



ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

NOVEMBER 2020

Volume 16, Issue 10
November 2020



*Welcome to the Church of St. James', Orillia
Whether you are a follower of Christ, or on a spiritual journey, all
are welcome to this Holy and Sacred place.*



FROM THE DESK OF CANON JOHN

Dear Friends in Christ,

Staying the Crooked Course

In the October Clericus meeting for the Huronia Deanery, the clergy had a very good discussion about the return to our churches. There was general agreement amongst us that all of our congregations respected the protocols that have been put in place and church members were accepting of their new situation. Attendance, while naturally down due to the pandemic, was holding steady and that people were happy to be back in their churches. Finally, we all agreed that the Jubilee has made a difference in our financial pictures. The abeyance of not paying clergy salaries and the allotment in the spring was a huge help for all parishes.

We were also happy to learn that the Diocese has taken a regional approach to changing the protocols. It will be dependent on Covid numbers but also guidance from the provincial government and local health authorities. Consequently, for the Huronia Deanery, where Covid numbers are lower, this is welcome news as we try to find some new normal in returning to our own churches.

I think the general consensus amongst the clergy is that we have to 'stay the crooked course' over the next year. This means following the protocols that have been put in place, having a keen regard the health and safety of each person, and being aware of local health considerations. It also means that churches have to be adaptive in how they go about doing 'ministry'.

Here at St. James', ministries have been adaptive. Scripture study is being done by zoom and more people continue to participate. The ACW are planning a Christmas bazar and have ventured into the world of on-line shopping. The fundraising team did a fantastic job with its virtual golf tournament. Then there are outreach ministries such as Loonie Lunch, Pennywise, or the Thanksgiving Turkey Lunch which have found new ways to deliver to their clients. Of course, there are lessons to be learned but everyone is finding ways to live out the ministry and life of the church.

I know that there are some of you who would like to get on with congregational development and visioning, stewardship, etc. so that we can grow our church. As a word of caution, all parishes in the Diocese are facing declining offerings and will have to make tough financial decisions in the months to come. The Diocese is now engaging in discussions about allotments as we plan for the 2021 budget. The reality is that financial and administrative planning over the next year must work within the reality of the status quo. However, on a positive note, there are also many discussions happening about how we can transform parish ministry. Should we consider a hub ministry where one central church serves as a hub to others? Do we adopt a larger regional model of ministry? Can we think of creative outreach and sacramental models of ministry outside of our churches? What changes have to be made to the Episcopal model of church as there are now only three Bishops in the Diocese? These discussions are not happening in the future but now and will have a direct impact on our own planning for congregational development.

As we move into the winter time, I think it is important for everyone that they know that their parishes are doing everything they can to ensure their church is a safe place, and cognizant of the health needs of its members. It is important to stay on the crooked course. Yet we do this knowing that despite the challenges there are positive learnings for all of us in the church and that new growth will come from it!

Peace be with you, John

Our Vision - A strong faith community, reflecting God's Love to those around us.
Our Mission - To serve and share Jesus Christ
Our Values - Faith, Compassion, Integrity, Respect



THE WORK AT ST. JAMES'

Many of us have watched one of our hard workers grow up at St. James'. Mark Webster is responsible for our wonderful sound system and can be found most Sundays manning the board at the rear of the Church assisted by his lovely wife Kristie. He has also trained others how to operate the sound system so it can always be operated during the early service, funerals and weddings even when he isn't available. Recently he did all the recording for our Morning Prayer services on YouTube.

Mark sets up the lovely lighting at Christmas and other special events such as his own wedding to Kristie. I'm sure most have you have noticed that at Christmas there appears a star high on the wall above the font that he created with the lighting. When we have had special events in the auditorium, Mark has lit the room in coloured lights as well and has been responsible for the lighting of the steeple. He also sees to the day-to-day lighting in the sanctuary and his improvements there have allowed the choir to see their music with greater ease.

Other projects he has taken on include the projection system in the parlour, setting up for Vestry, movie nights, peeling veg for dinners and at one point being a Warden.

I'm sure we are all grateful for the ability to hear services, enjoy the beauty of Christmas lighting and all the other ways Mark contributes to the Church he has grown up in. We owe him many thanks.

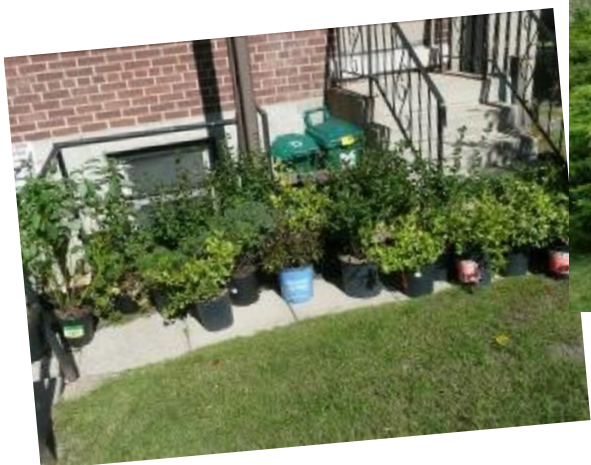
Christine Blair



St. James' Church was treated to a much-needed façade rejuvenation for several weeks this fall. Crumbling brickwork and masonry cracks caused great concern and prompted a successful application to the City of Orillia Downtown Community Improvement Program.

PROPERTY REFRESH

Shrubs waiting to be planted



Clearing Overgrowth



FINAL RESULT

THANKSGIVING IN REVIEW



One of the most unusual Thanksgiving celebrations in our history (for most of us) is past. Missed our families and usual get-togethers but we survived and did things differently. It was OK after all.



St. James' offered a cold take out turkey dinner on Thanksgiving Monday that included turkey roll, cole slaw, potato salad, carrot salad, bun, cranberry sauce and a healthy serving of apple crumble, pie and a drink. All this was packaged up in compostable containers for anyone in the community to take away. All the tickets were gone a week and a half a head of time and Phyllis was taking multiple messages from people wanting tickets. Well, in the end only 74 ticket holders turned up. The remaining meals were given out to non-ticket holders, 47 shelter residents, Couchiching Jubilee House, Living for Jesus, Helping Hands and the Lighthouse got all the leftovers. All counted we distributed 194 meals.

We are not sure why this meal may not have been popular – people forgot? Did not want a cold meal? Chalk it up to a learning experience!

We had a devoted troupe of volunteers that included: Joyce Hird, Joan Gordon, Susan Scott, Maggie Astrauskas, Peter Schuepp, Julia Montgomery, Kristie Webster, John and Susan Smith, Mae Cox, Ellie McPhail, Anne Thompson- on different days and times over the weekend and masked, of course.

So, 194 people received a lovely meal and those of us who were lucky enough to help put it together had some pleasant time together. Not all a disaster after all. Thanks everyone!

Thanksgiving Committee -Christine Hager, Joan Gardy and Rosemarie Freeman

HERITAGE PROJECT

On October 13, 1833, the Reverend Adam Elliott gave his first service in Orillia. In his report to The Society for Converting and Civilizing the Indians and Propagating the Gospel Among the Destitute Settlers of Upper Canada, he wrote:



"I read prayers and preached in Southern Orillia, at the house of Mr. Sanson, near the villages at the narrows. As previous notice had not been generally circulated, and the weather being unfavorable, only about twenty persons were present. But if the congregation was not numerous, it was very respectable and attentive. In the evening I preached to the Indians in the schoolhouse in the village. Comparatively few of the Indians being at home, not above sixty or seventy of them attended, one of who interpreted my lecture to his brethren. They appeared to be very attentive and devout and sang well; some of the families were rather noisy in time of prayer but to no great extreme. On the following morning I visited the Indian school, but there were scarcely any children in attendance, as most of them had gone with their parents into the forest. The site of the village is admirable. The cottages, which are built of logs, stand near each other on the summit of a gentle declivity, fronting a beautiful bay, from which the village has a very neat appearance. I had no opportunity of conversing with the Indians of the Narrows, but Yellowhead, one of the principal chiefs, afterward assured Captain Anderson that he was highly pleased with the lecture."

In 1841, Chief Yellowhead gave the property, on which Jacob Gill had built the schoolhouse and several cabins under government contract in 1832, to the Church of England. James Sanson became one of the two first wardens at St. James'. This shoreline painting was by the Rev. Canon R.W.E. Greene, who arrived at St. James' in 1888. He was married to James' sister, Elizabeth Sanson.

Fred Blair

DIY GOLF TOURNAMENT—THANK YOU TO ORGANIZERS, VOLUNTEERS AND SPONSORS OF THE



\$3,196.52

For Community Outreach Programs

Thank you to all our supporters!

The Winner of this year's Golf Tournament
Sean Madorin (son-in-law of Peg & Mike Newton)

Other prize winners:

Joyce Hird, Sharon Knee, Randy Hoover, Bruce Stanton

EVENING PRAYER

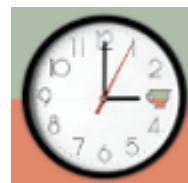
Compline (/ˈkɒmpliːn/ KOMP-lee-n), also known as Complin.
Night Prayer, or the Prayers at the End of the Day, is the final church service (or office) of the day in the Christian tradition of canonical hours. Compline tends to be a contemplative Office that emphasizes spiritual peace.

We invite you to our meditative
Evening Prayer for spiritual peace.

<http://stjamesorillia.com/>

TEA AT THREE ON THURSDAYS

Tea at Three on Thursdays at 3:00 to 3:30 p.m. This will be a Zoom meeting with no agenda other than to connect with Church friends face to face for a casual time. Anyone wishing to join should contact Christine Blair at: office@stjamesorillia.com for an invitation.



WINTER WARMTH



Boots, Coats, Mitts, Hats!

Pennywise and Loonie Lunch are teaming up to make warm winter clothing available free of charge to those in need. Please consider donating your extra coats, footwear, mitts, hats and scarves. They will be greatly appreciated!



**ZOOM TUESDAY
BIBLE STUDY**

Please join
Rev. Colin Bowler for
Tuesday Bible Study
11 a.m.

HOLY BIBLE

Contact Church office
office@stjamesorillia.com
to arrange an invite to Zoom

A.C.W. CRAFT SALE ONLINE VIA FACEBOOK

ACW Craft Sale online through Facebook only. Sale will run from November 16 to 21. Everything is hand made. You can shop from the comfort of your own home. There is a great selection. See pictures of knitting, sewing, crafts, baking and preserves under "Discussion" on the event page along with details of how the sale works. Purchases may be picked up at the church Tuesday November 24. Cheque made payable to St. James' Church ACW, exact Cash or E-transfer are accepted.

Happy shopping and we hope you enjoy this "new way" to do our Christmas Bazaar.

St. James' Church
Anglican Church Women
ONLINE CRAFT SALE

Sale runs November 16 to 21
on Facebook
Pick up purchases at Church
Tuesday November 24

**Knitting, Sewing,
Crafts, Baking, Preserves**
All COVID Guidelines followed

Proceeds for Community Projects

ST. JAMES' ANNUAL FAMILY CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROJECT RETHOUGHT FOR COVID-19!



The St. James' A.C.W. Executive has come up with a way to keep our Christmas Project going, despite a pandemic with all the health and safety protocols involved. After discussing our idea with the three agencies with which we are involved - Catulpa, New Path and the Orillia Youth Centre – the A.C.W. is going to use the funds we have on hand (after paying all our 2020 commitments) to start our project early this year. The forms have already gone out and within a week we should be ordering Walmart Gift Cards (allowing \$40 per child) to give back to the parents of our 18-20 families so they can buy their children's Christmas gifts, while the sales are on. Then, in mid-December, the same families will receive a grocery gift card (their choice of Metro/Food Basic or Zehrs/No-Frills) to buy their Christmas Holiday food (allowing \$20-25 per person in the family).

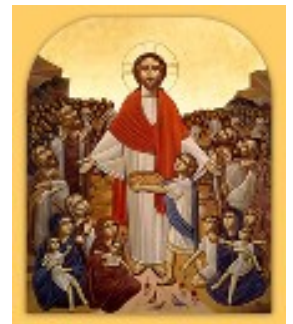
Every year for about 40 years, you ACW has underwritten the cost of this project and gratefully received donations from our Parish Family to replenish our funds, and to add to the amount we can give away. We hope and pray that you will do so again, by marking an envelope "ACW Christmas Project" and placing it in the Offering if you are coming to Church, or by mailing or dropping off a cheque at the office, made out to St. James', with ACW Christmas Project" on the memo line. If this has been a tough year for many of us, just imagine how hard it has been for some others! Let's share Christ's Love at Christmas, as we have done before!

Mae Cox

*We walk by faith, not by sight.
2 Corinthians 5:7*



FaithWorks Sunday is November 22!
How can you help FaithWorks
Manifest the Reign of Christ?



FaithWorks is the annual appeal of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto to build communities of hope and compassion. FaithWorks feeds, shelters, nurtures and befriends over 30,000 people in our diocese and around the world. It helps people who are homeless, newcomers and refugees, at risk women and children, indigenous people, and people impacted by HIV/Aids.

In our own community Couchiching Jubilee House has been the recipient of FaithWorks grants for ten years and more recently, the Orillia Christian Ministries (The Lighthouse) has received grants in support of the Building Hope facility.

To give us added inspiration to reach our goal a generous donor has offered a \$100,000 matching challenge grant for increases in parish contributions over last year. Will St James' be able to help FaithWorks take advantage of the opportunity this matching challenge grant offers us?

On Sunday. November 22 we will have an inspiring guest speaker, Lynn Thomas, from Orillia Christian Ministries to launch our 2020 campaign. Lynn is Development Coordinator for The Lighthouse and Building Hope campaign manager.

Our annual Parish Christmas card donations will be going to Faithworks this year so keep your eyes open for the card and donation details beginning on the first Sunday in Advent and continuing until Christmas. The Christmas card allows you to send your best wishes to fellow parishioners while making your donation at the same time. This is especially important in this difficult year of social distancing and absence of festive gatherings to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Bill Manley

Bishop Fenty's Retirement

Monday, November 30 our amazing Bishop Peter Fenty will be retiring - an on-line Zoom party! The hope is to put together a scrapbook filled with pictures, stories, cards, best wishes and remembrances from those who know Bishop Peter the best. Please take some time to write down your favourite Bishop Peter stories, scan your photos and send along your best wishes and cards. These can be sent via email or put in the mail and sent to the York-Simcoe Area Office by **Friday, November 13**. To all those who have asked about marking his retirement with something tangible, he has said that he would welcome donations made to either FaithWorks or BLACC, the Black Anglicans Coordinating Committee. If you would like to make a donation, from your parish or as an individual

Your Ministry Council

Anyone interested in reading the current Ministry Council minutes may contact the Church office for a copy.

Are you ill? In the Hospital? Now in a nursing home?

If you or someone you know from our congregation is ill, in the hospital or moved to a nursing home. Please let us know by calling the church office. We have no other way of knowing as the hospital and nursing homes are no longer permitted to give this information out due to the privacy act.

Newsletter Sponsorship

Each month we ask for a sponsor to support the publication of our parish newsletter. Many of our family receive it via the internet but many still enjoy receiving the paper copy and/or, they might not have access to a computer. The donation of \$100.00 each month pays to produce our internet copies, the paper copies and their mailing. please contact Phyllis in the office 325-2742 if you like to sponsor a month.

Fundscrip

Well, it is definitely fall now, and a perfect time to start to put away an extra gift card for your grandson in school or your daughter for a dinner out. The Fundscrip order date is **November 1st**. You could order a Sport Check, or Kelsey's, a gas card or even Amazon to get in the mode for Christmas shopping. We have just asked for our second refund cheque for this year. Every little bit helps. Please deposit your order form (and cheque payable to St James') in the plastic bin on our deck. If you need directions, please call Phyllis in the office 325-2742. The order will go in the first Sunday in November (1st) pickup (again in the bin) will be **Friday November 6th**. Thank you for your continued support of this very worthwhile project.

November Calendar

We are not able to provide a calendar of meeting times, events, or programs, due to COVID-19.

Please join us **IN** Church or by watching the Sunday webcast service on our website or Facebook



November Birthdays

Nels Auger, Glen Bagley,
Murray Cleland, Elizabeth Gillett,
Dianne Howell, Len Johnson,
Eileen Joyce, Fran McCordic,
Beth Morum, Maureen Naylor

November Anniversaries

Kai & Jacquelyn Schmidt



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