's	3,840.00	4,224.00	0.00	0%
Forest, Christ Church	14,245.00	15,669.50	14,245.00	100%
Kettle Point, St. John's	1,251.00	1,376.10	1,251.00	100%
Petrolia, Christ Church	15,692.00	17,261.20	15,692.04	100%
Point Edward, St. Paul's	21,313.00	23,444.30	21,313.00	100%
Sarnia, All Saints	52,641.00	57,905.10	52,641.00	100%
Sarnia, Canon Davis Memorial	20,707.00	22,777.70	20,706.96	100%
Sarnia, St. Bartholomew's	25,213.00	27,734.30	25,123.01	100%
Sarnia, Trinity *	73,443.00	80,787.30	53,000.00	72%
Strathroy, St. John the Evangelist	22,798.00	25,077.80	22,797.96	100%
Parkhill, St. James'	4,897.00	5,386.70	4,897.00	100%
Watford, Trinity	12,234.00	13,457.40	12,234.00	100%
Kerwood, St. Paul's	3,599.00	3,958.90	3,599.00	100%
Walpole Island, St. John the Bptist	7,955.00	8,750.50	7,292.04	92%
TOTALS	299,747.00	329,721.70	274,711.01	92%

* Trinity met their full apportionment set

APPORTIONMENT REPORTS

DEANERY OF LONDON	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
London, All Saints	27,419.00	30,160.90	17,359.80	63%
London, Church of the Ascension	36,173.00	39,790.30	21,000.00	58%
London, Epiphany	16,174.00	17,791.40	16,174.00	100%
London, St. Aidan's	45,766.00	50,342.60	45,765.96	100%
London, St. Alban's	21,606.00	23,766.60	21,610.00	100%
London, St. Andrew Memorial	22,078.00	24,285.80	22,098.00	100%
London, St. Anne's, Byron	33,862.00	37,248.20	33,861.96	100%
London, St. George's	47,081.00	51,789.10	47,081.00	100%
London, St. James' Westminster	84,347.00	92,781.70	84,347.04	100%
London, St. John the Divine, Arva	25,802.00	28,382.20	25,802.02	100%
London, St. John the Evangelist	73,844.00	81,228.40	73,844.00	100%
London, St. Jude's	43,855.00	48,240.50	43,855.00	100%
London, St. Luke's, Broughdale	22,428.00	24,670.80	22,428.00	100%
London, St. Mark's	7,928.00	8,720.80	7,928.00	100%
London, St. Martin-in-the Field	21,755.00	23,930.50	21,755.04	100%
London, St. Michael & All Angels	37,016.00	40,717.60	37,016.00	100%
London, St. Paul's Cathedral	136,761.00	150,437.10	136,761.00	100%
London, Holy Trinity/St. Stephen's Memor.	37,093.00	40,802.30	37,092.96	100%
London, Transfiguration	6,508.00	7,158.80	6,508.00	100%
London, Trinity, Lambeth	10,618.00	11,679.80	10,620.00	100%
Middlesex Ctre., St. George's	13,748.00	15,122.80	13,748.04	100%
TOTALS	771,862.00	849,048.20	746,655.82	97%



**St. John's, Thamesford
(Deanery of Oxford)**



**Church of Epiphany, Kingsville
(Deanery of Essex)**



**St. John's, Walpole Island
(Deanery of Kent)**



**St. George's,
Goderich (Deanery
of Huron-Perth)**



**St. John's, Glencoe
(Deanery of Delaware)**

DEANERY OF OXFORD	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
Delhi, St. Alban's	6,565.00	7,221.50	6,565.00	100%
Otterville, St. John's	6,852.00	7,537.20	6,855.00	100%
Dorchester, St. Peter's	11,122.00	12,234.20	11,121.48	100%
Ingersoll, St. James'	25,974.00	28,571.40	25,974.00	100%
Oxford Centre, Christ Church	3,842.00	4,226.20	4,226.00	110%
Eastwood, St. John's	4,633.00	5,096.30	5,096.00	110%
Princeton, St. Paul's	5,827.00	6,409.70	6,382.00	110%
Tillsonburg, St. John's	27,261.00	29,987.10	27,261.00	100%
Woodstock, Epiphany	41,011.00	45,112.10	41,075.22	100%
Huntingford, Christ Church	14,000.00	15,400.00	14,000.00	100%
Woodstock, Old St. Paul's	30,698.00	33,767.80	30,697.92	100%
London, St. Luke's, Crumlin	4,473.00	4,920.30	4,476.00	100%
Thamesford, St. John's	6,936.00	7,629.60	6,936.00	100%
Thorndale, St. George's	7,645.00	8,409.50	7,645.00	100%
TOTALS	196,839.00	216,522.90	198,310.62	101%

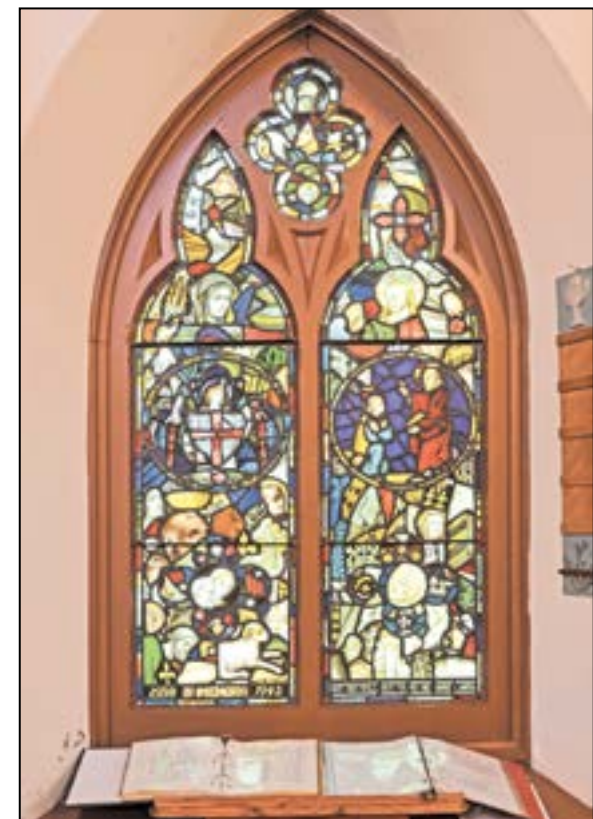
APPORTIONMENT REPORTS



**St. George's, New Hamburg
(Deanery of Waterloo)**

DEANERY OF SAUGEENS	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
Tara, Christ	6,787.00	7,465.70	6,787.00	100%
Blue Mountains, St. George's	38,049.00	41,853.90	38,049.00	100%
Durham, Trinity	12,750.00	14,025.00	12,750.00	100%
Kincardine, Messiah	22,784.00	25,062.40	22,784.00	100%
Kingarf, St. Matthew's	2,807.00	3,087.70	2,807.04	100%
Kinlough, Ascension	2,003.00	2,203.30	2,003.00	100%
Pine River, St. Luke's	3,036.00	3,339.60	3,340.00	110%
Walkerton, St. Thomas'	6,885.00	7,573.50	6,885.00	100%
Markdale, Christ Church	16,171.00	17,788.10	16,171.00	100%
Meaford, Christ Church	21,578.00	23,735.80	24,000.00	111%
Fairmount, St. James	3,172.00	3,489.20	3,172.00	100%
Owen Sound, St. George's	50,000.00	55,000.00	50,000.04	100%
Southampton, St. Paul's	14,570.00	16,027.00	14,570.04	100%
Port Elgin, St. John's	13,413.00	14,754.30	13,413.00	100%
Parish of Bruce Peninsula	24,568.00	27,024.80	24,768.00	101%
TOTALS	238,573.00	262,430.30	241,499.12	101%

DEANERY OF WATERLOO	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Dec 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
Cambridge, St. Thomas	15,058.00	16,563.80	15,131.20	100%
Cambridge, St. James'	33,023.00	36,325.30	33,023.04	100%
Cambridge, St. John's	26,948.00	29,642.80	26,948.00	100%
Cambridge, St. Luke's	10,615.00	11,676.50	11,677.00	110%
Cambridge, Trinity	57,634.00	63,397.40	63,408.00	110%
Kitchener, Holy Trinity	26,464.00	29,110.40	26,464.00	100%
Kitchener, St. Andrew's Memor.	24,960.00	27,456.00	24,960.00	100%
Kitchener, St. George's	37,153.00	40,868.30	37,153.00	100%
Kitchener, St. John the Evang.	54,562.00	60,018.20	54,561.96	100%
New Hamburg, St. George's	18,341.00	20,175.10	18,341.01	100%
Ayr, Christ Church	9,134.00	10,047.40	10,047.00	110%
Waterloo, All Saints	39,458.00	43,403.80	39,458.04	100%
Waterloo, Holy Saviour	34,926.00	38,418.60	35,757.40	102%
Waterloo, St. Columba's	17,837.00	19,620.70	17,837.00	100%
TOTALS	406,113.00	446,724.30	414,766.65	102%



Christ Church, Meaford (Deanery of Saugeens)



**St. Anne's, Byron
(Deanery of London)**

SUMMARY OF DEANERIES	Apportionment Budget	Extra Mile Requests	Jan-Apr 2018 Received	Percent of Apportionment
BRANT/NORFOLK	254,447.00	279,891.70	255,442.01	100%
DELAWARE	146,482.00	161,130.20	149,380.66	102%
ESSEX	408,274.00	449,101.40	412,063.76	101%
HURON/PERTH	269,371.00	296,308.10	273,119.44	101%
KENT	149,256.00	164,181.60	151,092.42	101%
LAMBTON	299,747.00	329,721.70	274,711.01	92%
LONDON	771,862.00	849,048.20	746,655.82	97%
OXFORD	196,839.00	216,522.90	198,310.62	101%
SAUGEENS	238,573.00	262,430.30	241,499.12	101%
WATERLOO	406,113.00	446,724.30	414,766.65	102%
TOTALS FOR DEANERIES	3,140,964.00	3,455,060.40	3,117,041.51	99%

A.C.W. Fair Share	25,000.00	27,500.00	21,284.50	85%
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Photos: M. J. Idzerda
Diocesan photographic survey.
Huron Archives.

Why discovering our spiritual gifts enhances our church life

By Charlotte Ewbank

When we first discussed holding a workshop to discover our 'gifts' as the second part of our Stewardship Campaign which we launched last year, I understood in general terms that Stewardship was more than giving money, it has always included giving of our time and talent.

My first thought was that I already understood what stewardship meant; did I really need another workshop. I'm already a believer, or so I thought. In the past I have filled out church forms outlining my hobbies or talents, knowing it would be recorded on one list or another and I would eventually receive a call for baked goods for the bazaar or a fund-raising dinner. Truthfully did I really want to fill out yet another form listing my dubious hobbies?

Somehow, I never really thought about spiritual gifts, when I thought about church, which when you think of it seems a little strange. I'm a doer, let's get organized and get it done, and that didn't equate with my thinking of 'spiritual gifts'.

I believe I can honestly say that by the end of the day I understood a lot more about spiritual gifts and now have a

CONGREGATIONAL COACHES



better understanding how they can help us to do so much more than the limiting effect we place on ourselves by concentrating most of our efforts on fund-raising.

Our coach Paul Townshend first helped us to understand that spiritual gifts are special abilities given by the Holy Spirit, to each member of the body of Christ. Without having any specific idea of what these spiritual gifts might be, we were led through a series of 115 statements; scoring ourselves based on our agreement or disagreement with the statements made.

After adding our 115 separate scores, we were left with a list of 23 combined scores, representing 23 different spiritual gifts. Finally, we got to fill in our scores alongside different Spiritual Gifts. These spiritual gifts ranged from Administra-

tion to Healing to Intercession to Prophet all the way to Wisdom. Certainly, a diversified and wide range of gifts.

What was really enlightening here is coming to some understanding of what these spiritual gifts looked like in today's world. I looked at some of the gifts clearly understanding them and being able to relate to them such as 'Hospitality', but then there were others such as Discernment; how could that relate to me!

With the guidance of our coach, based on scriptures we looked at each spiritual gift. For Discernment (Proverbs 17:24, Hosea 14:8-9 and Acts 5:3-6) the explanation was 'The Holy Spirit enables some of us to discover the will of God.' To exercise the gift of discernment is to distinguish between truth and error, to identify whether

something is of God. This gift involves wisdom and prayerfulness. Ministries using this gift might be; Counselor, Pastoral Caregiver, Hospice Volunteer, Contact Volunteer, Spiritual Director, Vestry Member, participation on aspirant's discernment committee, serving on a committee to employ and deal with church workers.

Ultimately there is understanding that we are talking about spirit given core gifts or strengths, not a practice or talent that we have learned or developed.

As an additional tool we went through a group exercise of sharing our top three gifts. Collectively our group ranked our top gifts as Serving, Mercy, Giving, Faith and Caregiver.

Through this final exercise we realized that even as a small parish as we move forward with a shared vision of more community involvement, we are capable of doing so much more than we could even have imagined before we started the workshop.

At the end of the day, I personally came away with the thought that I did indeed have some spiritual gifts, gifts that will help me to relate to our Five Marks of Mission in some small way.

Charlotte Ewbank is a parishioner at Trinity Anglican Church, Warton (as a part of the Lutheran and Anglican Ministries of the Bruce).

Photo: Lee Bartley



How shall we live in the world?

By Ven. Kim Van Allen

One of the questions I reflect on is 'How shall I live in the world?' What is important to me? What is no longer so important to me?

When my children were young, they were central to my decision-making about life goals. Now they have families of their own and even though they are very important to my husband and me, they have their own life-goals that may or may not involve us. Some of 'how we live in the world' is informed by our life circumstance and may change as time goes on. Some aspects of our life may remain constant while other aspects change.

Lent provides us with a prayerful, spiritual, faithful context within which to reflect on how we shall live in the world. Forty days of prayer, scripture reading, healthy practices for mind, body, and spirit, are an annual gift to us.

Lent provides us with a prayerful, spiritual, faithful context within which to reflect on how we shall live in the world. Lenten reflection does not need to be solitary but can include family or parish. Conversations around the Five Marks of Mission centered on stewardship and discipleship

giving



are ways to look at our priorities and goals.

Contributing to the proclamation of God's Kingdom has been a life goal for me. 'Pointing to the holy' has been my first expression of this. I felt like I had found my 'own skin' since practising priestly ministry in a parish setting. By contributing financially to the parish, I discern that the Church continues to have an important role in bearing witness to God's presence in our lives.

Sometimes my own daily

work interferes with my time for prayer, reading, and a simple openness to God's presence. I find I need to reinforce these priorities by being intentional, and disciplined.

Our culture is discovering the need for reflecting of priorities. Have you wandered by the magazine aisle in your local drugstore lately or browsed the internet for self-care information? What we might call spiritual practices are expressed as wellness, mindfulness, healthy living etc. There is

nothing wrong with that, but it shows that we all need the same things. How we spend our time, our resources, our energy and skill, our health, our relationships, and care of the environment are important considerations for everyone.

Congregations do this reflecting too. Together, you may enjoy reflecting on the parish giving program 'Giving Our Thanks & Praise' (a guide and a planning workbook are available from the Diocesan website dihuron.org. Click on Resources, Parish Toolbox, Stewardship.) There is much in this guide for parishes to consider. Parishes may not want to use it in its entirety but it could be wonderful to discuss what is in it that could be life-giving for you!

The first step on page 5 of the workbook is to reflect on what is important to your congregation at this time. Imagine the kind of discussion that might happen in your parish! Shall you pray together about how you respond to God's mission in your community? Is a sermon series focused on giving, generosity, gratitude, and discipleship meaningful for your parish? Will you consider ways to encourage giving and generosity as a spiritual practice or will you decide to tell the story

of your local mission and ministry in your communications? There is much to consider in the guide and workbook to support you in planning your own parish's needs.

It is Lent. I hope and pray that these days are renewing for you and your congregation. God's many blessings on all that you do in the name of the Lord!

Ven. Kim Van Allen is the Archdeacon of Huron-Perth and a member of the Huron Stewardship Committee.

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Unexamined assumptions

Respect Justice Camp will be open to those 18 and over and will be hosted at St. Clair College in Windsor, Ontario, August 13-19

By Rev. Chris Brouillard-Coyle

SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE



A young girl watches intently as her mother prepares the Sunday roast. Wanting to learn what to do, she asks mom why she cuts the end off of the roast.

Her mom is left to admit she does it only because her mom did it. So they call grandma. Once again, they learn she did it because her mother did it. The three, thus embark on a trip to great grandmother's nursing home to ask her. Smiling she says, matter-of-factly, she always cut the end off of the roast because that was the only way it would fit in the pan.

How often do we act based on unexamined assumptions, traditions and practices? How many, reading this story, didn't think twice about the fact that it references only females as cooks in the household?

So often, what our mothers and fathers do creates a lens through which we come to expect all men and women to act. Deviation from these norms for us, can lead to a sense of discord. We want women to be women and men to be men. We want their actions to 'fit' our expectations so that we can continue to feel comfortable about the way the world works, at least as we perceive it.

What would happen if we

start to consider why we act the way we act, believe what we believe and expect what we expect? What might we learn about ourselves and the world by taking the time to ask questions and explore the implications of our unexamined assumptions? Is it possible that educating ourselves could actually help to strengthen our relationships to each other, the wider world and God?

This summer, Respect Justice Camp offers an opportunity to examine our unexamined assumptions by providing, what some may perceive as, atypical experiences. Have you ever considered the extent to which when you were born influences your sense of who you are and how the world is viewed? To what extent have you experienced other faith traditions? Have you ever stepped foot in a synagogue, Hindu or Sikh temple? Have you ever spent time with Muslims?

Do you ever ponder why we have green lawns, plant annuals that we have to purchase each year and spend money to eliminate 'weeds'? What do you know about people with disabilities, those experiencing

mental illness, migrant workers, people living in poverty, those who are LGBTQ+ and First Nations? How do you 'know' it? What more could you learn? To what extent might this impact your unexamined assumptions?

"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us..." (Rom 12:4-6)

Every person is unique. Every person has gifts that can make a difference in this world. Every person faces challenges that can make it difficult to share these gifts.

Respect Justice Camp invites us to consider the ways in which our unexamined assumptions influence the ways in which we live as one body in Christ, and how alternative experiences might help to transform our views of the world and each other.

Respect Justice Camp is open to those 18 and over and will be hosted at St. Clair College in Windsor, August 13-19, 2019.



Alexandar Raskolnikov/Unsplash

For more information and registration check out our website: justicecamp.ca; Facebook page: Respect Justice Camp;

Twitter feed: @CampRespect.

Rev. Chris Brouillard-Coyle is the Social and Ecological Justice Huron chair.

A place called family

By Rev. Andreas Thiel

The session began as it usually does: a group of residents in a Long Term Care facility had gathered in the chapel, for the weekly one-hour session, "Coffee with the Chaplain."

The room was comfortably full (which doesn't take much, given the numbers of walkers and wheelchairs in the mix). I – the Chaplain – had just completed serving the ten participants their coffee and tea, and settled into my chair,

wondering how we'd begin today's session.

I shared with them a news story I'd come across – that of a woman who had decided to give away her \$1.75 million mansion, to the person who submitted the most convincing letter; a letter which would outline "why I should be the new owner of your home." After showing them a photo of the house, nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, I put the question to the group: "So, what sort of letter would you write?"

Then the woman to my left spoke. "I know what I'd write... I'd say that I should get the house, because ... because if they gave me the house I'd invite all of my family to come and live with me."

A lovely sentiment, to be sure. But it was the inflection that she gave to the word "family" that made us take notice. It had an arresting quality to it. The word "family" coincided with a gesture that could only be described as lavish. Her arms opened, as if to embrace each member of that group seated around the table. "I'm talking about all of you" she seemed to be saying! With the sweep of an arm, suddenly she became the grand benefactress... the bestower of "a feast of rich food for all peoples, and a banquet of aged wine." (Is. 25:6) And she would do this "for her family."

Us.

I'm not sure if it was her toothless grin, or the brightness in her gaze, but I believe we all felt – for a moment or two – that we were indeed people of choice. We were the special



Andrea Popa/Unsplash

ones, and our destiny included partaking of this most gracious gift.


The gift surely included food, yes, and it surely included wine, yes, and it surely included a place in that \$1.75 million mansion. But most importantly, the gift bestowed on us that

day in the chapel was a gift of promise.

We were promised a place of belonging. We were promised a place called home.

A place called family.

Rev. Andreas Thiel is the rector at St. Matthew's, Windsor.



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Diocesan photographic survey: beyond bricks and mortar

The recently finished project of the diocesan photographic survey in Huron is unique in its volume and represents a valuable picture frozen in time of the churches and their ancillary buildings in the Diocese of Huron as stood in 2018.

The uniqueness and importance of the survey was emphasized in comments proffered by the archivists in attendance at the Anglican Diocesan Archivists Conference held in London in October of last year, says John Lutman, the Huron archivist.

"I was assured that no other photographic record exists as comprehensive as this in any of the Anglican diocesan archives across Canada", states Lutman.

The project started in November 2015. Michael-John Idzerda, who was contracted as a photographer, submitted 3,230 images of 256 Huron churches with all their ancillary buildings such as church halls and rectories.

"The photographs represent only the beginning of a voyage of historical discovery in the world of archival research", explains Lutman.

The photographs, according to Lutman, will prove "a magnet for researchers both from a bricks and mortar approach and from a religious and social history perspective."

To architectural historians and heritage researchers they will give a chance to extract information about the work of architects and architectural styles, the pertinent features both of the exterior and interior and building materials used in its construction. And



Trinity Church, Cambridge: church buildings represent the faith of the congregations as reflected in the love and care they provide these places of worship

the photos of earliest surviving churches, not designed by professional architects, will provide evidence of the skills, taste and innate sense of proportion that the pioneers brought with them from the 'old country', says Lutman.

But the initial rationale for the photographic survey wasn't purely from a bricks and mortar perspective.

"For the archivist, the photographs as a resource do not exist in isolation", warns Huron archivist. They may generate patron questions into the governance, mission and role of the church in the community, and the church's place in the history and development of its town and region:

"In a wider sense, the ever accelerating number of closed

churches across all of the established religions reflects important societal trends, vis. the reduced roll that organized religion plays in Canadian life and society today. Church buildings represent a touchstone to this aspect of Canada's social history."

The church buildings, concludes Lutman, represent the faith of the congregations as reflected in the love and care they provide these places of worship:

"Despite the challenges of the wilderness faced by the pioneers, the men and women came together as communities of Anglican worshippers to build churches as a reflection of their faith in God. A surprising number of these early Anglican churches survive."

The man behind the camera:

a word with Michael-John Idzerda

As we have reported, Michael-John Idzerda photographed 256 churches for the diocesan project. He submitted 3,230 images. The entire job lasted for three years. From November 2015 til November 2018 Idzerda covered the area of 30,000 square kilometres. We wanted to know more about the way he planned his trips.

- The trips were all pre-booked with priests and wardens at each church. This required many hours of planning, researching, mapping and communicating. I would have to wait for confirmation emails, texts or phone calls to ensure I would be able to get into the buildings as soon as I arrived. I was always on a tight schedule using GPS the whole time. A few times, GPS or my phone gave out.. and I had to improvise fast, using a paper map and my pre-internet brain!

What was the largest number of churches you have photographed in a day?

- Ten! In Huron-Perth Deanery, on Tuesday April 18th, 2017 I visited Listowel, Palmerston, Harriston, Fordwich, Gorie, three near Wingham, Atwood, Elma and Lucknow. Five churches were closing with Easter and I had to document before they went up for sale.

What are some memorable events?

What stands out are my three visits to Trinity Chapel of Ease at Howard overlooking Lake Erie near Rondeau Provincial Park.

The first visit was just to photograph the exterior since I was passing through the area, the second was to gain access to the small sanctuary with Rev. John Maroney. When we arrived, however, the door was screwed shut by one of the wardens due to some vandalism to the door and we agreed to meet again in a few weeks. I programmed my trips to make this last visit work, but as we arrived, with another warden, there was a restoration crew and the door was gone and replaced by 2 4x8' plywood sheets. In the spirit of improvisation, with the warden's help, I unscrewed one piece of the plywood and squeezed in through the 9" opening with camera and tripod to make my exposures. It all took five minutes!

After all this, I called my next church that I was on my way, only to discover that a funeral was scheduled for roughly the time I was due to arrive! As I pulled up, the undertakers were already in the parking lot awaiting the hearse. I raced into the sanctuary, set up my tripod and camera, and just finished the shots as the casket, undertakers and church staff were waiting at the rear door.

Facebook's built-in tools for polls



**MEDIA
BYTES**

**REV. MARTY
LEVESQUE**

Most churches use Facebook as a broadcast medium. We announce special worship services, dinners and lecture series. And follow up to all events is a must, whether a quick post or a few pictures.

But the main issue regarding churches and Facebook is engagement. Simply put, we struggle with engagement and two-way dialogue and prefer to use Facebook as a broadcast vehicle.

In my experience, most social users who post on behalf of churches are looking for the right meme to drive likes and shares, or the perfect quote from the right celebrity pastor,

or the best article on church growth that will inspire the congregation and seekers to post replies and engage in dialogue. And while this is indeed possible, it is also not realistic, at least not regularly.

I have found the best way to encourage dialogue and engagement with a church's Facebook page is to seek feedback. There are a variety of ways feedback can be solicited. The easiest is the poll.

Facebook has built-in tools for polls. Simply using those tools can help drive engagement with your page and therefore with your church. Examples of simple polls are:

Do you give something up for Lent? Do you take something on?

Advent: Purple or Blue?

White after Labour Day? Yes or no?

Such simple questions, but questions that are designed to elicit a response from your congregation and from seekers

alike. It is a low threshold of engagement but one that brings users back repeatedly. And each time a user comes back, there is another chance to take that engagement from social to analogue and fulfil the Great Commission.

Rev. Marty Levesque is the diocesan social media officer and rector of All Saints' in Waterloo.

martylevesque@diohuron.org



Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Huron is pleased to present the Bishop of Huron's Prayer Conference

Saturday, May 4, 2019
10:00am to 3:00pm
Church of St Jude, 1537 Adelaide St N., London
Cost: \$20 (includes lunch)

The Role of Imagination in Prayer: the Exercises of Ignatius of Loyola
with
The Right Reverend Linda Nicholls

Our imagination is a gift of God!

With it we can dream of possibilities or prepare for daily events. It is also the place where we meet God through the stories of scripture. St. Ignatius knew the importance of the use of the imagination in deepening our commitments in faith and discerning daily life. Come and spend a day with God through your imagination and the gift of the scriptures! Bishop Linda will be speaking to us in our morning sessions. In the afternoon there will be a variety of workshops designed to put some of what we will hear in the morning into practice.

To register please contact: the Rev'd Kim Metelka at revkim55@gmail.com or by calling or texting info to 519-980-4545.

Hope and suffering: vulnerability at its best

Someone recently said to me, "seems like too many are suffering heart problems or cancer."



AS I SEE IT

REV. JIM
INNES

How true is that!

In the last two weeks, two folks close to me have been diagnosed with cancer. And in my job as pastor, I talk with many who are either going for some diagnostic test, or suffering some traumatizing ailment.

One day all can be well, contained and safely organized. Next day, bang, sideswiped by an unavoidable turn of fate. So much is beyond our control, so much, that we tend to suppress, as we ought, the myriad of possibilities. And it is the fate of some that hyper-sensitivity



Andrew Neel/Unsplash

or past trauma heightens anxiety to the point of pathology (diagnosed or not).

It was my experience last year, when fighting cancer, that keeping stable meant surrendering to all the possibilities. It was not something I had to work at either. Because the pragmatics ended any sense that I was in control. And, as in sync with my fear, my faith in God's good grace developed into a trust that all would be as it should be.

The vulnerability factor was high. The love of my wife, my children, and my larger family made it tolerable. And I began to foster an outlook far less self-protective and self-absorbed than one might think could ever happen under such duress.

The words of the Prayer of St. Francis began to make more sense than they ever had before: "Seek not so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love."

It was as though my physical vulnerability morphed into an emotional/spiritual empathy founded on some greater humility than I had experienced to date. And I didn't need to work at it.

I discovered that with the removal of the power factor (some may call it our ego demands), I became deeply aware that nothing is more important than how I get along with others. And somehow, despite my anxieties, responsiveness became the brightest light inside me.

Can it be true that in times of managing such uncontrollable ailments, or having to manage great trauma, there grows an 'other-awareness' that surges stronger than any other aspect of our existence? And, if so, it would be my Hope that such awareness matures into a more soulful existence. If not near immediately, then hopefully, more gradually as one processes over time.

For those of you entering this Lent/Easter season, I offer you a reflection that the suffering of Jesus was buoyed by an inner surge of complete compassion. Almost a power, but most definitely an energy, that enabled the completion of His mission and, most tellingly, the ability to utter the final self-less statement, "forgive them."

No wall, no way of living, no faith perspective, protects us against suffering. We pray we don't face it, and we pray those we love and care for don't face it. And of course, for those who do face it, we pray their suffering ends with quick healing.

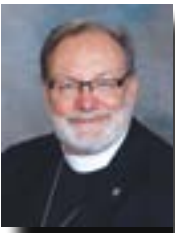
Nonetheless, as I see it, Hope lies in what happens inside the person suffering. So, aside the prayer for healing, should we not also pray for their increased soulfulness.

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Bearing the banner of the cross

The details of his life are obscured by the mists of time.

Legends surrounding his deeds of valour and chivalry have been depicted in works of art known around the world. Nations, cities, and a wide variety of community organizations claim him as their patron saint.



A VIEW FROM
THE BACK PEW

REV. CANON
CHRISTOPHER
B. J. PRATT



as his Lord and Saviour. He refused to engage in worship of the Emperor.

His courageous act of faithful witness led to his death.

The stories which sprang up around him over the years, at their heart, hold on to a simple truth. George was a person whose faith and love for his Lord enabled him to accomplish mighty deeds and by those deeds draw others to an awareness that the Lord that George served, was one whose transformative power could be claimed by others.

George personifies a code of life which was called chivalry.

One of the facets of the definition of chivalry outlined what was expected of an ideal knight. The characteristics of courage, honour, courtesy, justice and a readiness to help the weak, were all important elements of the code of chivalry.

Militaristic images have fallen out of fashion within the life of the Church, yet at the core of

the story of the Christian faith is a simple reality that there are times when bearing faithful witness to our Lord is not easy. The image of Saint George vanquishing the Dragon allows us to imagine what it is like for us, to confront the dragons we face in our own lives. There are times, not just moments read about in history books, but moments in our lives and today's world, where being identified as a follower of Jesus is, at the very least, uncomfortable; and, in extreme circumstances... dangerous. To minimize that reality is to turn away from those, who like George, put their lives on the line as they declare themselves to be followers of Jesus.

In the Supplementary Instruction attached to the Catechism in the Book of Common Prayer (page 555), the Question is asked: What is the vocation of a Christian in this world?

The Response is: To follow Christ and bear witness to him; to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life.

To be faithful to Jesus, in our own day and age, we are called to live with a sense of honour and courteousness. We are called to seek after justice and to help the weak. We are called to speak and act courageously in the name of Our Lord. It is not difficult to discern that these characteristics of a life of faith are reflected in the values of chivalry and help to provide a framework enabling the people of faith to turn the vision of the Marks of Mission into reality in God's world.

The example of faithful witness offered by Saint George has served to encourage and

enable many people of faith through the years.

As you commemorate Saint George's Day on April 23rd, this prayer for the day may prove to be a helpful focus for your reflection.

*Almighty God,
who called your holy martyr George
to bear before the rulers of this world
the banner of the cross,
grant that we may be strong
in every battle against sin,*

*and attain the crown of eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever."*

Amen

(For All the Saints - page 149)

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2019 BAC Conference

Respecting Indigenous Cultures

a one-day conference that explores the relationship between Indigenous communities and the Church

St. James the Apostle Anglican Church
Wallaceburg, Ontario

Saturday, April 27, 2019

Open to ALL interested

Conference Program starts at 9am

BAC Annual Meeting 2:30pm

Holy Eucharist 3:30pm

Annual Banquet 5pm

Speakers

Bryan Loucks

Rev. Canon Laverne Jacobs

Rev. Mark Loyal

-and-

National Inquiry into

Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls

Sponsored by the

Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen

for pre-registration information and conference details visit
www.bac.diohuron.org

Let us go to the empty tomb where the birds sing

I can hardly wait for spring. Nature bursting with new buds and countless shades of green growth. Each day it opens up before our very eyes.



**LAUREL
PATTENDEN**

This year I am getting a double dose of budding. By the time you read this column my first dose of spring will be over (or nearly) while I visit my two year old grandson on the aptly named Salt Spring Island, B.C. He still lives with his parents so I will be seeing them, too, but they are not nearly as exciting as my grandson! My second dose of spring greening will be on my returning home.

Winter gets weary; that's why we have spring. We get weary; that's why we have Easter.

We all long for spring. The world takes on colours that



Laurel Pattenden, Pretty Birds (mixed media)

were buried and forgotten. Birdsong rises amongst the budding trees and bushes.

Thomas Harding wrote about spring's yearly arrival in *The Year's Awakening* with my favourite lines. "O vespering bird, how do you know, How do you know?" and "O crocus root, how do you know, How do you know?" that it is time

for spring and winter is weary. Darkness of winter wains and we pack the thought of it away as quickly as we can. We enjoy dining in the light of day and just looking out our windows we feel more alive. We breathe easier.

Could we possibly feel more alive than in this season of spring? Of course, but only

when we remember that the stone rolled away. Jesus died for all the things we cannot cure, fix or mend. Medicine and science cannot spare us grief, upsets and disasters. No matter how many times we experience grief or disaster we are always surprised by how quickly darkness shadows us. Jesus died for all the messes we make against our self, others and in every part of creation. We just can't seem to help ourselves. In fact an angel (a very gossipy one) told me we are actually famous for it. We create so much of our own darkness it is like we are A. A. Milne's character Eeyore, the donkey (*Winnie-the-Pooh*), with our own little cloud above our heads. Wandering broken.

Jesus indeed died for all. Then the stone rolled away and it was Easter. The tomb was opened up. It was opened up for us. It could not contain the Light.

This action creates in us a need to react. We also have to open up.

Emily Dickinson wrote, "I sit before flowers hoping they will

train me in the art of opening up". Do we need to sit before the open tomb and hope it will train us in the art of opening up? Opening up to Christ? If we don't learn this art of opening up do our hearts remain frozen in the darkness of winter and disappointment? As if the stone never moved from the opening of the tomb? Living in perpetual despair? Like Eeyore? Or do we learn to open our hearts and souls to the "True Spring" that burst forth when the stone rolled away?

Perhaps we can borrow the words of the first verse of *Spring Quiet* by Christina Rossetti:

*Gone were but the Winter,
Come were but the Spring,
I would go to the covert
Where the birds sing;*

This spring, let us go together to the empty tomb where the birds sing.

Happy Easter.

Laurel is retired and likes to spend her time in her art studio.

A word on weddings: feeling the presence of God

As promised, part two of a three part series on Pastoral Offices. Last month I shared about the honour and privilege of presiding at many funerals over the last 24 years. This month, the joy of doing weddings.



**MOSTLY ABOUT
RELIGION
REV. CANON
KEITH
NETHERY**

Oft are the times I have met a former high school classmate, a college or someone from the early years of my broadcasting career. As you would expect, the first question is, "So what have you been up to?" My immediate answer: Well I've married a dozen women!" (that was the number the first time I answered the question. I'm guessing today I might be able to claim I've married as many as 75 women - and 75 men!) The look of bewilderment is priceless, until I tell them I'm an Anglican Priest, and then it turns to shock and disbelief! For some reason people didn't see me in this career!

Seriously, I made a brilliant decision early on when asked to officiate at weddings. I chose then, and have continued to this day, to do all my own marriage preparation. That came, in part, from not being overly excited by the weekend course

with a dozen or more couples that I went through before my own marriage to Suzanne. It lacked the personal feel, asking questions just seemed weird, and it was clear that each couple was at a different place in their relationship and spiritual journey. Given that each wedding requires (at least in my scheme of things) three preparation sessions, along with a rehearsal and the day of; and that has been a significant time commitment. I wouldn't have it any other way.

Marriage is about a relationship between two people and God. But that third person, the person officiating, needs to build a relationship as well. When a couple stands before me, I know who they are, their likes and dislikes, how they met, what they like to do, their plans for their life together. That, I believe, allows me to provide a service that meets them where they are.

And that service can take a lot of different forms and more than a few interesting side trips. From a couple in their teens to friends who were 69 and 65 when they got married; from cowboy hats, tail coats, blue jeans and boots, to zoot suits, to formal tuxedos; from a 56 Chevy to stretch limos; I've seen many, many things at weddings.

Some highlights! The above mentioned friends, who had known each other since childhood and after losing partners, found that friendship turn to

love. I think I cried as much as they did that day. Speaking of tears. I'm amazed at the number of dads and grooms that will allow the true emotion of the day touch their spirit. There is no other feeling like doing a baptism for a couple that you have married, unless it's baptizing a bride at the wedding rehearsal! It's cool to do more than one wedding within the same family, because the weddings are usually totally different. Music really does make a difference. A couple leaving to "Signed, Sealed, Delivered" created such a sense of joy that everyone danced down the aisles. Just as Canon in D moves emotions from deep within. Ringbearers and flower-girls are absolutely wonderful, especially when you let them be themselves; even if it doesn't quite fit the planned script.

That leads me to let you know a secret. I've never done a wedding that has come off exactly the way it was planned. And that is a good thing. Adlibs are often among the best things. I remember well a bride who arrived at the front of the church literally shaking with nerves and emotion. I knew that in this space she couldn't relax and enjoy her day. And so out of my mouth came the words "that was a nice run through. Now why don't you head to the back of the church and we'll do it for real!" She started to laugh and smile and the tension left her and it was a great day.

A piece of advice here. Al-



Josh Applegate/Unsplash

ways keep your eye on groomsmen. They do strange things. A group approached one day, asking if I knew how to pin on their corsages. I said that was not in my job description and they should find someone with knowledge in that area. A few moments later I heard a strange banging sound. I walked through the door and found them with my office stapler, attaching flowers to their rented tuxedos!

From traffic reports via cell phone from the 401 to explain when family members would get past this traffic jam, to brides arriving nearly an hour late, to brides arriving an hour early, to churches full to the rafters, to an intimate gathering of maybe a dozen people. Every wedding is special and unique.

Oh, and every wedding has a least one heart stopping moment for the clergy person officiating. A wedding register not on the table I put it on, a

microphone I know I turned off still live, watching rings slide dangerously close to the edge of the book as I blessed them, wondering how I could possibly have volunteered to sing a solo at a wedding as the first notes on the piano sounded, the terror of looking at the bride and for a split second I can't remember her name!!!

What I do know is that on the day of every wedding I have ever done, I have always felt the presence of God, I have always treasured the faith that has been shared with the couple and is now evident to all around them. To see the love in their eyes, to believe their future together to be bright and to know that I had some small part in bringing them to this magic day before God.

Next month, the controlled chaos of baptisms!

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