

THE LOOP

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St. James' Anglican Church Newsletter Spring 2023

*The winter is past;
the rains are over
and gone.
Flowers appear on
the earth; the
season of singing
has come...*

Song of Songs 2:11

Our mailing address is:
St. James' Anglican Church Office
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Inside This Issue

- 1 Synod for the Diocese of Huron
- 2 Synod Project / Poem "If"
- 3/4 From the Desk of Reverend Sue
- 5 Scrapbooking Fundraiser
- 6 Vision & Selection Committee Reports
- 7 Selection Committee / Special Birthday
- 8/9/10 Dinner & Show Fundraiser
- 11 Wardens' Report
- 12 BAC News
- 13 Sunday School Report
- 13-15 ACW Report
- 16/17 Needle & Craft Group Report / Prayer List
- 18 "Sing Together" Concert

Spring Synod 2023 May 28-29

Late spring always means Synod for the Diocese of Huron. This year our delegates attending Synod will be Sharon Gillett and Rosemarie Brokenshire.

183rd Synod of the Diocese of Huron Opening Worship Service

Sunday, May 28, 2023

4:30 - 6:30 pm

The Cathedral Church of Saint Paul

Events / 183rd Synod of the Diocese of Huron

SINGING THE LORD'S SONG IN A STRANGE LAND



The 183rd Synod of the Diocese of Huron
MAY 28-29, 2023



For those of us not attending Synod, we can still take part in the church service virtually. The service will be in-person and livestreamed from the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul.

Synod then moves to RBC Place in London with a dinner on Sunday evening. Synod reconvenes on Monday at RBC Place. For those delegates from each parish that cannot attend in person, there is an option to attend the meeting with a Zoom Webinar.

The following Deaneries in the Diocese of Huron will be represented by lay delegates and clergy -
Brant/Norfolk, Delaware, Essex, Huron/Perth, Kent, Lambton, London, Oxford, Saugeens and Waterloo.

Following Synod, our representatives will share at a Sunday service their thoughts and impressions of Synod.

Synod Project

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THE COLLEGE OF DEACONS SYNOD PROJECT FOR 2023 SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR FOR ALL AGES

Imagine being homeless and having no access to laundry to clean your sock or underwear, or being a family having to make the choice between putting a meal on the table or buying new socks and underwear. It is unimaginable isn't it?

Socks and underwear are the most under-donated, yet most needed, items of clothing. No one should be deprived of these simple daily necessities of life; that many of us take for granted.

Hygiene and physical comfort are only a part of this basic human need. New, clean socks and new, clean underwear also provide dignity and self-esteem. For all of us, these items are a necessity, not a luxury.

Please help support this project in any way you can.

What We Need

SOCKS
BOXERS AND BRIEFS
PANTIES AND LONG UNDEWEAR
OF ALL SIZES * FOR ALL AGES
IN ORIGINAL PACKAGING PLEASE

Parishes, please collect items to *donate* and when your Lay Delegates and Clergy attend Synod activities at RBC Place - May 28th and May 29th, they can place them in the drop boxes located at the Deacon's table. Items will be redistributed to shelters around the Diocese.

Financial Donations may be made through the Diocese of Huron website. Click on <https://diohuron.org/give>. Use the drop down under "To" to choose "Deacon's Project".



The Diocese of Huron



If you would like to contribute to the College of Deacons initiative for the Synod 2023 Project, your donations of socks and/or underwear can be brought to church on May 14th, 21st, or 28th. Our Synod lay delegates will take them to Synod for collection. This initiative is being supported by parishes across all the deaneries.

*Thank you
For your support!*

More information about Synod is available at –
<https://diohuron.org/programs/synod-resources>

**BELIEVE in the Word of God
&
Put your faith into action!**

Christian poetry should make Christians aware of the importance of their faith to the world. This Christian poem admonishes Christians to put their faith into practice. It's also an implied Christian wish.

If...

**If the world were full of Christians
who studied their Bible daily,
who really did believe
God's commands applied to them,
who put what they learned
in God's Holy Word into practice,
their actions reflecting that Word,
then earth would be close to heaven.
If the world were full of Christians
who knew that being a Christian
is more than going to church,
who lived their lives according to
God's will,
service to Him their main purpose,
who practiced Jesus' teachings
every day, with everyone they met,
loving and helping their neighbors,
then the earth would be a place
of heavenly harmony and peace.**

By Joanna Fuchs

Prayer in action is love,
love in action is service.

Mother Teresa



A Little Something From Sue's Perspective

"Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life."

- Henri Nouwen

Henri Nouwen is one of my favourite modern-day theologians. He was compassionate, wise, and smart. I could tell you about his background, but I am going to suggest that you learn about him with a little research. One thing that is significant about Nouwen was his choice to leave academia and live and work with the people of L'Arche Daybreak in Richmond Hill in 1986. Henri Nouwen died in September 1996.

L'Arche communities are all over the world. The first one was established in France by Canadian, Jean Vanier, the son of former Governor General, Georges Vanier and his wife Pauline Vanier. L'Arche is a community-centered organization where people with intellectual disabilities live, work and grow together with people who assist them with their daily living. It is a faith-based organization centered in Christianity, but people of any worldview are welcome. It was in this environment where Henri Nouwen found peace, authenticity and a place where he felt truly at home...



**CREATING A WORLD WHERE
EVERYONE BELONGS**

<https://www.larche.ca/>

"Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life."

I have been an Anglican since before I was born. For as long as I can remember, I have been a "church geek" and Church has been an integral part of my life. I don't remember much about the first church I attended but I do remember the second church. I remember the people who went there and I remember the clergy who came and went. Most of all, I remember the singing and I remember the man who was the Sunday School superintendent. Both of those left an immense imprint on my life. Mrs. Allen, who led the choir practices, encouraged me to be the best singer that I could be. Mr. Whitby, a kind and gentle man, had a way about him that made Sunday School lessons come to life. Both of these people played an important part in my life and I expect neither of them ever knew it. Along with Mrs. Allen and Mr. Whitby, there were many others who attended that church who taught me, unbeknownst to them, so much about what it means to be a loving, generous, supportive human being. Think about the people whom you have known over the years who have made a difference in your life ...

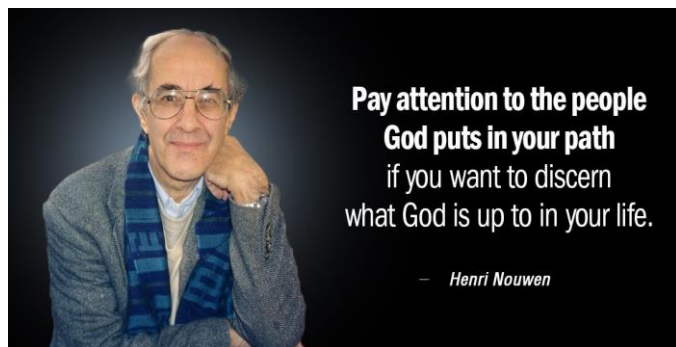
“Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life.”

The people God puts in your path don't necessarily have to be people that you meet in person. Consider those whose words you read. Consider those of whom you hear stories. Consider those whose life-choices make you sit back and go “hmmm.” How we respond to the people who pop up in our paths, I believe, helps us to figure out what God has in store for us. One person who comes to mind for me is Barbara Brown Taylor. I do not know her personally. I have attended a conference at which she was the keynote speaker, followed by a worship service at which she preached an amazing sermon. One of the things, among several, that I have learned from her is how to laugh at myself in the midst of my faith. Sometimes, when it comes to faith and church, I take myself far too seriously. Brown Taylor has taught me to evaluate myself and my responses to those things that irritate me and to say, “How important is that in the scheme of things? Will that matter in a week?” However, she has also taught me the importance of authenticity in my preaching. Trust me, I do not preach nearly as well as Barbara Brown Taylor and I never will. What is important in this is that I was able to...

“Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life.”

When it comes to the people who influence you, it can be the person you least expect. We all assume that the people who help us discern are people whom we have grown up with, the people that we respected as a child, the people who are our peers. Let's look at others who may have had an influence on you...if you are/were a teacher, what about those students that fill/filled your days? Those of us who are parents, what about our children and perhaps, even their friends? What about the homeless person whom you have encountered regularly? What about the dying person who is frightened? What about the living person who is frightened? Every last person we encounter impacts our lives in some way or another. What Nouwen is saying here is for us to pay attention. We let lots of moments pass us by without a second thought. We let lots of people pass us by without a second thought. What we really need to do is...

“Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life.”



Read Henri's Books

Explore the literary legacy of one of the most influential spiritual writers of our generation.

During his lifetime, Henri Nouwen wrote thirty-nine books which sold over one million copies. Today, book sales have surpassed seven million copies in more than thirty-five languages. Books drawn from his unpublished writing and other sources continue to be published. With his great honesty and vulnerability about his own experience of God and the spiritual life, his books continue to resonate today.

Many of Nouwen's books are available through the Oxford County Library in regular book format, e-book format, and audio book format. The link to the

Henri Nouwen Society web page can be found at —<https://henrinouwen.org/about/>

Scrapbooking Fundraiser February 2023



Parish Council member, Sharon Gillett organized a fundraiser for St. James'. It was held on Saturday February 25th at the Masonic Hall. It was a full day of fun from 9 am - 8 pm. \$55 got you all the snacks, drinks you wanted plus lunch, and supper. The snacks and meals were wonderful with lots of goodies being donated by the ladies of the parish. Special thanks to Rosemarie Brokenshire and Margaret Burford for organizing the kitchen help and for all the preparation and cooking of the meals. As well, a big thank you goes out to Gladys Mott for assisting Rosemarie and Margaret with phone calls for the donations of muffins, cookies and squares. As usual many hands assisted behind the scenes with the event to ensure that it was a great success.

Pat Harrison was instrumental as well looking after the silent auction set up and the draw organization. Also, the men of the parish stepped forward to assist with table set up on Friday and clean up on Saturday night. Jeannie Lee assisted Sharon with the registration process of the Scrapbooking participants who came from far and wide to enjoy a day with their friends and other interested scrapbookers. With many generous donations from the parish and the Masonic Hall board, the event was able to raise just over \$2000! Way to go Sharon and Team Scrapbooking!

Vision Committee Report



As reported to Vestry on January 29, 2023, we have been working with Trinity Centres Foundation (TCF) regarding a lead they provided for a new construction project. Our collaboration with TCF resulted in them issuing a letter of interest on our behalf in early December last year.

A reply to that letter was received on March 22, 2023 wherein the party agrees there is a mutual interest in the construction project, however, they revealed the project has been delayed, and they have not yet reached the site plan application stage. This translates to a considerable delay.

Recently, we were provided another lead by TCF for a parcel of land for sale on Newton Street. While the site is attractive, it is on the edge of the town and requires a septic tank, weeping bed and a water well. Your committee agreed those requirements and other considerations rendered this property impractical for our purposes.

We continue to work both independently and with TCF for other opportunities to resettle St. James'.

Submitted by - *Michael Watson*
Chair of the Vision Committee

"Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Selection Committee Report

On March 8th at the Parish Council meeting, the council was asked by Archdeacon Osita Oluigbo, our regional diocesan archdeacon, to form a Parish Selection Committee for a permanent priest.

The committee members are:

Rosemarie Brokenshire, Mary Fitzmorris, Veronica Jackson, Shelley Riddick, Kristy Van Kooten-Bossence, Michael Watson, and Bob Welt; with God at our centre to help and guide us.

On Wednesday May 3rd we met with Archdeacon Osita. At this meeting, Rosemarie Brokenshire was voted Chairperson. Archdeacon Osita outlined the procedures of calling a priest and the committee's roles, responsibilities, and the importance of compliance with legislative, Human Rights and Human Resource policies. The diocesan policy regarding confidentiality was read and we all signed the Statement of Confidentiality. It is absolutely essential that we maintain confidentiality. We will keep you informed about the process. However, once we receive names of potential candidates, we cannot give you information. Please do not ask us.

Our first step is the preparation of a Congregational Survey which has already begun and will be presented to you relatively soon. This survey will be your opportunity to provide valued input to the narratives of who we are now and what the goals and objectives are for the future of St. James'. Please keep your minds, hearts, and spirits open as you thoughtfully and prayerfully complete the survey.



Parish Profile



The second step is the creation of a Parish Profile which needs to be an honest and accurate document without candy coating. The profile will be a narrative which summarizes the results of the Congregational Survey, information about our community of Ingersoll and anything else that properly conveys the story of where we've been, what we are doing today and our goals for the future. This document will assist both the Bishop, as he considers individuals for this opportunity, as well as the candidates themselves. We ask you to pray for the Parish Selection Committee, both as individuals and as a group. Also, pray for the person who will answer our call and pray that God is already working in that person's life.

Submitted by: *Rosemarie Brokenshire*
Chairperson: Parish Selection Committee

Prayer for the Parish Selection Committee

*Loving God,
Be with your faithful people who sit on the Parish Selection Committee as we search for a new priest/pastor; someone who is excited to walk with us as we establish ourselves in a new church home; someone who is willing and able to guide us through the ups and downs of rediscovering and renewing the life and presence of St. James' within our community and beyond. Guide each in their thoughts, comments and deliberations. Fill them with the peace and grace that comes only from you. Uphold them with your abundant love. Give them clarity of vision that they may see and know the person who will serve our parish and you with faithfulness and love. All this we pray in the name of Jesus, the risen Lord.
Amen.*

A Special Birthday

Recently parishioner, Gladys Mott celebrated her 90th birthday! Her family held a birthday Open House for her at the local Unifor Hall on Sunday April 23rd in the afternoon.

So many folks (family, friends and parishioners) came out to congratulate Gladys on this significant milestone.

Gladys cannot explain "where the time has flown" since she was a youngster and how she reached her ninth decade so quickly but obviously that is because she is still so very young at heart!



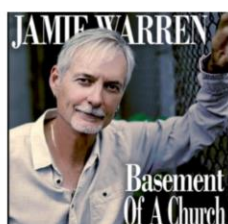
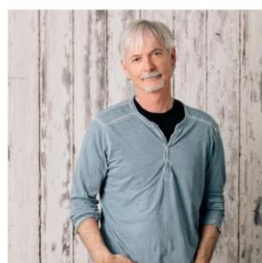
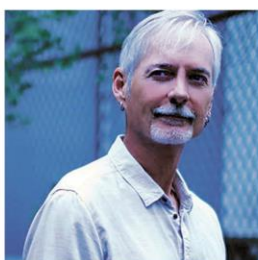
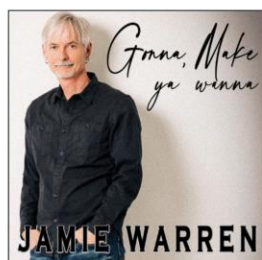
Our Dinner and Show Fundraiser April 28, 2023



This event was the first fund-raiser entertainment show that St. James' has held post Covid. The landscape has certainly changed when it comes to organizing this type of show as we no longer have our own hall to set up in and our caterer retired. So with that in mind, we booked the Unifor Hall and The Village Catering & Deli group from Thamesford. In both cases these were excellent choices and the event was proceeding full steam ahead until we ran into a significant road block. Our star of the show, Marie Bottrell, came down with a significant illness mid-week prior to the Friday evening, and notified us that she wasn't able to sing! But Marie also came to our rescue and called several of her talented musical friends and managed to secure a headliner for us – Jamie Warren, a singer songwriter with many years of experience and with many awards earned over his career.

If you are interested in reading about Jamie, check out his web site at - <https://jamiewarren.com/> Thus, our evening of good food and entertainment proceeded as scheduled and our 70 attendees had a terrific time.

We have many folks to thank for bringing this event to fruition and on the next pages we have tried to recognize them for their efforts. And of course, a HUGE thanks to our parishioners and friends of the parish who came out and supported this event. Your enthusiasm to sell tickets on our behalf are gratefully recognized. Our plan is to hold another entertainment event in the future and enjoy each other's company!





Our Appreciative Audience



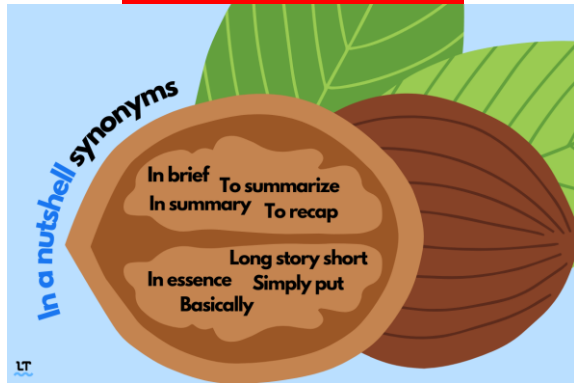
To Our Set Up Team – Eleanore Wardrop, Louise Watson, Kristy Van Kooten-Bossence, Rob Bossence, Mike Watson, Martin Jackson, Veronica Jackson ; **To Our Take Down Team** – Barb Moore, Eleanore Wardrop, Louise Watson, Kristy Van Kooten-Bossence, Mike Watson, Martin Jackson, Veronica Jackson; **Donors** – Tremblett's Independent Grocers, JTK Meat Shoppe, Ingersoll Theatre of Performing Arts, The Watsons, The Jacksons, The Teichrobs; **Ticket Sales and Organizing Gift Baskets** – Kristy Van Kooten-Bossence; **Catering** – Amanda and her team from The Village Deli; **Entertainment** – Jamie Warren and wife, Angela; **Facilities Coordination** – Unifor Hall Staff

OUR LUCKY WINNERS



Top Left – Scott Naisbitt won the gift basket from Tremblett's Grocers; Top Right – Beth Black won four tickets to an upcoming production at ITOPA; Centre Left – Warden Veronica Jackson presented winner Gladys Mott with her gift box from JTK Meat Shoppe in Verschoyle; Centre Right – Carolin French won the coffee themed basket door prize; Bottom Left – Barbara Freemantle won the cheese box door prize; Bottom Right – Ken Cole won an Australian wine door prize. **CONGRATS** to all our winners and to all who supported the draws. After expenses of food, hall rental, entertainment costs, publicity and decorations we made a profit of just over \$800 for the church.

Wardens' Report



IN A NUTSHELL - WHAT DO YOUR WARDENS DO?

1. Wardens, together with the Incumbent and Vestry members, are responsible for all aspects of parish life. They must work with and support the Incumbent, be loyal to him/her, and respect his/her confidence.
 2. Wardens must be available to the members of the congregation for information, complaints, or suggestions.
 3. Wardens are responsible for the holding of regular services, and for the provision of all things requisite for Divine Service. If there is neglect or inability on the part of the Incumbent to perform his/her responsibilities, the Church Wardens must notify the Bishop as to the situation.
 4. Wardens should be in attendance for the visitation of the Bishop or an Archdeacon.
- (from *The Anglican Diocese of Edmonton Handbook*)**
 (The full version for the Diocese of Huron can be found at <https://dq5pwpq1q8ru0.cloudfront.net/2021/04/23/06/24/41/2ba630a6-9a83-42b8-b80f-bc7ab2cceed1/14-02-Wardens-Responsibility.pdf>)

Obviously, we cannot manage any of these duties without the support of our interim rector Rev Sue, our office administrator and musical director Kristy, our treasurer Bob, our altar guild under Donna's direction, our custodian Greg, parish council members, our spouses and all of you - our parishioners!

So here's what we have been busy doing lately:

- Completing weekly banking deposits
- Sitting on our newly formed Selection Committee
- Continuing to meet with both Parish Council and the Vision Committee

- Organizing our latest fundraiser – the dinner show at the end of April
- Videotaping worship services and making them available on YouTube to those who are unable to attend St. James' church in person
- Sending out Weekly emails to our parishioners and friends of the parish
- Maintaining our church website and Facebook page
- Assisting with set up of church services at the Masonic Hall
- Getting new signage for our church approved and installed on the outside of the Masonic Hall
- Continuing to support Rev Sue
- Meeting with our regional Archdeacon Osita Olugibo

Below you will find a couple of photos of our newly installed sign on the exterior entrance of the Masonic Hall. It was created for us on a beautiful piece of slate by Diane Normand of Russnor Designs located in Beachville. Special thanks to Diane for the time she spent working with us on this project and to the Masonic Hall custodian, Jerry Chevrier for the installation of the sign.



Submitted by *Veronica Jackson*

BAC Report

Members of our St. James' affiliate of the Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen held their first men's breakfast in more than three years on April 20th. It was held at The Annex.



Those gentlemen who were able to attend enjoyed a delicious breakfast of eggs, bacon, toast, scones and coffee. An informal discussion occurred following breakfast and it was determined that the BAC would continue to meet on a regular basis.

The next breakfast meeting for all men of the parish will be held on **Thursday June 15th at 9AM**. The venue for the meeting to be determined.

As well representatives of St. James' Ingersoll Parish attended the Diocesan BAC Conference on April 22nd.



**BROTHERHOOD OF ANGLICAN CHURCHMEN
DIOCESE OF HURON**



**CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, APRIL 22ND, 2023**

**HOLY TRINITY/ST. STEPHEN'S MEMORIAL CHURCH
LONDON, ONTARIO**

"The Future"

Registration at 9:00 a.m.

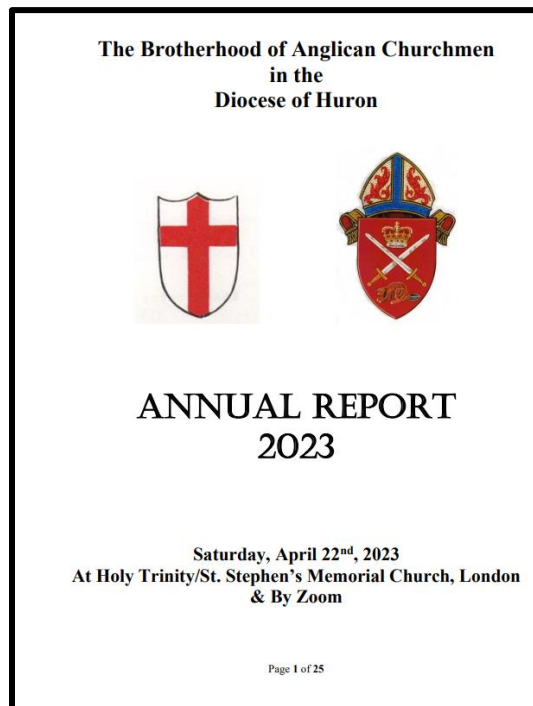
**Speakers & Topics:
Bishop Todd Townshend
"BAC & the Anglican Church"**

**Stephen Heirs & Jim Diesley
"Electric or Hybrid?"**

Annual Meeting at 11:00 a.m.

**Holy Eucharist at 3:00 p.m.
Celebrant – Bishop Todd Townshend**

For those who were unable to attend there is a full report. You can read it by clicking on the report cover below.



Participants at the 2023 Conference

HURON CHURCH NEWS



**The joy of Resurrection:
Eastertide and beyond**

**Download the
Latest Edition**

• [**web-HCN-MAY2023.pdf**](#)

St. James' Sunday School



Thank you to parents and grandparents for bringing our seven Sunday School attendees each time we have Sunday School. Special thanks to Dianne Walmsley for her special Easter lesson and deluxe craft! We have been learning about some Bible (Old Testament) characters and how they have affected our lives today. Also, we have had lessons about Jesus, His Life, Death and Resurrection and what these mean for us. Hopefully the children are sharing these Bible truths with their families.

Mark your calendars! The next Sunday School Sundays are May 28 and June 11

- Submitted by *Pat Harrison*
Sunday School Leader


ACW Report

May 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Sunday, May 28th 2023

Please mark your calendars for Sunday May 28th for something special after the service. That Sunday is very special in itself in our Christian calendar (The Day of Pentecost) but we have a wee bit of amusement and light refreshments après.

As well as church-lady sandwiches and beverages, plan to bring a bit of dough and get ready for the games to begin. More will come each Sunday leading up to this event. Stay tuned.....from your ladies who attend the ACW meetings monthly.



ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN - DIOCESE OF HURON

ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE


"Walk Humbly with God"

St. Paul's Cathedral
London, Ontario
Saturday 29 April 2023

Registration @ 9:00 a.m.
Meet & Greet - Coffee/Tea
Morning Prayer - Followed by Meeting - 10:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker
Diane Dance
on the Anglican Foundation topic "Say Yes to Kids"

Holy Eucharist - 2:00 P.M.
Bishop Bob Bennett
Celebrant



On Saturday April 29th a few of us attended the ACW Annual event at the Cathedral in London. Thank goodness for GPS and we made it through the construction in downtown to enjoy the day of camaraderie titles "Walk Humbly with God". The church services, guest speaker, hymn-sing, lunch and vendor displays were delightful. At that time, we presented the results of a committee of about 8 women meeting each month since last September 2022 discussing the Future of ACW in the Diocese of Huron. Following is the 2-page synopsis.

We welcome any comments or questions on it. Please connect with Susan Winlaw to chat or ask Kristy to pass on anything you might want to add. Susan is our current ACW Chair, the representative for Oxford Deanery on the Council and now the Vice President of the Diocesan Council. We will be heavily involved as Huron hosts the National ACW group from all of Canada in Stratford in 2024.

Submitted by:

Susan Winlaw

St. James' Church Ingersoll ACW President

Diocesan ACW Future Committee

Summary Report

At the April 2022 Annual Meeting, a motion was made for the formation of a committee to determine what the structure of the A.C.W. (Anglican Church Women) should be as the church moves forward into the future. The motion was: Many churches no longer have a formal ACW group but the work gets done. ACW needs to reflect the modern reality. A committee should be formed to form a proposal for 2023.

A committee of ten members was formed that included representatives who volunteered to serve from active parish ACWs and members of the Diocese of Huron ACW Diocesan Council who were selected by the ACW Diocesan President. The demographics of the members include small and large churches, rural and urban. The members are seniors.

As the work got underway, it was evident that a proposal for 2023 would not be possible because of many factors. After discussion, the Diocesan ACW Council voted:

THAT the original motion to form a proposal for 2023 be set aside to allow the Committee to further discuss the many problems found and to look into possible solutions.

Issues identified

In Committee discussions and with input from deanery members, a number of issues were identified summarized following.

- Aging population of ACW participants. Some have died, have mobility issues, don't drive and are not fully electronically capable.
- Fear of disease keeps some from in person worship.
- Pandemic measures sped up global changes.
- The ACW has lost its overall direction and sense of community. Many do not identify as an Anglican Church Women member.
- Many don't want to come out to a "meeting" even after receiving many invitations.
- Some are already a Warden, on Parish Council, part of Altar/Chancel Guild, sing in choir ...
- Some have lost their church building
- Food Events have changed and Craft/Bazaar Events have changed

ACW Ministries

We looked at the ministries in the parish/deaneries that have been successful and could still be viable. Events still rely on willing participants but help build community revealing God's love for one another through work and stewardship.

- Food Events such as parish suppers, pancake breakfast, baking pies and making soup ...
- Fun Events such as fashion shows, card parties, craft projects, Coffee Clatch ...
- Faith events such as prayer bowl, speakers, talk about our faith, telephone tree, movie night ...
- Educational events such as how to prevent being scammed and what do the various leaders/groups/committees actually do?
- Full time activities such as Nearly New Shop

The committee also looked at ACW outreach ministry listing current ministries in some of our deaneries. It was suggested that ideas be added to Huron Church News ACW page each month sharing our outreach activities. Great ideas come when we listen to what others are doing.

Conclusions

While there remain questions about the future of ACW, it became evident that **one size does not fit all**. It was noted years ago women's ministry had limited roles. Now in many parishes, women are heavily involved in everything around the church including Wardens and members of Parish Council so that the formal organization of the ACW often seems unnecessary. Much of the work is done by Parish Council committees with participation by both women and men.

Communication is key. If ACWs are to continue we need to tell who we are and what we do. The Diocesan ACW has been without a representative for Communication for some time. ACW ministries need to be highlighted at the Diocesan, deanery and parish level to spread the news. There is a need for intercommunication. Deanery representatives serve an important role in communication.

An article in the March edition of HCN asked for more feedback from the Diocesan community. Currently we have not received any feedback. Is it indicative of lack of interest or not understanding the goal or do we need to communicate in a different mode?

Questions we could not answer include:

- Should we or could we change our name? What might it be?
- Should the structure of the ACW Diocesan Council /deanery ACW or parish ACW change or do we completely disband them? Are our structures appropriate to our changing world?
- Should we make the rules flexible for each church/parish/community encouraging each ACW to operate as they wish but continue to communicate successes?
- What is the word from our National ACW? Is the National ACW looking into structure changes? No communication from the National ACW so is it needed?

Where do we go from here?

- If the Futures Committee is to continue, will the current members continue and if it continues, we recommend additional members to replace those who resigned.
- Have a follow up article regarding the report presented at The ACW Annual asking for more input so that we can collect information from the larger community.
- Send the report to the National ACW for comment and ask for the status of their review.

ACW More Than A Name

When the ACW was established in the 1960s, the first President wrote that ACW was **more than a name**. While the structure was developed to connect women together throughout Canada, most remain focused on their own parish. Many women remain committed to ministry and service sharing our common faith in Christ, even if they do not have an ACW.



**ANGLICAN
CHURCH WOMEN**

St. James' Needle & Craft Group Report



The Needlecraft Group started up again in October 2022. It was wonderful to be back together after two and a half years of shut-downs. We were ready to work and make some changes.

First, we changed our name to Needle & Craft Group to invite a variety of people with different crafts and skills. We now have, in addition to those who quilt, knit and crochet, an artist, and paper crafters.

Next, we defined our purpose as Serving Our Community. The group chose to fundraise to help the Salvation Army Food Bank, Interchurch, and Cycles of Life.

Then, we created a prayer that represents who we are as individuals and as a group. God is our guide and the source of our creativity.

We meet every Tuesday from 1:30 pm to 4:30ish pm at the Annex.

There is prayer, laughter, fellowship and fun. And, of course there is always tea and a cookie. Join us weekly or when you are able.

A special **Vendor's Event - November 18, 2023 at the Masonic Hall** is being planned. If you are a vendor or know of a vendor who would be interested, please contact Sharon Gillet 519-425-1679.

Our activities have been summarized in this report along with some photos of our members in action.

Submitted by: *Margaret Burford & Rosemarie Brokenshire*
Co-chairs

November and December (2022)

Two busy months. Our quilters finished one baby quilt and set up another. Mittens were knit for Cycles of Life. Microwave Potato Bags were sewn and sold. Scrubbies were knit and dishcloths crocheted to sell with the Bags. We sold Christmas items on hand to raise the seed money for the Microwave Potato Bags.

With your support and generosity, we exceeded our expectations. Thank you.

- Interchurch received \$300.00 worth of toys, books, and games for the 9+ age group.
- In December, the Food Bank received \$123.00 worth margarine, sugar, tea, and instant coffee as requested. And, 60 bags of school snacks for children. We packed each bag with five days' worth of drink boxes and snacks - \$152.75. All purchased by our thrifty shoppers, Sharon and Jeannie. Thank you.

January through May (2023)

Our quilters just finished the second baby quilt with a third quilt on the frame.

We have been making greetings cards with the help of Pat Harrison. Thank you, Pat.

Several projects are in the works: a poppy project as well as making items to sell at the *Needle & Craft Group Vendor's Event in November*. This will be our main fundraising event.

- In January Cycles of Life received 10 - \$15.00 Tim Horton gift cards.
- We currently have set aside \$200.00 to buy meat and \$100 for supplies for 30 bags of school snacks for the Food Bank.
- The Huron Farmworkers Ministry received \$200.00 designated for the Tillsonburg/Burford area.
- There is still money on hand that will be distributed to charities as needed.



Needle and Craft Group Workers-

Top Left - Verna Lord, Margaret Burford, Gladys Mott

Top Right - Verna Lord, Gladys Mott, Elisabeth Bon

Bottom Left – Sharon Gillett, Jeannie Lee, Brenda Seaton

Bottom Right – Andrea Cryderman, Donna Hunter, Louise Roberts, Barbara Westman



Group Members celebrating Gladys' 90th birthday with a special cake –
L to R – Andrea, Donna, Rosemarie, Verna, Gladys, Louise, Margaret, Jeannie, Sharon

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to keep these parishioners, family members and friends in your prayers-

St. James' pays for our families, friends, and loved ones who are ill or recovering from illness. Grant them healing and strength. May they find Peace.

Lord we pray for:

Edna, Gwen, Justin, Myra, Stuart, Anne, Tony, Little Jack, Murray, John Paul, Matt and Clara.

If you would like a name placed on the prayer list, please contact Kristy at our church office.



The Lord is near to all
who call on him, to all
who call on him in truth.


PSALM 145:18



Upcoming Fundraising Concert June 4th



Six Reasons Why You Will Not Want To Miss This Musical Event!

1. The music is going to be  wonderful!
2. It is a joint effort of two of the oldest churches in Ingersoll.
3. Our own music director, Kristy Van Kooten-Bossence, and parishioner/musician, Carolin French, have been working with Trinity's music director, Susan Barta, to make this a terrific afternoon of music collaboration and fellowship.
4. The Embro Thistle Singers (under Kitty Babcock's direction) will be singing with the St. James' choristers. We certainly appreciate their donation of time and talent.
5. This concert is a joint fundraiser for each church and its projects.
6. There are going to be some delicious refreshments after the concert.

If you would like to donate squares, cookies, or other goodies to the refreshment table, please contact Kristy at the church office. Thanks in advance to everyone who is able to support our "Sing Together" Concert.