THE LOOP

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St. James' Anglican Church Newsletter November 2023

What's Happening At St. James' Church Ingersoll? Read On ...



In this last issue of our newsletter for the calendar year of 2023, we are reviewing some of the church activities and happenings that have occurred since our last fall issue. At the same time we are trying to inform you about what's coming up in the future as we head into 2024!

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Our correspondents have tried to capture **the pulse** of various church activities in their writings and as your editor, I thank them for their contributions.



A healthy church, according to Rick Whitter, who writes a column called "Thoughts on Life and Leading" is -

"Ingredients such as worship, service, community, prayer and evangelism - these are crucial. Vision, stewardship, leadership development, outreach and proper handling of the text within the context are vital. We should explore these features with a sincere desire to be the best church we can possibly be. However, we must never place these elements ahead of complete and total obedience to what God is requiring of the specific church. In our efforts to determine what makes a church successful, we must be sure to be guided by the principle of the true purpose of the church: to bring glory to God and to share Christ with the world."

As we prepare to enter the season of Advent let us be joyful and mindful of how St. James' Church parishioners will share Christ with the world here in Ingersoll and beyond. Your Editor, *Verovica*

Greetings from Rev'd Sue

To Quote the Beatles - "I Feel Fine!"



It's true! I really do feel fine!! And if "fine" isn't a good enough word for you, I feel well.

The knee replacement went without a hitch. Post- surgery exercises are being done are prescribed by the physiotherapist. I'm actually walking in a way I haven't walked in years – properly!

All in all, I cannot really complain about this process. Has it been uncomfortable? Yes. Has it been a challenge? Yes. The hardest thing for me was lying in bed, my knee on ice or rather ice on my knee. Do you know how inconvenient it is to attempt to read a book when you are on your back with you knee higher than your heart? Let's just say it's not fun when you drop the book on your face!!

Seriously, I am recovering well. I see the surgeon for another follow-up on November 22. I'm sure he will be happy with his work and with my participation in making it a success.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone on the first Sunday of Advent.
In the meantime, keep well. God bless.
And thank you all for your prayers. They have helped enormously.

As ever,

Suex



Altar Guild News



The Altar Guild will be decorating with two winter pots at the Altar this year in celebration of the season of Advent and Christmas.

If any parishioners would like to donate towards these pots in memory of or honour of family or friends – please call Donna Hunter at 519-485-2655 or Andrea Cryderman at 519-485-2452 and leave your message.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Donna Hunter

Altar Guild Co-ordinator



Don Campbell

Douglas Gifford

Jack Vann



130 Thames St. South



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE #2 – St. James' New "Home"

Your Vision Committee, Building Committee and Design Committee have been meeting regularly to review and provide information to the architects so that we can prepare for structural renovations in our new home.

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

- Municipal Property Assessment
 Corporation (MPAC) application update

 Our application for exemption was
 denied due to the fact we are not
 actually occupying the building. MPAC
 granted a residential rate for the interim
 until we occupy the building, however,
 our local tax collector advises that the
 revised rate may not be received by
 Town of Ingersoll until January.
- 2. The Vision Committee met with Bishop Todd to review a \$35,000 business proposal we received from Trinity Centres Foundation (TCF) where they would take the lead on Design, Building Construction and Grant writing for our renovation project at 130 Thames. We presented our case for why Church house should financially support this proposal, and Bishop Todd agreed that it was a good idea, and he would take it to his committee. We recently learned the TCF proposal was approved and disbursements would be from Church House. The contract has now been duly executed by Archdeacon Tanya and Trinity Centres Foundation CEO Graham Singh. TCF will be onboard immediately and have indicated they are eager to get started.

- 3. The Vision Committee met with officials from the Town of Ingersoll and County of Oxford in October to share information regarding the possibility of creating affordable housing on the second floor of 130 Thames St. No decisions have been made but we have agreed to continue reciprocal sharing of information with the Town and County within the terms of a confidentiality agreement.
- 4. The first draft of several floor plan options and front and rear facade designs were received in late October by Jane Naisbitt and the Design Team for their review and recommendations. They have met several times settled on a floor plan, presented their recommendations to the Building Committee and are eagerly awaiting an upcoming meeting with our Architect and construction company.
- 5. The Designated Substance Survey report was received near the end of October. Generally, there were no surprises. Remediation will likely be as required, and the cost will be included in the general tender. Asbestos was identified on some piping in the basement and lead paint was located on the second floor, which is very typical of the 1950s vintage of the existing space.
- 6. We have recently learned the Ingersoll BIA have a rebate program in place along with an agreement with Hazen Masonry to repoint and repaint the facades of businesses for \$6,000 and then BIA provides a rebate of \$3,000 to participants. We'll be passing this information along to TCF to see if we're eligible, and if so, have it integrated into our renovation project and its budget.

A special thank you to all the individuals who have spent hours helping our vision of the new home for St. James' come to fruition. Exciting times for St. James' Ingersoll!

The Communications Committee will continue to keep our congregation up to date with the process and progress. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to members of the Building Committee (listed below).

Deb Landon

Chair

St. James' Communications Committee

Building Committee Members -

Mike Watson
Veronica Jackson
Rev'd Sue McCullough
Bob Welt
Margaret Burford
Jane Naisbitt
Rosemarie Brokenshire
Randy Naisbitt
Shelley Riddick
Kendra Thouless
Rob Thouless
Deb Landon
Phoebe Campbell
Susan Winlaw
Kristy VanKooten-Bossence



Anglican Church Women News

The ladies of the ACW wish to thank every single person for his/her generosity that has happened so far and for those who are still submitting funds for the "Bakeless Bake Sale".



You're gonna love it - no actual baking required

Every single calorie (oops that should be \$\$\$) will go toward creating a kitchen in our new parish home that will be used for many upcoming events. We are planning some interesting cooking talks and wonderful odours that will come from that kitchen. And for those upcoming items real calories WILL be consumed.

So far \$2091.00 has been raised with more money still on the way to the bank account. Any nickel, dime, quarter, 50center, Loonie or Twoooonie counts. We do hope that you will continue to eat zero calories and put that planned expenditure toward this kitchen event as we shift into what the news media calls "the gifting season".

Donations can be given to Margaret Burford or Susan Winlaw or (if a tax receipt is desired) on the collection plate or into the church office with the indication "St. James' Building Fund (kitchen)" in the note area of the cheque. Thank you. Thank You. Thank YOU !!! For now and continuing......

Yours respectfully,

Susan Winlaw ACW President

BAC News

BAC Breakfast

Wednesday December 6, 2023 9:30 am At Louie's Restaurant in Ingersoll. Please join us. All men are welcome to attend.

Scott Naisbitt BAC Lead

Needle and Craft Group News



What a Fall the Group has had. Talk about busy bees! With the help of family and friends members of the group crocheted and knitted over 800 poppies to make two display panels and two wreaths for Remembrance Day. One panel and wreath were hung at our new church home, 130 Thames Street, and the second panel was at the Town Hall facing the cenotaph. The second wreath was on the Annex's front door and at the church service on November 5th . Hopefully next year the group is able to expand the display. Many thanks go to the workers and especially to Sharon and Jeannie for assembling the panels and wreaths and arranging the entire process. Thanks to Jessica Lee for printing the words of remembrance. As always our wardens helped at the church.

While the group was working on the poppy display members were also busy making items for our Vendor Event Sale held Saturday, November 18th . Sharon Gillett, Jeannie and Jessica Lee were the planners for the sale. A huge thank you to you!

The group with much help from family and friends had many items for sale. There were beautiful quilted, crocheted, knitted items, beaded jewelry, painted ornaments, greeting cards, and much more and all hand made. All proceeds go to community charities. Sale proceeds are over \$1,200.00

Another project for the group is to assemble school snack bags for the Food Bank. Again Sharon Gillett is a member of the St. James' outreach group (Bob Welt and Kendra Thouless are members) and Sharon is our group's contact for the community needs. As the season advances and needs identified, the group will be working for the community.

If you are interested in joining the fellowship and laughter while working with your hands or helping with suggestions/advice please join the group on Tuesdays at 1:30 - 4:30 pm at the Annex. Have questions? Need a ride? Call Margaret Burford 519-303-2001 or Rosemarie Brokenshire Home- 519-303-0399/Cell 226-456-0617.

Submitted by - Margaret Burford

Vendor Fair Photos















The Vendor Fair organized by the Needle and Craft Group had 15+ vendors on location at the Masonic Hall on Thames St. S. Thank you for their support in assisting the group to raise funds for local charities. Their participation was essential in making this event a success. In the photo collage above, centre left; are some of the N&C group members – Margaret, Donna and Rosemarie, and customer Kathy McBeath; in the bottom left corner – two of the organizers, Sharon Gillett and Jeannie Lee, looking after the sales table for Cycles of Life; bottom corner right – parishioner Joanne Barker, who is an Aloette sales representative, displays her products for sale.

Outreach News

Salvation Army Foodbank

The parishioners of St. James' continue to donate many supplies to our local foodbank. There was a need for coffee, tea, margarine, sugar, rice and other staples over the fall. Many donations came in as well as items for the snack packages that the Needle and Craft Group assembled.

The Food Bank is now looking for boxes of cereal to fill its shelves. Lots of hungry children to feed – think Fruit Loops, Cheerios, Shreddies!

They are also still looking for more volunteers to help with stocking shelves, etc. If you are able to volunteer for an hour or two once a week or once a month it will be very appreciated. Please contact Lovesh @ 519-777-8440 if you are able to help.

Inter Church Interchurch Christmas Kettles

St. James' was asked to "man" the kettles on Friday December 1st from 11am – 6pm at Tremblett's Independent & the LCBO. Thank you to all the volunteers who contacted Kristy and she was able to fill in all the slots on our volunteer sheets.



Donations of new toys or clothing or cheques for the Christmas Hamper program may be dropped off at The Annex and we will direct these gifts to the appropriate locations. Three of our Parish Council members- Kendra, Bob and Sharon are involved with Inter Church. Ingersoll and District Inter-church is able to receive your financial donations for the Christmas Hampers through e-transfer at interchurch2005@gmail.com If you require a Tax Donation Receipt, please include your name, address and phone number in the Message Box.

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 service on **Thursday December 14**th 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.

Embro Thistle Singers



For the past few months, St. James' has been providing a space every other Sunday afternoon for ETS to practice. The choir meets at The Annex and a number of singers travel from Strathroy, Woodstock, Embro, Kintore and Ingersoll to meet up with our talented conductor, Kitty Babcock, and our mistress of the keyboards, Kristy VanKooten-Bossence. It is a very challenging but enjoyable time singing four part harmony. St. James' members who are members in the choir include Kristy (of course), Gary, Carolin and Veronica.

We have two performances scheduled before Christmas. The first is a concert at Cambrocourt residents just outside of Embro. That is on Nov. 28th at 6:45 pm. One of St. James' former parishioners, Harry Shelton, will get a chance to hear us.

The second performance will be at our own church service on December 17th – Advent 3. We are looking forward to singing some joyful music for all of you.

Fundraising Updates

Our Fall Tribute Show Follow Up

Woodstock Ingersoll Echo

October 20, 2023

St. James Anglican Church Ingersoll An Evening of 50's and 60's Music & Dinner



Organizers for the evening event were Veronica Jackson (sporting her original Highschool sweater) and Mike Wat-son, Wardens of St James Anglican Church.

Buffet Dinner took place on October 13. It was a fundraiser in Ingersoll for St. James' Anglican Church. The venue was the Unifor Local 88 Hall. The evening began

A Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On – A Tribute Show and auffet Dinner took place on October 13. It was a fundamental with cocktails at 6:00 pm; dinner at 6:30 pm, and, finally a one-hour show of all their favourite rock 'n roll music songs by two outstanding Tribute artists, Jackie Grainge from Cambridge and Shon Carroll from Kitchener.







Hungry patrons digging into their delicious Roast Beef d







Tribute Show Report Continued

To all our parishioners who came and assisted with the setup of the Unifor Hall for our Tribute Show on Friday October 13th – a huge thank you!

It was a great success with 145 folks purchasing tickets for dinner and the show. Also a special thanks to those who stayed behind to assist with the clean-up.

After we paid all our expenses (hall rental, caterer, entertainers' fees, decorations, and misc. items) we cleared just over \$2000 on this fundraising evening.

A very fun way to raise some much needed income for church expenses and a way to show our local community that we are very much apart of it.



Elvis (Shon) with Barb F. one of our patrons backstage after the show



Jackie portraying Carole King

This was the second show of 2023 and once we move into our new space we are looking forward to hosting more events. Other local Anglican churches are also booking Jackie Grainge and her artists – St. John's Tillsonburg and Old St. Paul's Woodstock had shows booked as well in October.



Upcoming Christmas Concert with Marie Bottrell



Mark December 3rd on your calendar!



Canadian Country music star, Marie Bottrell will be performing at the Masonic Hall on Sunday afternoon at 2 pm on December 3rd.

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 and juice.

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.

We are asking parishioners to donate cookies, squares, mini tarts and Christmas cake to serve at intermission.

Please bring your donated goodies to church on December 3rd, or drop them off at The Annex on Friday December 1st.

We hope that we have a great turn out from our congregation as well as from the community. Spread the news to your neighbours and friends and family members.

Rheo Thompson Chocolate Sales



Smoothies - Are Back!

Chocolate Mint.

Many of you ordered these terrific chocolates last year and so we are offering them for sale again with the same pricing – \$4 each, or better still, 3 for \$10. Available in 3 flavours - Milk Chocolate Orange, Milk Chocolate Raspberry, Dark

If you purchase a package of three you will get one of each flavour unless you request some other combination.

Purchasing individual bars - please indicate your choice.

As an added bonus, they will also be gift wrapped in Christmas themes, so this is really going to help you with your Christmas shopping.

If you choose, Louise Watson, our chocolate sales convenor, can arrange for your smoothies to be wrapped in non-holiday themed paper (for example a birthday / anniversary / thank you design). Orders can be placed by calling/texting Louise at 519-670-7003 or email to stellar@rogers.com or by calling Kristy at the office - 519-485-0385. Payment may be made ahead of time or at the time of delivery/pickup.

Yummy treats for all!

The Huron Hunger Fund

PWRDF HURON (Formerly known as the HURON HUNGER FUND)

The PWRDF HURON Committee is given the responsibility in the Diocese of Huron to raise awareness, to provide education and to raise funds for the ongoing work of the **Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF)**.

PWRDF is the ministry of Canadian Anglicans engaging in development work, responding to emergencies, protecting refugees and educating and advocating for change. "Inspired by the vision of a spirit-filled community of hope, PWRDF walks together with partners in Canada and overseas to share in the creation of a more just and peaceful world".

Through individual donations (offering envelopes included), the annual Bishop's Fall Appeal, a PWRDF Huron Fund Sunday in May and the generosity and energy of artists such as the Three Cantors and Angus Sinclair, Rachel Snow and Marque Smith, the Diocese of Huron has been a leader in the Canadian Church in contributing to this work.

OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

- Canadian Churches in Action (CCA)
- Canadian Food Grains Bank (CFGB)
- Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR)
- Kairos (Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives)
- Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC)

Development work is carried out by partners in four world regions: Africa, Asia & the Pacific, Latin America & the Caribbean, and Canadian Indigenous communities. For stories, parish resources, and a complete account of the philosophy and values of PWRDF please visit www.pwrdf.org



From the Office of your Administrative Assistant, Kristy:



As we get ready and approach Christmas it is an exciting time!! But it also brings us to the end of another year. If you are looking for to make any donations – large or small for 2023, we ask that you do so before December 31st to be included in the 2023 tax season. Income tax receipts will be out in February.

St. James' has been asked to "man" the kettles on Friday December 1st and you have answered the call – the list is complete and I thank you for making my job easy. I will send out a reminder email with times this week.

Preparations need to be made for 2024 so if you are interested in being a part of the Readers and Communion Assistants Group, please contact me through the office – either by phone or email.

If you are the leader of a group, please start to think of your Vestry Report which will need to be submitted in the early part of January 2024.

As always, if there is anything you are needing, please do not hesitate to reach out to me by phone – 519-485-0385 or email – stjamesoffice@execulink.com.

Kristy



Huron Church News

Click on the picture below to read the latest issue of the Diocesan newspaper



NOVEMBER 2023 In this edition:

- CELEBRATING HURON FARMWORKERS MINISTRY
- PWRDF FALL APPEAL
- Invisible people they are all around us
- "Young People" what are they and what do they

Sunday School News



The big kids and the little kids are all having a fun educational time in Sunday School! We have had two sessions this fall, and, we have two more in December – **December 3rd and December 17**^{th.} We have seven children, and, one teen and two adults delivering the program. We are looking forward to learning about the four Sundays in Advent as we prepare for Christ's birthday.

The Sunday School is open to all children age 3 and up. Just have your little ones show up for the 10:30 Worship time. All are welcome. Thanks to Meryl Kouwenberg and Rob Bossence for guiding the kids through the various activities.



Submitted by – **Veroníca Jackson**

Wardens' Report

Since our last issue, your Wardens continued to be busy helping to support our church in several ways.

- A) Fundraising- Organizing and carrying out the plans for a tribute show in October; chocolate sales in November; Marie Bottrell concert in December
- B) Meetings Attending and chairing many meetings. This has been a busy two months with Vision Committee meetings, Selection Committee meetings, Parish Council meetings, and Building Committee meetings. Each of these committee meetings was either held at The Annex, at Ingersoll's Town Hall, at our new property, or virtually from our homes with Church House in London.
- C) Correspondence Lots of emails and phone calls were travelling back and forth between the Wardens and other contacts. Some of these surrounded our involvement with Trinity Centres Foundation and PK Construction and POW Architecture; others were with Archdeacon Osita Oluigbo as we sorted out our roster of Sunday coverage required by our interim priest (Rev'd Stephen Yeo) and visiting lay reader (Ellen Hook). This was to cover Rev'd Sue's vacancy as she was recuperating from knee surgery and working on her rehab exercises.
- D) Worship Services Assisting with the set up and take down of equipment at the Masonic Hall continued; videotaping the services and uploading them to YouTube for those parishioners and friends of the parish that were unable to attend in-person services also continued
- E) Helping Out Assisting where needed in the community – ex. worship services at the local long term care facilities and retirement homes
- F) Financials Weekly looking after our bank deposit and letting our Treasurer Bob Welt know "where we were at" that particular week. Thanks to Pierre Beaumier for assisting with the counting in September when Mike was on holiday.

Parish Council Report



Our final meeting of 2023 was held earlier in November. Reports were submitted by the representatives of various committees that sit on council. Our present council is made up of – Rosemarie Brokenshire, Sharon Gillett, Joanne Barker, Jane Naisbitt, Bob Welt, Susan Winlaw, Kendra Thouless, Mike Watson, Veronica Jackson, recording secretary Kristy VanKooten-Bossence, and Rev'd Sue.

As we approach a new calendar year, and our annual vestry meeting at the end of January, we will be looking for new members to sit on parish council. Some of our members are ready to move on to other outreach and parish activities and will not be returning to council. We will be looking for individuals who are prepared to attend 5 to 6 meetings over the course of the year and contribute to committee work. Meetings are in the evening and can be attended virtually.

Your wardens are willing to stay on for another year to guide several of our building and vision committees to the completion of our new church location. Additionally, we would remain on the selection committee as we continue our search for a new priest to be hired as our incumbent.

We would also like to see I or 2 people step forward that would volunteer to be deputy wardens (wardens in training) so that we can ensure that any transition from one year to another is completed smoothly. This was the practice prior to the Covid pandemic years and we would like to see it reinstated.

Please consider putting your name forward for a position as a parish council member or a deputy warden for 2024.

Submitted by:

Veronica Jackson & Mike Watson

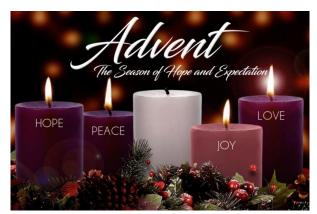
Advent Services 2023

We welcome back Rev'd Sue McCullough on December 3rd.

The four Sundays of Advent are December 3,10,17 and 24

Advent is a time when we observe Christ's first coming while we also look forward to his second coming. Each of the four weeks leading up to Christmas is focused on hope, peace, joy, and love respectively.

All our services will involve the lighting of the Advent Candles.



Through the candles of Advent, we learn of: **Hope:** The first candle symbolises hope. We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep His promises to us. We have an inheritance reserved in heaven, and this living hope is an "anchor for the soul, firm and secure" (Hebrews 6:19).

Peace: The second candle reminds us that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, came to bring us spiritual peace. Peace begins with a right relationship with God, and it continues to fill us as we focus on His strength and trust Him. (Isaiah 26:3)

Joy: The third candle reminds us of the joy we have in Jesus. We have complete joy even though we face trials, because our faith is being tested and proven genuine. The end of this faith is the salvation of our souls. (James 1:2)

Love: The fourth candle reminds us of God's love for humanity. We can love one another with a pure heart because we have been born again through the Word of God which lives and abides forever. (1 Peter 1:23)

Jesus Christ: The fifth candle, sometimes known as the Christ candle and placed in the middle of the four candles, is white in colour and represents the purity of Christ, the spotless, sinless lamb of God – the Saviour of the world! (Luke 2:11)

The Advent season is a beautiful reminder to prepare spiritually, even as we prepare to decorate our homes or buy gifts for friends and family. More important than the outward preparation is the inward preparation of our hearts. Because Christ came the first time, we can live with hope, peace, joy, and love till He comes again.

This year the fourth Sunday of Advent coincides with Christmas Eve Day.

Christmas Eve & Day 2023



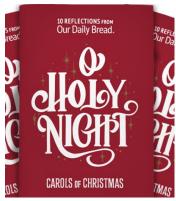
Sunday December 24th - There will be one services at 7:00 pm - Eucharist Worship Service at the Masonic Hall



Sunday December 25th - 10:30 am – Eucharist Service (Said) at The Annex

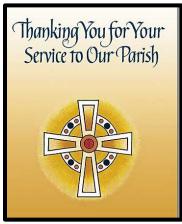
Sunday December 31^{st -} First Sunday after Christmas

10:30 am - Eucharist Service - at Masonic Hall



A special Christmas edition of "Our Daily Bread" booklets – available at The Annex or at church services in December.

Join Monica LaRose and more Our Daily Bread writers to reflect on the language and the historical context of these treasured songs—and to offer prayers of thanksgiving! May they help you enjoy Christmas music more deeply.



We would like to thank The Reverend Stephen Yeo for coming to St. James' Church over the course of October and November to lead us in our worship services. It was wonderful having a committed and attentive priest available to guide us through this period of transition when Rev'd Sue was away. Thank you, Stephen, and please come back and visit often.

May God look upon you with favor for your faithful care of His people.

Praying you continue to be renewed through the power of the Gospel and through the grace of Christ, Our Lord.



Every week our church bulletin will include the names of those family members, friends, and parishioners who are ill or are recovering from surgery or illness.

If you would like to have a name placed on our prayer list please email the office stjamesoffice@execulink.com or call the church office – 519-485-0385.



Reminders

Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday – 10 AM to 1 PM

Office Closed

December 22nd 1 pm to January 5th inclusive

Phone Number 519-485-0385

Email

stjamesoffice@execulink.com

Web Site

http://www.stjamesingersoll.com/

Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/people/StJames -Anglican-Church-Ingersoll-Ontario/100064560229242/

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