



ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

MAY 2021

Volume 17, Issue 4
May 2021



*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,

At the time of writing my article for the newsletter, I am contemplating stewardship at St. James' and what it looks like when much of what we are doing as a community is 'virtual'. I am also balancing how we grow as a parish in light of the organizational challenges and changes at a Diocesan level. This leads me to consider what impact these Diocesan changes will have on the Huronia Deanery and the churches in Orillia. Certainly, there is much to think about in the life of our Church.

At a Diocesan level, I am the co-chair of the Governance Working Group which is reviewing the current governance model of the Diocesan Council and looking at ways it can be improved. This working group has worked parallel to the Episcopal Leadership Working Group (ELWG) which recently released its report regarding changes to episcopal leadership and the Area system. You can find the link for the Report of the ELWG on our website: stjamesorillia.com or toronto.anglican.ca and there is also a video from Bishop Andrew in which he discusses his preferences for change. Bishop Andrew has made it clear that the status quo is not feasible and the Church and our parishes must be ready to make change if it wants to meet the challenges ahead of it.

I think the good news is that St. James' is well placed to live out the message for the 5th Sunday of Easter. In John 15:1-8, Jesus gives a spirituality of pruning for his Church. Jesus has promised that if we abide in him, he will abide in us. If we abide in his Church, the Church will abide in us. I have said that we can think of 'abiding in' as the idea suggested by Eugene Peterson, "Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you."

St. James' is our spiritual home. Whenever we are in this home, there we will be with Jesus. The work that we do in our church to prepare it for the journey in the days to come is done alongside of being followers of Christ and servants to others. With this in mind we will face the challenges and wondrous possibilities that are ahead of us in the community of Orillia.

I know that when you read the Treasurer's report in this newsletter, you will feel concerned about the state of our finances. As Dave Simpson points out, the shortfall in our revenues, specifically donations and givings, are down from what we projected at Vestry.

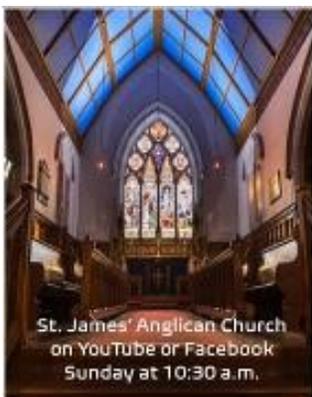
I think that even with Covid restrictions, we have done a great job here at St. James' as we have adapted to make our worship services engaging and yet sacred. We have continued to carry out our mission and outreach. We need to continue to find ways that we can do stewardship in a 'virtual world' and as we remain apart. I will continue to work with others so we can find ways to connect with members of our church family. I would ask that each one of us prayerfully consider how we can continue to support our parish with our time, talent, and financial contributions. I welcome your thoughts on how we can immediately address the shortfall in our revenues.

I will begin to have discussions with some of the ministry leaders to set up Town Hall zoom meetings called a Path Forward. I like to talk about and participate in some blue sky thinking about the Diocese, Huronia Deanery, and St. James'. As well, we need to practically consider and review our mission, ministry, worship, the building, and our relationship to the community.

Finally, let us continually pray for one another and our church – let us give thanks for this spiritual home.

Yours in Christ, 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 BOTTOM LINE – TREASURER'S REPORT

We have completed the first quarter of our financial year and the results are a bit concerning.

Revenues

To date, revenues are fall short of plan by \$19,766. In a time of Covid where usual revenue sources have dried up, we must rely totally on donations, givings, and possibly grants to achieve our Vestry approved budget. Unfortunately, we are lagging behind on this budget line by \$ 15,822.

Expenses

To date expenses are \$2,055 over plan. But I am relieved that most Ministries are at or near plan.

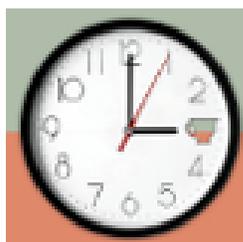
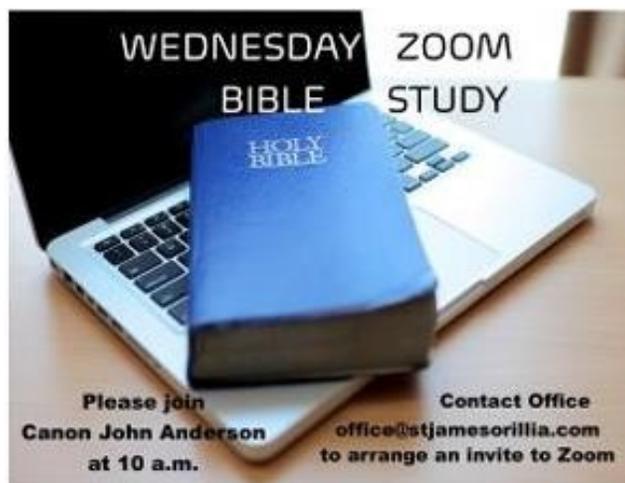
Investment Income

First quarter investment income is \$ 2,317.

The Bottom Line

We are reporting a first quarter deficit of \$ 44,023 which exceeds plan by \$ 21,479. We are now at 2/3 of our yearly approved deficit - in March. Revenues shortfall, specifically donations/givings continue to be our prime area of concern.

Dave Simpson



TEA AT THREE ON THURSDAYS

Tea at Three on Thursdays at 3:00 to 4:00 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.

THE POVERTY PANDEMIC

In 2019 volunteers at St James' along with other faith groups in Ontario were invited to be a part of discussions organized by ISARC (Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition) in an Action Against Poverty project called the Voices from the Margins. St. James' Interviewers met with patrons attending the Loonie lunch to discuss issues concerning poverty in Orillia. The information learned from those interviews across Ontario has been compiled in "The Poverty Pandemic". The insight contained in this book exposes inequities in our Province and ideas for how society can make changes to reduce issues such as lack of affordable housing, food security, and a lack of employment on top of the daily challenges that people "living in the margins" face. Find out more and be part of the change by picking up a copy in the St. James' library.

Maryan Vincent



FAITH COMMUNITIES IN ACTION AGAINST POVERTY

Great News from Kenya, April 2021 Ultrasound Equipment received and operational!

The Kenya Team is incredibly happy to inform you that we have managed to provide funds for the new, sorely needed ultrasound machine at our Kibera clinic. The letter below gives you the detailed information. Your support has been much appreciated.

March 31, 2021

Greetings Dr. Fran

Hope this finds you well in the Lord.

We are all well, still serving the community, despite the surge in the 3rd wave of covid19 pandemic with a lockdown in Nairobi and 4 more neighbour counties.

We want to take this opportunity to appreciate your support through The Vine Foundation for purchasing us Ultrasound upgrading us from 2 probe (Convex and TV) ultrasound to a 3 probe (Linear, Convex and TV), that means we shall be able to check small parts e. g Prostate, Thyroid, Testicular etc.

We received it on 17th March,2021 installed and tested on 27th March 2021 noted functional.

Find pictures.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/PL737ZVA5f3Cy2UH7>

We used to have ultrasound done twice per week, now we have increased to thrice per week of which we got another extra sonographer (in the picture) but still on locum agreement. This is a big step in the history of our facility i.e. Kibera Human Development Project Medical Clinic ACK Kibera as we focus on 24hrs Nursing home with delivery unit.

Our most sincere appreciation to you and Medical team at St. James Anglican Church Canada and entire congregation and The Vine Foundation for your continued support to the facility to ensure we serve in the best way ever.

May our good Lord protect you and guide during and after the pandemic.

Remain blessed abundantly.

Thanks

Stanley Simiyu, KHDP Medical Clinic, ACK Holy Trinity, Kibera

Pictures available at above web address. Thank you all for your interest and support.

Dr. Fran McCordic, Rosemarie and David Freeman



AN UNEXPECTED GIFT

Our outreach programs at St. James' that provide meals to our community, namely Loonie Lunch and Sunday Shelter Dinners, were the beneficiaries of some wonderful meal donations organized through Dock Radio Station 104.1. We are thankful to one of our occasional Loonie Lunch volunteers who alerted us to a restaurant relief venture called "Feeding Families Program". When Mar-yan Vincent contacted Meg Whitton of Dock Radio we very quickly became the recipient of 40 frozen turkey pot pies from Captain's Grill Diner Restaurant and another 40 large frozen pot pies from Cheesy pickup Restaurant for Loonie Lunch distribution.

Following quickly on those gifts, the Sunday Shelter Dinner team received 40 frozen pasta meals from Tops In Pizza for our shelter residents at a local hotel. Wow! Bonanza!

We thank our benefactors for these generous donations that will help us "feed" needy folks in our community. Our meals were funded through Simcoe County Auto and RV Sales. Many thanks to all who were a part of making this happen.

Rosemarie Freeman



HERITAGE PROJECT



“Choir2”

Here is another photo mystery. What was the date of this photo and who are the choir members? Is that Redvers Stublely at #8 and Wayne Cox at #17?

Please send an email to Fred Blair at warof1812cdnstories@gmail if you can help solve this mystery. Fred can also send you copies of the photo with and without the numbers if you want to zoom in on the image.

Fred Blair

*The universe is wired with the electricity of God,
and each of us is a lamp. It doesn't matter
the size or shape of the lamp; it only
matters that the lamp is plugged in.
Marianne Williamson*

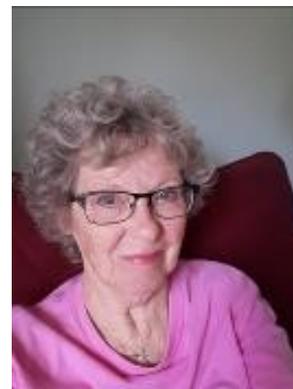
THE WORK AT ST. JAMES'

In the autumn of 2020, we were happy to re-open the doors to services at St. James'. However, once we arrived at the Church doors, we were met by the smiling face of Mary McEvoy who had a list of questions before we could enter. I must admit to telling her that I had flown to Japan the day before for lunch with friends.

While this may be your most recent contact with Mary, you may not realize all the jobs she undertakes. Mary is on the Altar Guild, arranging flowers, changing the frontals with the liturgical seasons, cleaning brasses, filling the candles preparing for the service and cleaning up after. When normal services were held Mary still greeted you. but with a cheerful "Good morning" and no list of inquiries. She also helps with Loonie Lunch when possible as well as special events such as Fellowship evenings, Funeral receptions, and St. Nick's Children's' Shopping Day.

While Mary never expects any thanks, I am sure it would be appreciated.

Christine Blair



Wayne Cox completed the list!

Choir from about 1971-1972

- 1 Rev. Bob Newman (Assoc. Priest)
- 2 Edith Page
- 3 Rosella Kidd
- 4 Hilda Harrison
- 5 Eileen Death
- 6 Olive Messenger
- 7 Rev. Canon John Fralick (Rector)
- 8 Redvers Stublely
- 9 Rosemarie (Parker) Freeman
- 10 Esther Lipsham
- 11 Blanche Calverley
- 12 Mae Cox
- 13 Ed Cummins
- 14 Leslie Fitton
- 15 Jack Fitton
- 16 Hilda Outridge
- 17 Wayne Cox
- 18 Alice Madden
- 19 Evelyn Deller
- 20 Richard Taylor
- 21 Gerald Death (Organist and Choirmaster)

Things that used to distract me from church

@todaychristianimes



Now how I go to church



NEED A COVID-19 VACCINATION? NEED HELP BOOKING?

If you are someone without a computer who finds the system for booking an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccination difficult OR is in need of transportation to this appointment, we may be able to help you. Parish volunteers are available for assistance.



Call the church at 705-325-2742 and give your name, phone number, and need to our secretary, Phyllis. A vaccination volunteer from our parish will call you ASAP for more details of your need and collect application information to book an appointment for you.

If transportation is required, you can tell the volunteer and it will be organized for you.

It is important to get this vaccination as soon as you are eligible! Currently those **60 years and up are eligible** but your turn will come soon, and the offer of help will still stand. Feel free to notify anyone else you know who may need this assistance.



Organized by the Social Justice Committee of St. James'

UPDATE ON SYNOD

A Synod is a gathering of lay and clerical members who constitute the governing body of the Church. This has been the most common way of involving the laity in the governance of the Church.

Synod is made up of all the licensed clergy in the Diocese and lay members (non-clergy). At its annual vestry meeting, each parish (or congregation, in the case of a multi-point parish) elects lay members to attend the Diocesan Synod, which usually meets every other year.

At Synod, members determine, at a high level, the priorities for Diocesan Council and its boards and committees and refocus the mission of the Church throughout the Diocese. Synod gatherings are a time of worship, inspiration, and education, as well as a forum for affirming the direction of our ministry together.

160th Regular Session of Synod

Our next Regular Synod will be held virtually on Nov. 25, 26 and 27, 2021.

Area Pre-Synod Meetings

Area Pre-Synod meetings will be held virtually as follows:
Saturday, October 2, 2021 – York-Simcoe and Trent-Durham

St. James' Lay Delegates to Synod are Mary McEvoy and Beth Morum.



Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

Proverb 3:5

A CALL TO ALL WOULD BE GARDENERS



Just as you are all staying home and minding your own business (for the most part) we are issuing you a challenge that you might participate in at home. We need a crop of vegetable plants for our spring garden planting.

Would you consider starting some vegetable plants in the comfort of your home that might be transplanted in the spring? We need plants such as tomatoes, cucumber, beans, eggplant, squash, etc. All you need are some plant seed pods and good quality seeds and an area in your home which gets enough sunshine and water to encourage plant growth. All supplies can be ordered from Home Hardware and other seed or garden sources. Some of you are good at this. The rest of us could rise to the challenge! Thanks for thinking of this endeavour.

Social Justice Committee

May Calendar

We are not able to provide a calendar of meeting times, events, or programs, due to COVID-19. Please join us by watching the Sunday webcast service on our website ,Facebook or YouTube.

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 has 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 would like to sponsor a month.

Fundscrip

The Fundscrip deadline is **Sunday May 2nd**. Orders and cheques (payable to St James' church) can be dropped off at the bin at the Gardys'. If you need directions, please call Phyllis in the office 325-2742. Pick up will be **Friday May 7th**. This month we will be receiving our earnings from the project. Thank you for your continued support of this beneficial project.



FUNNIEST CHURCH SIGNS

If you have to wear both mask and glasses, you may be entitled to condensation.

My friend David has his ID stolen, now he's just DAV.

I wanted to be a monk but I never got the chants.



May Birthdays

Judith Auger, Audrey Bell,
Marg Casebow, Bill Manley,
Anne Murphy, Gail Ward,
Martin Ward

May Anniversaries

Nels & Judith Auger,
Fred & Christine Blair



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

And now these three remain:
faith, hope and love. But the
greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

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