

THE LOOP

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St. James' Anglican Church Newsletter Fall 2023

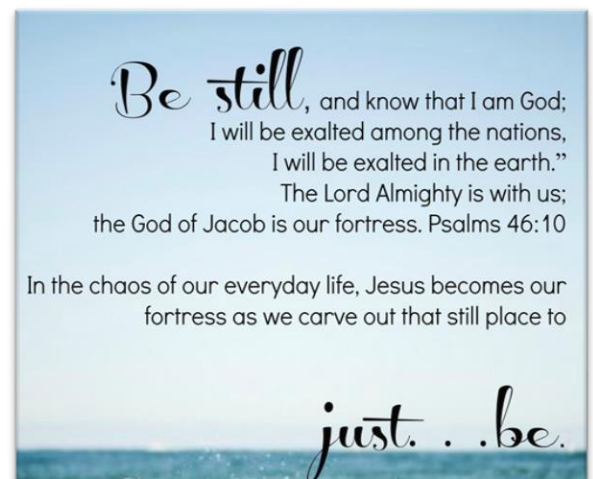


We are entering another very busy phase in the life of St. James' church. So much is going on in the life of this parish – planning for our new home at 130 Thames St. S., attending meetings - Selection Committee, Parish Council, Building Committee, BAC, ACW, to name just a few; working on Outreach and Fundraising projects; assisting in the community with nursing home services; crocheting poppies for Remembrance Day; planning for Rev'd Sue's six week absence as she recovers from knee surgery – the list goes on.

But in this time of “busyness” we all need to take a deep breath and still our hearts and listen to God. He will always be present to watch over us as we carry out his work.

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A Meditation From Sue's Perspective

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל Sh'ma Yisrael Hear, O Israel

The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Love the LORD your God

with all your heart,

with all your soul,

with all your mind

And with all your strength...

...And love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these. — adapted from The Book of Alternative Services p.53



Today as I sit at my computer writing this meditation, my thoughts have been going from one thing to another. Perhaps it is my season of discontent...we all have them. In recent weeks we have been reciting the Shema (pronounced "sh-ma") in lieu of either of the creeds. Those words have been resounding, particularly "Hear, O Israel." These are the beginning words of an affirmation of our faith as God-fearing, Jesus-following Christians. If I consider myself as one of those Christians (and I do), why do I find myself in such a state of unrest? Why do I find myself struggling with something that I cannot name? Perhaps, if I rephrase those words into something I can understand better.....*HEY!! You!! Listen Up!!*

"The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Love the LORD your God..."

The part of loving God in this is the easy part. Oh, don't misunderstand me, it's not a cakewalk by any stretch of the imagination – but it's the easy part. I am a fallible human being. I, like most of us, struggle to love God, particularly when I think that God has done something really senseless. When I take time to consider what I'm annoyed about, I discover that it isn't God acting in a senseless way, but some human or humans who are responsible. Once I get my thinking sorted out, I know that the God of my understanding, the God that I am called to love with all of my heart, soul, mind and strength, does not do senseless, harmful, resentful, hateful things – people do. Yet in spite of all of that, Jesus calls me to...

"/...And love your neighbour as yourself."

A while ago, I read a very enlightening article by David Lose. David Lose is a Lutheran pastor in Minnesota and a wonderful commentator on scripture. In the article, Dr. Lose touched very clearly on the part of the "Hear, O Israel" where we are to love our neighbours. He suggested that when we look down on someone who doesn't measure up to our standards, if we look closely enough, we will find Jesus standing right there beside **them**! Dr. Lose also suggested, and rightly so, that when we "draw a line in the sand" as it were, Jesus is standing, staring at us from the other side. This "loving your neighbour" stuff is the **really** hard part...right now, I want to put a "but" in here – I really do. However, there are no "buts." We are called by God, to love the people who have been created. We are NOT called to judge. We are NOT called to condemn. We ARE called to love. That's it. Full stop. So, regardless of what we feel and what we want to do, Jesus is saying...

"HEY!! You!! Listen Up!!...And love your neighbour as yourself."

130 Thames St. South



Pierre Beaumier and Mike Watson proudly installing our new signs at our newly purchased building

Vision Implementation Committee Report

As can be seen in the Communication Committee report elsewhere in this edition of The Loop, we have been very busy working to launch the renovation project at 130 Thames Street South.

Beyond the property purchase price of \$550,000 which was paid from the proceeds of the sale of our former property, we have already incurred some of the expenses associated with acquiring this new facility. The following is a list of some of those expenses to date:

- Building inspection by a certified commercial inspector \$734.50.
- Broken windows due to a scuffle on Thames Street on Friday August 4th. Estimated boarding up cost is \$400.
- Quarterly municipal tax bill due August 31 \$1680. With this expense, are hopeful for a favorable decision from our application to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) for tax exemption, which would result in a rebate of those taxes paid.
- A digital scan is complete, which is a comprehensive measurement of the complete building estimated to come in at \$1500.

- Our contractor, PK construction, has submitted a design quote in the amount of \$82,600 for the following services: Architectural, design, environmental survey, structural engineering, mechanical and electrical designs. There is also an allowance for a Photometric Study as may be requested by the town of Ingersoll. A 50% retainer including HST \$46,669 was paid September 7th. The balance will be invoiced monthly as work progresses.

- A separate quote of \$6,000 has been received from Armor Pro Audio/Visual. This quote is for the design of the audio/visual system and an allowance for potential consultation with the architect regarding acoustics especially in the multi-purpose sanctuary space.

Some of us have already been graciously contributing to our building fund. Those still considering helping financially with costs associated with the design and renovation cost of our new home are invited to do so as your circumstances allow. Weekly, monthly or lump sum donations will all be very appreciated and will of course be included in your annual tax receipt from our church office.

As stated previously, and as noted in the Communication report, we will be applying for all available grants at the appropriate times.

A great deal of design work and consultations are expected over the next couple of months by all parties involved. We expect all of that work to culminate later this Fall when we look forward to an information meeting where the proposed design and renovation budget will be presented and discussed. A Vestry meeting will also take place where approval of the design and budget will be sought.

Thank you for your ongoing support and patience as we work through this exciting project together."

Michael Watson - VIC Chair

New "Home" Update from Our Communications Sub Committee

As you are aware, St. James' now has a new future home at 130 Thames St. South and there have been opportunities for the congregation to view the space. It is anticipated that we will move into our new home mid to late 2024.

A full review was made of the needs and wants for the acquired space; specifically the 5,000 square feet on the main floor. That list has been forwarded to the architect for their review, input and design options.

Once those options have been forwarded to the Design Committee, they will be reviewed to ensure it meets our immediate physical and spiritual needs and future requirements. There is much to be done and considered as we work through this very exciting process with our congregation, our representatives from the Trinity Foundation Centre, and the Diocese of Huron.

To date, here is a snapshot of what has occurred:

Completed projects:

7/24/23 dance studio images removed from windows.

7/25/23 window posters placed.

7/26/23 CBC Radio interview aired.

7/30/23 & 8/01/23 Open house for congregation.

8/04/23 broken window boarded up.

8/04/23 application to MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) for tax exemption.

8/21/23 preliminary site review for audio/visual/acoustics.

8/31/23 Digital scan for architectural base drawings.

September- Agreement to be executed w/ PK Construction for design/architecture/engineering/hazardous materials identification/building budget/project management. Deposit of 50% will be paid for design.

Balance on invoices monthly as items occur.

Going forward we expect the process to be something like this with accurate timelines difficult to pinpoint at this moment:

- Continuing consultations with Bishop Todd, Archdeacon Tanya and Archdeacon Osita
- Design to be created and consultations to follow with Design Committee and Wardens.
- Construction budget to be developed.
- Budget and design presentation to congregation.
- Special Vestry for project approval.
- Huron Development Fund grant application.
- Grants and loans committee meetings.
- Construction/renovations begin.

The congregation will continue to be kept up to date with the process and progress through continued communications via the newsletter, emails and our Journey Board (on display each Sunday). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to members of the Building Committee.

Building Committee Members:

Mike Watson

Veronica Jackson

Rev. Sue McCullough

Bob Welt

Margaret Burford

Jane Naisbitt

Rosemarie Brokenshire

Randy Naisbitt

Shelley Riddick

Rob and Kendra Thouless

Deb Landon

Phoebe Campbell

Susan Winlaw

Kristy Van Kooten-Bossence



Deb Landon - Communications' Lead

Anglican Church Women News



After our summer hiatus we start coming together again on Tuesday morning at 10:30 am on **September 19th** at the Annex (or as I prefer to call it The Wee Cottage). We will also meet on the third Tuesday morning of October and November and during those meetings we will select a good date for December. We will continue our focuses on Faith, Fellowship and Fun.

We welcome all and if your schedule accommodates, bring your lunch and we can continue chatting while we nourish our bodies after we've nourished our minds.

Yours respectfully,

Susan Winlaw ACW President

BAC News

BAC Breakfast

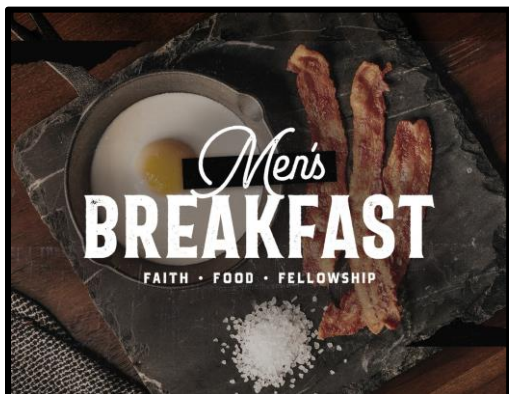
Thursday, October 5, 2023 9:30 am

At Louie's Restaurant in Ingersoll.

Please join us.

We will give our phone list a call.

Scott Naisbitt BAC Lead



Altar Guild News



Sunday October 8th

At this year's Harvest Thanksgiving service, the Altar Guild will be collecting vegetables, fruit, etc. to help celebrate our blessings. We will then donate these items to the Food Bank to honour others less fortunate. Please bring your items to the Masonic Hall and place them in the basket provided. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Donna Hunter Altar Guild Co-ordinator



Minnie Alecia Dawe

Charles Arthur Stuart Little

Kathleen Grace Barlow

Donald Kilgour Campbell

Outreach News

Salvation Army Foodbank

"Thank you so much," a phrase I hear almost once a week from the staff at the Foodbank. They are most appreciative of the parishioners of St. James'. We stepped up at the beginning of the Covid crisis and continue to this day to help those with food insecurity.

One of their long time volunteers passed away this summer. Being short on help they have asked us, if the Foodbank supplies the snacks, if we would pack the snack bags for school/nursery age children. The Needle and Craft group have agreed to help with this.

St. James' parishioners also donated enough goodies that we can fill 30 back-to-school snack bags for the food bank. That's amazing! Each snack bag contains: 5 drink boxes, 2 fruit cups, 2 pudding cups and 2 applesauce. That gets topped up with 9 "peanut free" snacks.

As the Fall season settles in we will be bombarded from many groups for help with finances and food items. I appreciate, the Foodbank appreciates, any gifts that you are able to donate.

Thank you so much!

Shron Gillett - Parish Outreach Convenor
for the Ingersoll Food Bank

Cycles of Life



We were introduced to the Cycles of Life program last year at one of our services. They provide food, clothing, and personal items to those needing a helping hand and to the homeless. They service Ingersoll, Woodstock and Tillsonburg. Last year they were very much in need of an indoor venue for Tuesday afternoons on the day they service Ingersoll.

Scott Naisbitt was in church for that presentation. He approached the Masons and was able to secure the Masonic Hall for this group allowing them to leave the Gazebo area downtown for an indoor location.

They were also in need of storage room in Ingersoll. They were able to secure space at the new church at 184 Oxford as well as the Fusion Center.

This is a very hard working group. Not having any permanent home they lug food and clothing twice a day, each day, to provide for those in need. I have had occasion to work with them. It is heavy, hard work.

All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you to the parishioners of St. James' who have been supporting this group with financial donations as well as food and clothing items.

Thank you,

Sharon

PS - Thank you for the dental hygiene products collected over the last two weeks. They will be greatly appreciated.

Nursing Home Services



Eight area churches participate in the Ingersoll Ministerial Group that oversees worship /praise services for our local long term care residences and one retirement residence – Secord Trails, Woodingford Lodge, and Oxford Manor. St. James' will provide the services on the following
Thursdays – Thursday October 19th at 3 pm at Secord Trails, and, Thursday December 14th at Oxford Manor at 1:30 pm.

Please join our music director, Kristy and wardens, Veronica and Mike, and other dedicated volunteers as we provide this ministry for our community. Your presence is a great assistance in filling the areas with song and praise.

Needle and Craft Group News

The Needle and Craft Group have returned to quilting, knitting, crocheting, and other hand crafts after a holiday in August. The group is busy planning and with friends are making The Needle and Craft Group have returned to quilting, knitting, crocheting, and other hand crafts after a holiday in August. The group is busy planning and with friends are making poppies for the Remembrance Day display we will have to commemorate the World Wars and the sacrifices made for our freedom.



Under the guidance of Sharon Gillett the group is preparing for an event sale in November to raise funds for charities. Hands are busy making items for sale. Set aside November 18 to visit the event sale.

The group is very fortunate to have Sharon Gillett as a member. Her hard work as one of St. James' community outreach members is very much appreciated by the group. She leads our work with the Food Bank, Cycles of Life, and along with Kendra Thouless and Bob Welt, the Inter Church charity. It has been identified that the Food Bank desperately needs volunteers to help, e.g. stocking shelves, etc. If you are able to volunteer for an hour or two once a week or once a month it will certainly help. Please contact Lovesh at 519-777-8440 for information to volunteer. Please tell him that you are from St. James'.

As we all know times are very difficult for so many people and if we are able to give a helping hand we receive so much joy.

The Needle and Craft Group's purpose is to "share the wealth" in community outreach programs.

We meet each Tuesday from 1:30 to 4:30 pm, doing needle and craft work, one's own project or a group project, while enjoying fellowship with much laughter. You need not to have a project or a desire to do hand work to join us for fellowship and tea and cookies.

For further information please call Margaret Burford at 519-303-2001.

Fundraising News

Fundraising Vendor Event



The Needle and Craft group will be hosting a vendor event in November as a fundraiser. There will be 18 vendors on site all willing to sell their wares.

Spread the word. Come on down.

Visit us at the Masonic Hall on Saturday, November 18th from 9am to 2pm.

The Farm Show



For over 26 years, farmers have attended Canada's Outdoor Farm Show to learn about the newest and most innovative products and technology in agriculture. The organizers are excited to be back in a big way for 2023.

The organizers require volunteers from various service groups and charity groups (Masonic Lodges, Shriners, Eastern Star, St. James' Church, Ingersoll Pipe Band) to assist with parking, supervising at one of the gates, helping at crosswalks and so on. \$11.00 per hour is paid per volunteer..

Several members and friends of our parish devoted time to work as volunteers at the show. Thank you to Danny Wilson, Jane Naisbitt, Janet Hevenor, Bill Riddick, Mike Watson and Veronica Jackson for taking on this initiative.

Our Fall Tribute Show

Friday October 13th

St. James' Church Ingersoll presents

**A
50's & 60's
Rock n' Roll
Buffet Dinner
& Show**

**Friday
October
13th
6:00 PM**

**Unifor
Local 88 Hall
364 Victoria
St. Ingersoll**


Elvis will be in the house!
Shon Carroll - Winner at the
Collingwood 2018
Elvis Festival


**Jackie Grainge Tribute
Artist Extraordinaire**

Tickets - \$55 Call 519-485-0385 to reserve
Catering by The Village Catering & Deli of Thamesford
Cocktails – 6 pm; Dinner – 6:30 pm; Show to follow

Whole Lotta Shakin Going On at St. James' Church Ingersoll Fundraiser

St. James' Anglican Church Ingersoll is pleased once again to announce a very fun musical evening - dinner and concert with two outstanding artists! One of our very favourite tribute artists, Jackie Grainge from Cambridge, will be singing the tunes of the 50's and 60's. Jackie is an awesome performer and always entertains us with her renditions of number one hits. And Jackie's special sidekick will be Shon Carroll from Kitchener. Shon is a past winner at the Collingwood Elvis Festival – so yes, Elvis will be in the house!

This outstanding dinner concert will be held one night only – Friday October 13th.

Your evening will begin with cocktails at 6:00 pm (cash bar); dinner at 6:30 pm (a buffet deliciously prepared and served by Thamesford's Village Deli catering team), and, finally a one-hour show of all your favourite rock 'n roll music songs. There will be "a whole lotta shakin going on"!

Tickets for the evening are \$55.00 and the venue is the Unifor Local 88 Hall on Victoria Street in Ingersoll.

So act now and call the church office at [519-485-0385](tel:519-485-0385) to reserve your tickets. Simply tell Kristy Van Kooten-Bossence, our office administrator, how many tickets you require. A wonderful dinner and show awaits you this fall.

This is one of our major fundraisers for the fall of 2023, so we hope you will come out and support it and invite your friends and neighbours to come and have "a whole lotta fun"!

A Christmas Concert with Marie Bottrell



Canadian Country music star, Marie Bottrell was so disappointed that she could not perform at our show last spring, and has agreed to come and do a Christmas themed concert for us.

Mare wrote to us and said, " *Thanks to everyone for all of the understanding. Honestly, that was a nightmare for me to have to cancel but I knew I had to. Hopefully we can try again sometime in the future. Christmas might be fun! My favourite time to sing ! I love Christmas music!*"

So we have booked Marie to perform on **Sunday December 3rd at 2 pm at the Masonic Hall.**

Marie will perform a couple of sets and in between we will have sing-a-long Christmas song session with Kristy leading us.

We will also be serving some delicious seasonal treats and tea and coffee. We want to put everyone in the Christmas spirit.

This is the first Sunday of Advent (The Sunday known for "Lighting the Candle of Hope).

There is no charge for this concert and we will take up a good will offering.

So mark December 3rd on your calendar!



Selection Committee Report

The Selection Committee composed of Rosemarie Brokenshire (Chair), Bob Welt, Shelley Riddick, Mary Fitzmorris, Kristy VanKooten Bossence, Mike Watson and Veronica Jackson have completed the Parish Profile that the Diocese of Huron requires for posting to enable our search for a new priest. It took many hours and weeks of tabulating our congregational survey results, and putting together a document that reflected our past, present and future. Each member contributed to the process and they are thanked for their due diligence. Working around vacation and holiday schedules of the members of the committee was at times very challenging.

Through this process we met with our territorial Archdeacon, The Venerable Osita Oluigbo, who is in charge of the East part of the diocese (Brant/Norfolk/Delaware/Oxford). We also used the Venerable Richard Jones as our congregational coach. Many of you were present at our worship service on June 18th and met him.

After the service Rev'd Rich and Rev'd Vermell Stevens, presently a Deacon at St. John's Church, Tillsonburg joined us at a coffee hour. This was an opportunity for the parish members present to ask questions about the selection process to find a new incumbent priest for St. James'.

Our next steps this fall will be to continue to meet to prepare interview questions for candidates that the Diocese will forward to us.

Rev'd Sue has provided us with a prayer as we continue along this challenging but exciting path.



A Prayer for the Selection Process

Creator God,

Thank you for all that you have done in helping the Parish Selection Committee write an authentic and accurate story of our parish as told in the new parish profile.

We pray that you continue to be with the people of the Parish Selection Committee as they carry on with the process of selecting a new priest for our parish. Give each member of the committee an open and discerning heart as they approach the work that is necessary for the interviewing part of the selection process.

Loving God, we also pray for those priests who are called to read and respond to our parish profile. May the person among them who feels your presence in what they read and a true desire to walk with the people of St. James' know that this call comes from you. Give our committee clarity of vision to recognize the person that you are calling to be with us.

*All this we pray through the love and strength of your son, Jesus, the Christ.
Amen.*



**Rev'd Rich Jones and his wife, Heather
at our service**



Mary Fitzmorris with Rev'd Vermell

Interim Priest Replacement

As mentioned earlier in the newsletter, Rev'd Sue will be away from St. James' Church both preparing and convalescing from knee surgery this fall. We hold her in our prayers during this difficult period of time.

The Wardens are pleased to advise you that the Reverend Stephen Yeo will be providing us with BAS Eucharist services during Reverend Sue's planned absence. The dates are October 1st to November 12th with November 5th yet to be confirmed.



The Rev'd Stephen Yeo MDiv RP

**Certified Spiritual Care Practitioner and
Supervisor-Educator (CPE)**

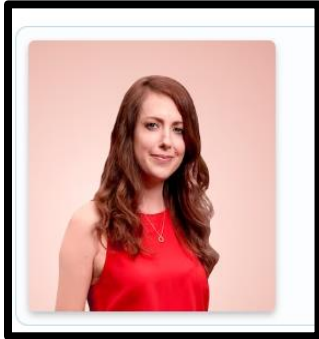
**Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental
Health Care**

The Rev'd Stephen Yeo joined the St. Joseph's Health Care London Spiritual Care team in 2004. Stephen spent ten years as Spiritual Care Practitioner at Regional Mental Health Care St. Thomas and is now located at the Southwest Centre for Forensic Mental Health Care where he is also a Certified Spiritual Care Supervisor-Educator in Clinical Pastoral Education. Stephen is a Veriditas-certified Labyrinth Facilitator, a member of the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario, an Allied Scientist with Lawson Health Research Institute, and an Anglican priest.

We welcome Rev'd Stephen to Ingersoll and look forward to his leadership in October and early November.

Warden Mike Watson in the News

At the end of July, our Rector's Warden and also Chair of our Vision Implementation Committee, Mike Watson, was interviewed by CBC London Morning radio host, Rebecca Zandbergen.



Mike gave a terrific interview filling in the background information for St. James' move from 184 Oxford St. to 130 Thames St. S and our goals for the future! Click on the link below to access the interview.

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-158-london-morning/clip/15999708-ingersoll-church-makes-home-old-grocery-store>



Bishop Todd's response –

Wonderful!

Thank you for sharing this and thank you very much Mike for a really great interview - and witness.

Please pass along my congratulations and thanks to the committee and congregation, once again.

+Todd

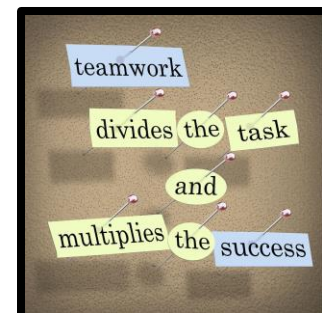


If you haven't had an opportunity to read this month's issue of Huron Church News

Sunday School News

For the past two years we have been extremely fortunate to have parishioner Pat Harrison run a monthly Sunday School class for us in the second story at the Masonic Hall. As a bonus, she actively involved all the children for the four Sundays of the Advent season. Pat has decided to step down from this position and writes – *"I did enjoy doing Sunday School, but I'm going to give someone else the opportunity to do it this year. I'm sure there are others that would be glad to do it."*

So if you think that you might enjoy this opportunity, please speak to Rev'd Sue or one of your wardens. We will make sure that you get the materials to lead our Sunday School kids in a meaningful and creative manner. Prayerfully consider putting together a group of like minded friends and share the task.



Huron Farm Workers Ministry



THE PARISH OF LONG POINT BAY, NORFOLK COUNTY
Port Rowan - Port Ryerse - Turkey Point - Vittoria - St. John's Woodhouse

The Huron Farmworkers Ministry

March 13, 2023

Greetings to the Diocese of Huron Community!

First of all, The Huron Farmworkers Ministry would like to thank everyone for the support and encouragement that we have received from all of our supporters. Without you, this ministry may not have ever got off the ground.

Last year (2022) we received an amazing support from all our Huron Community and were able to collect over a hundred bags with clothes which were in an amazing condition. We also received a variety of other contributions such as bicycles, toiletries, kitchen utensils, bedding, food and many more. This year (2023) we continue to assist our Farmworkers providing the equal services as last year and we are planning in expanding our services to two different locations, Tillsonburg and Burford. This past year (2022) we were able to start preparing meals at Trinity Church in Simcoe and also have been able to support the workers filling out forms/paperwork they need to send to CRA for instance.

This year, once again, we are seeking donations of men's clothing such as pants, sweaters, hoodies, t-Shirts, warm jackets, shoes, gloves, baseball caps, team shirts, toques, Bicycle. Preferred sizes are small to large in clean, ready to wear condition

Also, our greenhouse project has been a great success as well and we were not only able to provide some food to our farmworkers but also to others institutions such as the local food bank, the women's shelter, and some families in our community.

Our team continues to work hard to keep this ministry running and as we continue to grow we still need your support. Any contribution is greatly appreciated. Financial donations are warmly welcomed by sending your gift via e-transfer to huronfarmworkersproject@gmail.com or sending a cheque to -

The Huron Hispanic & Migrant Farmworkers Outreach Ministry

c/o St John's Anglican Church
46 Front Road, PO Box 387
Port Rowan, Ontario N0E 1M0

For further information or donation pick up, please contact the Norfolk H. F.M coordinator Fr. Enrique Martinez at enriquemartinez@huronfarmworkersministry.org or dianarueda@huronfarmworkersministry.org or call us at 548-881-5614. follow us <https://www.facebook.com/thehuronfarmworkersministry>

On behalf of the church community at the Parish of Long Point Bay, we would like to thank you in advance for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Fr. Enrique Martinez
Long Point Bay Parish, Rector./Huron Farmworkers Ministry Coordinator

This past spring, St. James' adopted this challenge as one of its outreach initiatives. We have been collecting clothing for this project from our parishioners. The ACW has also made a generous financial donation.

A special thank you to Trudy Groot, one of our parishioners, who volunteers her time two or three times a week to assist at the Salvation Army Thrift Store here in town. The manager of the store has given Trudy many, many bags of clothing which Trudy took home and washed and prepared for redistribution. These items were then transported by the wardens to St. John's Anglican Church Tillsonburg where they are picked up weekly. Any clothing not suitable for this project (several bags of women's clothing) was passed on to the Cycles of Life Centre in Tillsonburg for redistribution across the county. To read more about the project go to the following link - <https://dihuron.org/news/see-the-seeds-of-the-gospel-firmly-planted-here> - and read about the importance of migrant workers to our Canadian agriculture business and economy.

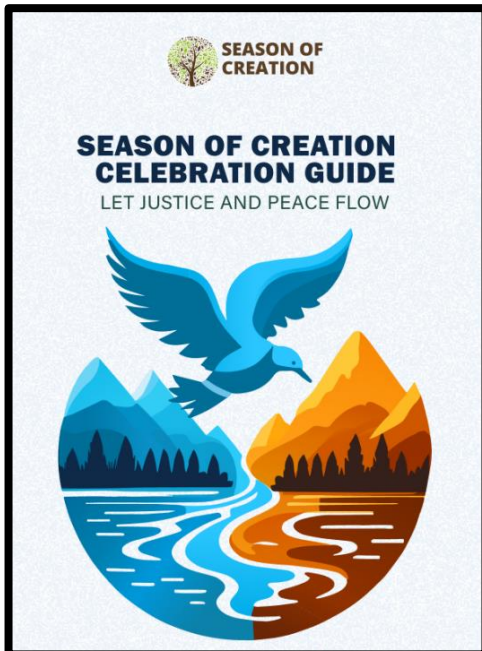


SEASON OF CREATION

SEPTEMBER 1- OCTOBER 4

Christians around the world are invited to give particular attention to praying and caring for God's creation as part of the [global Season of Creation](#), observed from **September 1 to October 4** every year. [General Synod 2019 passed a resolution](#) adopting the Season of Creation in the Anglican Church of Canada as a time of prayer, education, and action and encouraging dioceses and parishes to participate.

There are many ways your community can participate in the Season of Creation. Hold an ecumenical or interfaith prayer service; worship outdoors; go for a hike with members of your parish; work to reduce your plastic or energy consumption; or advocate for stronger environmental policy. **You are invited to visit the worldwide [Season of Creation website](#) .**



Click on the photo above to open the PDF that contains so much information.

“Welcome!

Welcome to this year's Season of Creation. Thank you for bringing your community together for this special season of ecumenical solidarity. We emerge from it with a stronger sense that we share one common home, and of the urgency to protect it together.

Each year from **September 1 to October 4**, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for creation. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our wellbeing is interwoven with the wellbeing of the Earth.

We rejoice in this opportunity to safeguard our common home and all beings who share it. This year, the theme for the season is “Let justice and peace flow”. This guide will help you learn about the season and plan to celebrate it. More resources, including webinars and prayer services, sample flyers, bulletin inserts, and the official Season of Creation social media channels, are available online. Please visit

[SeasonOfCreation.org](#) to access all the materials.

In Christ,
Season of Creation Ecumenical Steering Committee
Members