

SEPTEMBER 2025



THE LOOP

Church Phone - 519 - 485 - 0385

E-Mail - stjamesoffice@execulink.com



Within These Walls

Within these walls, hearts unite,
Seeking solace, finding light.
Every soul, every face,
Welcomed here, in God's grace.

Hymns rise, prayers ascend,
With open arms, we befriend.
For in this place, hope does dwell,
Stories of faith, we joyously tell.

Come, join the chorus, sing along,
In this church, you belong.
Where every heart, every voice,
Finds its purpose, makes its choice.

By Maya Anthony

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From Rev'd Marty's Desk ...



Happy September! If you've been away this summer, welcome back! And, if you're anything like my wife, welcome to the "ber" months (September, October, November, and December) - her favourite time of the year. She's always quite enthusiastic to welcome back "sweater weather" and for the build up to Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. Maybe even a little enthusiastic for the children's return to school. Our daughter, Charlotte, is quite enthusiastic to return to Sunday School this week and we hope that your children and grandchildren are too! And one thing we should all be enthusiastic about is the fact that, at long last, we're now just a couple short weeks away from taking possession of our new building! It's an exciting time of year, that's for sure! New beginnings are often pretty easy to get excited about, but just as school children know too well by the time January rolls around, it's a little harder to remain enthused about the "same old" and familiar. Complacency often seeps in as enthusiasm seeps out. And that's a universal and timeless truth.

During the Cuban Missile Crisis, the man in charge of the Polaris Submarine was Rear Admiral William Raborn, Jr. When it appeared that someone had lost their enthusiasm for the job, he would call them into his office for what he termed, "rededication."

From The Desk of The Reverend Marty Keatings (continued)

Speaking from a military background, I can only imagine what that session might have entailed, but one officer recalls, *“When I walked out, I knew I was ready to die for someone. I didn’t know whether it was for the admiral, the president, my mother, or the head of the Boy Scouts, but brother, I was ready to die if necessary!”*

Now that’s what I call enthusiasm! The very same sort of enthusiasm that reminds me of the New Testament Church. Reading about it, I often find myself in awe of just how much passion and fervor they had for spreading the Gospel (aka the Good News) about Jesus, but even *they* lost their enthusiasm at times. We see evidence of this when Paul exhorts them in Romans 9:11 to *“never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor.”* In other words, he exhorts them to rededicate and renew themselves to their purpose, to maintain their “Godly enthusiasm.” Interestingly, those two words are pretty much inseparable, as the word enthusiasm comes from two Greek words, en (in) and Thous (God), and so one who is enthusiastic is in fact said to be “in God.” This speaks volumes about the New Testament Church and also about new believers, who are often said to be particularly enthusiastic about God. Statistics back this up, saying new believers being more likely to have a stronger certainty in their belief of God’s existence, a greater likelihood of attending church every week, an increased commitment to a daily habit of prayer and the reading of Scripture, and to sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.

And here’s why the Church really needs the enthusiasm of new (and renewed) believers. Because when we aren’t enthusiastic in God we become complacent in sharing the Good News of Jesus and that message fails to reach others who can, in turn, become enthusiastic about sharing the Good News and building up the Kingdom of God alongside us. The Church not only needs believers, it needs an *ever-increasing* number of specifically *enthusiastic* believers. Not so that we have the numbers necessary to keep the lights on in our building, but so that we have the numbers to keep the light of Christ shining brightly in every corner of a world that seems increasingly intent on putting that beautiful light out.

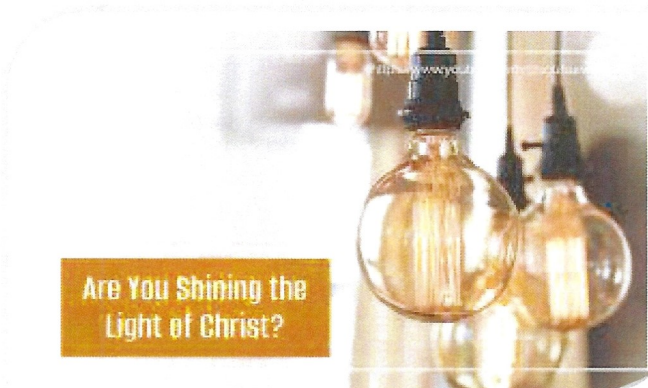
A hostile world tried to squash the enthusiasm of the Early Church but these new believers had an enthusiasm that drew others in and made the spread of the Gospel unstoppable. When we are enthusiastic about the Good News we’ve found in Christ we can easily be spotted. And whether the world is turned off by our enthusiasm or attracted to it matters little because, either way, it will take notice of it and wonder what it is about Christ’s message that makes us so enthusiastic. It doesn’t guarantee that any one person will choose to follow Christ, but thankfully it’s not our job to make followers of Christ, it’s our job to draw people towards Him, even if it’s just out of curiosity. The Holy Spirit is ultimately the One who changes people’s hearts, who fills new believers with enthusiasm for the Gospel, and the One who can restore in us a renewed enthusiasm that we sometimes lack when complacency is knocking at the door.

So in this season of new beginnings, and particularly one in which we prepare to open a new set of doors and welcome new and familiar faces, no matter where we find ourselves in our own spiritual journey, let us ask God for the enthusiasm of a new believer: for a stronger certainty in our belief and trust in Him, a greater commitment to gathering in communion by attending church every week, an increased devotion to daily prayer and reading of His Word, and a renewed enthusiasm for sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.

My family and I look forward to entering into this season with you. I rededicate myself to living enthusiastically in God's Word and to ministering faithfully to and alongside each one of you, and I pray that God will continue to bless our parish with the means and enthusiasm to share these blessings with our neighbours and all those who enter our doors, knowingly or unknowingly, seeking the light of Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Marty+



Be a Light For Jesus

Be a light for Jesus
Doing unto others,
As He would do for us,
His sisters and His brothers.

Shine forth your light
Onto those who are in need;
Remind them that
God's in control,
And will help them to succeed.

So be a light for Jesus,
Now and through
All of your days;

That man may see
Your light within,
And God's glory
They will praise.

News from Our Diocese of Huron

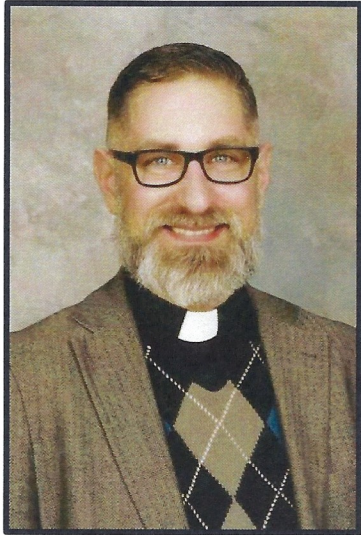
Diocesan appointment –

Bishop Townshend appointed the Reverend [Matthew Kieswetter](#) as the Archdeacon of Eastern Huron (Deaneries of Brant-Norfolk, Delaware, and Oxford) and the Rector (part-time) of St. James', Paris, effective 1 September 2025.

"Greetings to the clergy and lay leaders of Eastern Huron (Brant-Norfolk, Oxford, Delaware). I wanted to take a moment to pass along my contact info and introduce myself, as my appointment officially started on September 1st. In addition to serving as the Eastern Territorial Archdeacon, I am part-time rector of St. James' in Paris. For now the plan is to continue to reside in Kitchener, but I have just purchased new snow tires, anticipating a not insignificant amount of driving!

With just Labour Day between the end of my ministry at St. Andrew's, Kitchener, and the start of this new chapter, it may take a few days to settle into my new workspace, but I am working away, surrounded by many moving boxes.

My primary ministry up until now has been at St. Andrew's Memorial in Kitchener. I am also chaplain and coordinator of our diocesan post-ordination training program. Additionally, I briefly served as interim chaplain of Renison University College, and, some time back, as transitional deacon at St. John the Evangelist in Kitchener (where I had also served, sometime prior to that, as a churchwarden). I am also currently the Vice President (and former President) of the Trinity College Divinity Associates (basically the alumni association of the Divinity Faculty).



I have much to learn about our deaneries and congregations, so visits and communication will be a priority in the coming months. I am very thankful for Archdeacon Janet's recent ministry as Interim Archdeacon, and in the last few weeks we have connected to start to bring me up to speed. In the meantime, if your congregation is facing a matter that needs urgent attention, or you just want to ensure that something is on my radar, please reach out.

I am honoured to serve alongside you. Thank you for all you are doing in the love of Christ, and in service to the world he came to save.
 Matt+ matthewkieswetter@diohuron.org



For Those Who Can't Make It To Church in Person



Our live stream of our worship service from the Masonic Hall at 10:30 am is available on our Facebook Page -

The link is below

- <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064560229242>

Alternatively you can reach it from our "Online Services" page on our church website. <http://www.stjamesingersoll.com/online-services>

You do not need a Facebook membership to view the service.

Huron Church News

Right click on the photo to get access to the latest September edition.



Vision Committee News

As we saw in the several construction progress videos, our renovation project at 130 Thames South continues to be exciting news for our parish and for the community as well. The project remains on track for a handoff from PK Construction to St. James' on September 15th.

When we "retake" the site from our contractor on the 15th, Fine Line Painting will begin the interior painting. The next important date will be October 15th, which is our current moving date.

When our project started in March it had a budget of \$900,000 + HST but has escalated to more than \$1,046,000 + HST due to many needed change orders. The most recent change order was the surprise requirement to install a new water service to the building. You may have seen the excavation in front of our building on August 28th. That project alone carries a price tag of at least \$20,000.

We'll still need to find additional funds to repair our roof and to renew our front and rear façades. In that regard, we are applying for a \$15,000 grant from the Anglican Foundation (AF) to assist with the roof. The application to the AF must be pre-screened through our Diocesan office and we have submitted all necessary documentation so that local approval is received in advance of the AF deadline of October 1st.

The Town of Ingersoll has \$4,000 in grants available for façade upgrade work and that application is a current project. Hopefully, our grant applications will be approved!

Some masonry repairs / restoration need to be completed before roofing repairs. Some of this may happen this Fall so that the roof can be started as soon as good Spring weather arrives.

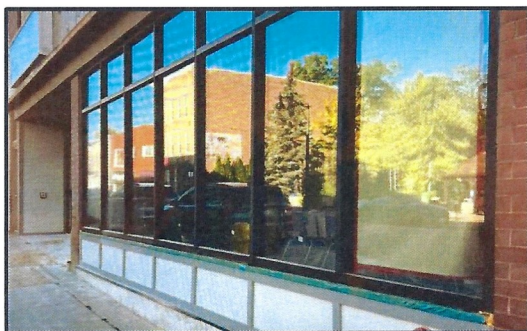
A lift has been installed at our rear entrance rendering our facility completely accessible for anyone with mobility issues. This device requires a dedicated phone line connection, which was recently installed, and 24 hour monitoring to ensure the safety of all persons using the lift.

A new sump pump is also required to manage the discharge of 400 gallons per minute from annual sprinkler system testing.

Completion of some projects will be subject to delay due to expected cash flow problems as final PK Construction invoices arrive through to the end of October.

Submitted by – *Mike Watson* on behalf of Vision Implementation Committee members:

Pierre Beaumier, Margaret Burford, Jim Hunt, Veronica Jackson, Rev'd Marty Keatings Bob Welt.



New Windows at the Front of 130 Thames St. S

DEEP ROOTS NEW GROWTH Capital Campaign Committee

“LOOP” Newsletter Submission – September 2025

A Huge Thank You!

We are so grateful for the incredible generosity shown towards our “Direct Ask Campaign”. Together, as of August 31st, we’ve raised \$127,000 in donations and received an additional \$42,000 in pledges — that’s a total of \$169,000, bringing us to 42% of our \$400,000 goal!

Your support is truly inspiring, and we’re excited to keep growing together toward our vision. Every gift — big or small — is helping us get closer to making this dream a reality.

Mark Your Calendars!

We are excited to announce that we are moving into Phase Two of our Campaign – Major Fundraising Events.

St. James’ Anglican Church will be hosting a **Time, Talent & Treasures Online Auction** this **November 12–19** in support of the Deep Roots New Growth Campaign — and we need you! Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to help fund our new church space, which will serve not only as a place of worship but also as a welcoming hub for community outreach.

How You Can Help

We are seeking donated items that are meaningful, creative, or valuable — things that reflect your time, talent, treasures, or dreams.

Here are just a few inspiring ideas:

- Rental cottages or weekend getaways
- Boat cruises or unique hosted experiences
- Vintage, collectible, custom artwork or handmade items
- A home-cooked dinner or baked goods delivered
- Tech tutoring for seniors, music lessons, art or craft lessons
- Gardening help or fall cleanup, babysitting or pet care

How It Works

- Each donated item will be photographed and posted on our auction website to maximize interest and bidding.
- Items remain in your possession until the auction closes (unless you’d prefer the church to store them).
- Once bidding ends, we’ll coordinate pick-up or delivery with the winning bidder.

Let’s Grow Together

Your donation will directly support the future of St. James’ — a space where faith, fellowship, and outreach can flourish. Whether you contribute an item, bid in the auction, or help spread the word, you’re playing a vital part in building something meaningful for today and generations to come. An auction package will be sent out by email shortly, with hard copies available at the office and during Sunday services.

Thank you again for your continued prayers, support, and generosity. Together, we are planting seeds for a stronger future at St. James’.

With gratitude,

Deb Landon, Chair

Deep Roots New Growth Capital Campaign Committee
St. James’ Anglican Church, Ingersoll



Sunday School News



The location of Sunday School classes for the Fall of 2025 will begin at the Masonic Hall and then once we have moved into our own church home at 130 Thames St. S we will have lessons in our new location.

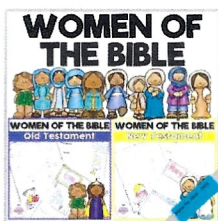
Sunday School teachers, Pat Harrison and Veronica Jackson, will welcome all kids to attend. Our attendees' ages range from 3 to 14. We will be meeting every other week until Advent when we will continue to have Sunday School classes every week during that special season. Our high school volunteers will be back to assist us! We are blessed to have them!

2025 Dates for Sunday School are :

September 7th and 21st ; October 5th and 19th ; November 2nd , 16th , 30th ; December 7th , 14th , 21st

If you know of a child that would like to attend, please encourage him/her/ to do so. We share bible stories, songs, prayers, and crafts!

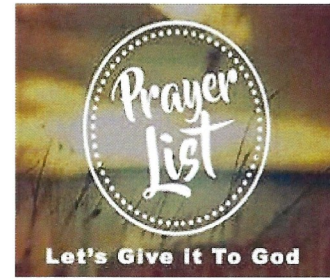
This year we will do some review of our bible story lessons from last year, and we want to spend time looking at the stories of many of the very strong, determined women in the Old and New Testaments.



Submitted: by *Veronica Jackson*

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Prayer List



Prayers of the People, By the People, For the People

St. James' prays for our families, friends, and loved ones who are ill or recovering from illness or are in need of prayerful support. Grant them healing and strength. May they find Peace. Lord, we pray for:

Little Jack, Clara, Jo, Nickolas, Matthew, Jo, Mark, Anne, Catherine, Elizabeth, Anne, John, Janey, Judy, Eleanor, Susan, Deny, Linda, Douglas, Matthew, Caitlin, Elise, Emerson, Karen, Patrick, Baby Ezra, Tom, Alison, Rob, Kathy, Amanda, Rose, Shirley, Edith and Ted.

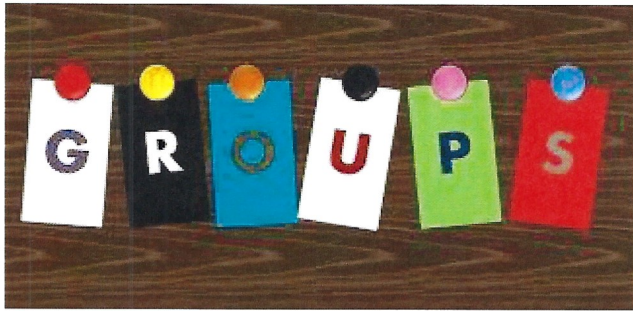
Please let the Office know if you have a name for our Prayer List.

Nursing & Retirement Home Services

All parish volunteers are welcome to attend and participate in the worship service at the nursing or retirement residences. Our team composed of Rev'd Marty, Carolin French and the Wardens – Mike Watson, and Veronica Jackson recently visited Sienna Secord Trails Assisted Living Residence on September 4th.

Our next service will be at **Alexandra Hospital on Thursday October 2nd at 1:30 pm.**





Needle and Craft Group Report

The Needle and Craft Group will begin the Fall Season **Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 1:30 pm.**

The Group welcomes all who wish to gather and learn from each other to do a variety of crafts and/or needle work while enjoying fellowship. We meet every Tuesday at 1:30 to 4:30 pm. At present we meet at the Annex, 231 Thames Street South until we move to St. James' new church home.

In August Sharon Gillett and Jeannie Lee along with Margaret Burford met to assemble Remembrance Day wreaths. The Needle and Craft Group are making poppy wreaths as a fund raiser for the Ingersoll Legion Poppy Fund and our Group's community outreach programmes.

The Needle and Craft Group organize fund raisers throughout the year to raise money for various community identified needs.

If you have any questions about our Group please contact Margaret Burford at 519-303-2001 or ask any member.



ACW News

It sure has been a summer !! We are back to meeting each month in September at St. James' Ingersoll. Until our new location is open we'll be meeting in the Wee Cottage on **the second Tuesday of the month starting at 10:30 AM. The September meeting is on the 9th.** All Anglican women are welcome at these meetings.

Our Diocesan meetings via Zoom start up again on September 10th and I look forward to seeing all of our representatives as we share and digest all that has happened during the summer months. We do need a new representative from Oxford Deanery to the Diocesan Council. As I became president in our Annual meeting on April 26th, it is time to have a new voice from Oxford on the Council. If you feel called, please let me know. We meet via Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 10 am and going until noon.

On Sept 19 and 20, I'll be participating in Zoom sessions with most of the Presidents and other representatives of each Diocese in Canada. Last year we in Huron hosted the group in Stratford for 2 in-person days of communion and sharing and fun. I will report back on the things that were said in our October ACW meeting.

See you on the 9th Lovely OnesHugs.....S>

Submitted: by *Susan Winlaw*

BAC News

Next men's breakfast meeting is on **September 17th at 9:30 am** at Louie's Restaurant at 44 Bell Street, Ingersoll.



Ongoing Fundraiser



The poster features a circular logo on the left with a tree and the text "DEEP ROOTS NEW GROWTH". To the right, the "TRU EARTH" logo is displayed in a stylized font. Below the logo, the text reads "Capital Campaign Fundraiser" and "Support St. James' with Every Purchase!". A central message states: "Help us reach our fundraising goals for our new church home at 130 Thames St. South, Ingersoll, and support our ongoing mission to serve the local community." The dates "September 5-19, 2025" are prominently displayed in red. A key benefit is highlighted: "30% of every purchase goes directly back to St. James' Anglican Church." Three bullet points list additional perks: "Free shipping", "Flexible order & delivery options", and "Sustainable products that give back!". A shopping link is provided: <https://tru-earth.sjv.io/stjamesingersoll>. Contact information for Rev. Sue McCullough is listed: "519-374-4597 | rsueemc@gmail.com". A closing statement says: "This is an ongoing fundraiser - your support makes a difference!". At the bottom, a row of Tru Earth products is shown, including laundry detergent, fabric softener, and paper towels.

Rev'd Sue McCullough is the team leader of this Capital Campaign fundraising project connected to earning money through the sale of Tru Earth products. Several folks in the parish are ordering from this environmentally friendly company, and the church has already received some commission deposits.

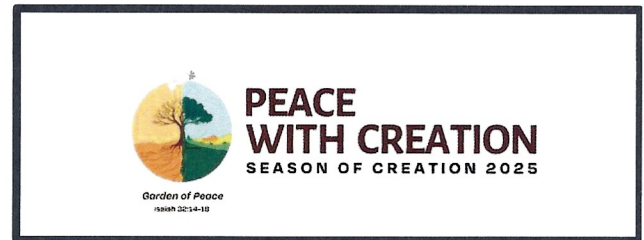
A few days ago, Tru Earth informed Rev'd Sue with the following news – *“Great news! From September 5 to 19, your fundraiser will earn 30% commission on every sale made through your fundraising link—instead of the usual 20%. That’s an extra 10% added to every order placed, giving your supporters even more impact to help grow your fundraiser with their purchases.”*

The link to purchase items and have St. James' earn a few dollars is at - <https://tru-earth.sjv.io/stjamesingersoll>

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Season of Creation 2025

September 1 to Oct 4



The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.

Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I proclaimed 1 September as a day of prayer for creation for the Orthodox in 1989. In fact, the Orthodox church year starts on that day with a commemoration of how God created the world.

The World Council of Churches was instrumental in making the special time a season, extending the celebration from 1 September until 4 October.

Following the leadership of Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I and the WCC, Christians worldwide have embraced the season as part of their annual calendar. Pope Francis established the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation in the Roman Catholic Church in 2015, and in 2019 started celebrating the Season of Creation as well.

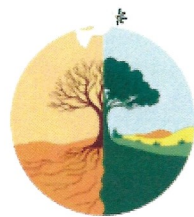
In recent years, statements from religious leaders around the world have also encouraged the faithful to take time to care for creation during the month-long celebration.

The season starts 1 September, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

Throughout the month-long celebration, the world's 2.2 billion Christians come together to care for our common home.

If you have any questions about the Season of Creation, go to the website -

<https://seasonofcreation.org/about/>



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Our Biblical text for this year is Isaiah 32:14-18. The prophet Isaiah pictured the desolated Creation without peace because of the lack of justice and the broken relationship between God and humankind. This description of devastated cities and wastelands eloquently stresses the fact that human destructive behaviours have a negative impact on the Earth.

Our hope: Creation will find peace when justice is restored. There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth.

To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but to act, pray, change, and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, metanoia (repentance), and solidarity.

The Symbol for 2025 is the Garden of Peace

The symbol is characterized by a dove carrying an olive branch bringing life to the Garden of Peace.

In the Biblical story of the flood, the dove plays the role of the blessed messenger: The dove sent out by Noah returns to the ark with a fresh olive branch in its beak, signalling that the flood is receding.

As the flood story begins with a situation where “the earth is filled with violence” (Genesis 6:13), the return of the dove with the olive branch came to be known as a sign of new peace.

Other Parish News

Fundraisers

Results of two of our recent efforts:

June 7th Yard and Bake Sale Results -

The Wardens are pleased to announce that last week's yard and bake sale returned a profit of \$871.00

August 16th Ingersoll Pipe Band Tattoo in Memorial Park -

As part of its fundraising initiatives for the Capital Campaign "Deep Roots New Growth", St. James' Church offered bottles of cold water to the pipe bands and the public attending. Water and ice were donated by members of the Capital Campaign Committee. At the end of the afternoon, we received \$259.16 in donations to put towards our construction costs at 190 Thames St. S. As they say "Every drop counts"!

September 9, 10, 11th Upcoming Fundraiser – Canada's Outdoor Farm Show

– Once again a team of volunteers has offered to assist with the parking at the annual Outdoor Farm Show held just outside of Woodstock. This year's team includes – Jim Hunt, Susan Winlaw, Bill Riddick, Kevin MacKay, Jane Naisbitt, Sue McCullough, Mike Watson, Andrea Cryderman, Dan Wilson, Marty Keatings, and Veronica Jackson. Some of our volunteers are on the morning shift while others will take over in the afternoon shifts. Let's hope we have sunny and dry conditions for the show this year!



Outreach News

Our parish collected many of the needed items listed below (for males and females) over the summer for the Huron Farmworkers Ministry - *clothing, food, bicycles, toiletries (shaving cream, razors, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.), towels, blankets, safety glasses, gloves, knee pads, suitcases, safety shoes, boots (both safety and winter) and non-perishable food items.*

Pictured above is Father Enrique Martinez, the priest and director of the Huron Farmworkers Ministry. He brought the ministry's van from his parish in St. Thomas to collect all of our items, and he was very happy to see all the things that were collected and donated!

A very special thank you to parishioner, Trudy Groot, who has teamed up with the Salvation Army Thrift Store to receive donations of clothing from the store in Ingersoll where Trudy volunteers. Trudy does a fantastic job of washing the clothes and sorting them prior to pick up. There will be one more pick up at the end of September so if you have any items to donate, please bring them to church or to The Annex. We will make sure that they get to the farm workers.



Some Parting Photos



Here's a few photos gathered up over the last few months and weeks –

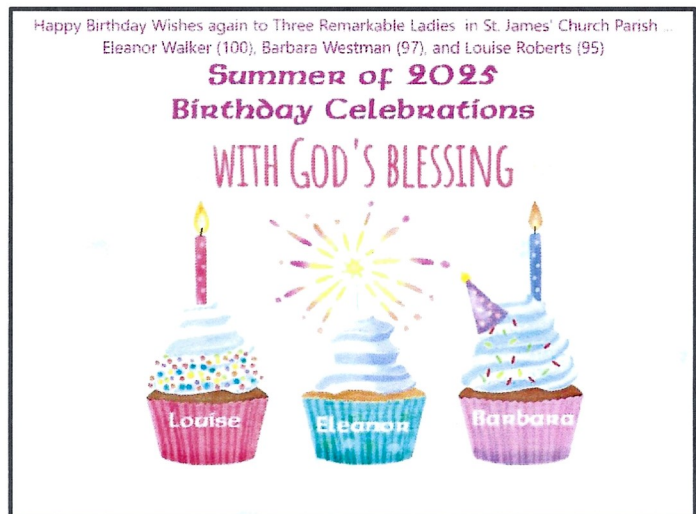
Top Row – Left to Right – Veronica met up with Addi and Charlotte at the Calithumpian Parade in Thamesford; Addi's First Day of School Grade 1; Kristy and Addi in the park at the Ingersoll Pipe Band's Tattoo; Vicki and Jim Hunt in Kincardine at The Gathering of The Bands

Bottom Row – Left to Right – Mike and Louise with the Mustang at the Pizza Fest car show; Charlotte's First Day of School Grade 1; Ben relaxing in his car seat; Jim Hunt carrying the banner for The IPB in Innerkip

Celebrations Past & Future



Rev'd Meghan on the occasion of her daughter
Finley's Christening on August 18th



SAVE THE DATE

Consecration Service with Bishop Todd on

Sunday November 2nd

Details to follow in October