



ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

JULY 2022

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*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,

Regionalization of the Orillia Anglican Parishes

You will have heard a lot of mention of the plan for regionalization of the Orillia Anglican parishes. As we move into summer, I would like to update you on the process of regionalization.

Regional Ministry (RM) has been used extensively by the Church of England. It was developed to respond to the same problems faced by our parishes: declining and aging congregations; a lack of volunteer base; too many parishes in a concentrated area; or difficulty finding clergy coverage for smaller parishes. There is no 'one size fits all model' for RM. What may work in Peterborough or Barrie (where there are forms of Regional Ministry) may not be the same model that can be achieved in Orillia. What is common to RM is a focus on worship, pastoral care, outreach, property, and finance being shared by the parishes.

There have been several meetings of the Orillia parishes including St. Luke's, Prices Corners. The latter has stepped back while St. James', St. David's, and St. Athanasius's continue to have discussions. Remember this is also a discussion with the Lutheran church at St. David's. The hope is that the parishes can work out an agreement or covenant that sets out expectations, governance, and administration. Normally, the initial agreements are expressed as two-year covenants that are fine tuned by the parishes over the term of the covenant.

I want to make it clear that this is not about closing churches. It is not about having the other parishes join St. James'. No parish wants to give up its places of worship. However, there is an increasing realization that we do have to share resources including administration and clergy. This permits our parishes to continue to have a stable form of worship, pastoral care, and outreach/mission. In the normal course, St James' as the larger church with more resources, would permit its Incumbent to provide more administrative support, including to ensure that there was clerical support. This can be done by using our Honorary Assistant or drawing on retired clergy in the area.

I will admit that the difficulty we have faced at the table is the realization that both St. James' and St. David's have a lot of work to do to become stabilized. We have considered congregational trends and we are now delving more deeply into our finances and reviewing the state of our buildings.

We realize that we must address the stabilization of our parishes. This means that we must have the ability to have worship, pastoral care, some programming, and to pay the bills. For St. David's and St. James', the immediate issue is finances; for St. Athanasius' the immediate issue is having clerical coverage as it no longer has a quarter-time priest. St. David's team is presently consulting with its congregation. It is trying to ensure a path forward that would allow it to develop its property for future affordable housing and yet stabilize itself in the immediate future. In my capacity as Regional Dean, I was able to work with the Wardens at St. A's and develop a summer schedule of coverage with Rev. Carol and Rev. Vickie helping. I also recently attended an Advisory Board meeting at St. A's which was a delight. They are very passionate about their parish, and it was clear to me that they have a willingness to listen and try to find new ways for it to continue to do ministry.

We will be meeting in July and over the next couple of months. As we meet, both Ministry Council and you will be advised about our discussions. Be assured that the congregation from each parish will be informed of a draft covenant and the congregations will have to approve the same. I ask that you continue to pray for your clergy and Corporation as they engage in this Spirit led process.

Yours in Christ, Canon 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



ARTS IN THE SUMMER AT ST. JAMES'

They're back! The Wednesday Noon hour Summer Organ Recitals that delighted audiences at our church over almost 30 years are returning THIS July and August! Well, not exactly. Times have changed, we are not as big OR as rich as we used to be. BUT the popular recitals have returned! Only THIS time We've named them ARTS IN THE SUMMER AT ST. JAMES', and the program will consist of 4 organ recitals, 4 general-interest "other" arts programmes, and a Grande Finale Sunday Evening concert. The first 8 programmes will run in the main church from 12 noon to approximately 1 or 1:15 p.m. You are most welcome to bring your own lunch (we will provide a cool drink), and admission is purely by donation, used to defray expenses and to help fund some of our Outreach Ministry projects. Sound good? You will LOVE them AND help our Outreach Committee besides!



Details on all the programmes will be forthcoming in the very near future, but the FIRST, on Wednesday July 6th, will feature an organ recital by our friend, the ever-popular South African-born, recently retired Organist and Choirmaster of St. Peter's Anglican Church, Erindale. Clement Carelse has recently been appointed to a very prestigious, similar position at the Anglican Cathedral of Charlottetown, P.E.I., so this will represent his final performance in the area. You will not want to miss it!

For details of other recitals and programmes, in the series, stay tuned!

Wayne Cox

A Prayer for our future

Come Holy Spirit, inspire your people in the Parish Families of St. James', St. David's and St. Athanasius' with love for God, for each other and for our neighbours.

Give us a new vision of how best to serve and share Jesus Christ in our community of Orillia.

For Jesus' sake, Amen

FREE SUNDAY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST



ALL ARE WELCOME

Every Sunday
8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
in St. James' Auditorium

*A joint venture with St. David's, St. Athanasius, St. James' and Community Members
Our goal is to provide food and fellowship in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PHOTO DIRECTORY



It has been 6 years since the last directory. This is a fund raiser! The Canada Photography Company IPC will make a donation to the church for each sitting they take, and participants will receive a free directory and a free 8 x 10 colour portrait.

NO PURCHASE REQUIRED BUT you may order additional pictures and/or cards which will arrive before Christmas.

Save the Dates!!

Thursday September 8

Friday September 9

Saturday September 10

Monday October 17

Contact - Leslie Fortune, or Cheryl Kellas

FEAST OF ST. JAMES

On Sunday July 24 we will celebrate the Feast of St. James' with a barbeque after the 10 a.m. service. All are invited to join for this time of food and fellowship. We will have bocce balls on the lawn and if anyone has lawn games (not lawn darts) please bring them along. This annual tradition has been interrupted by COVID restrictions, but we are looking forward to resuming this special day.

Christine Blair



SUNDAY JULY 24
ALL ARE WELCOME
Following the 10 a.m. service



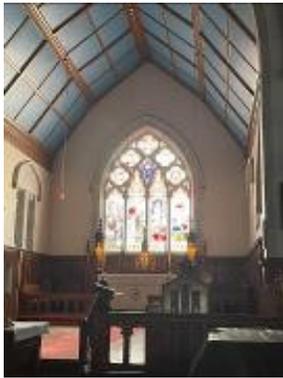
Food



Fellowship



Lawn Games



Beautiful St James' in the early morning sunshine this week in June. Taken by Jen Hill our Sexton

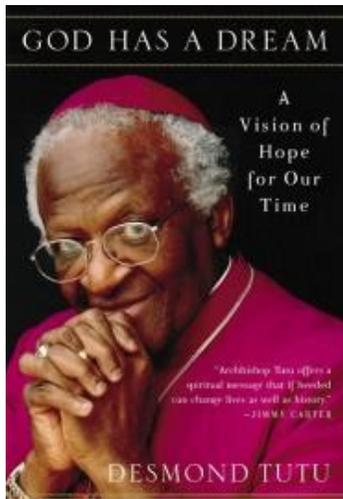


My Saturday evening rehearsal on the 72-year-old pipe organ for tomorrow morning. I just got this new book of arrangements of well-known classical pieces with hymns interwoven. Love it!

Jeff Campbell

LIBRARY - BOOK REVIEW

GOD HAS A DREAM by Desmond Tutu



Archbishop Tutu's reflections show how suffering can be transformed into love and hope. He was a leader during South Africa's apartheid years, and he describes the miracle of a safe first open election. He notes his work on South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and he discusses the problem of evil for a Christian. Archbishop Tutu tells us that God needs our help in transforming the world.

I found I was reading the book one chapter at a time and meditating on each message. Equality, family and compassion are the themes, and also God's love for each individual including our enemies. His messages are very important for the problems our world is facing today.

The chapter on prayer was most interesting to me, and inspiring. Archbishop Tutu gives us a spiritual message that is universal and timeless. A very worthwhile book.

Martha Howarth

ST. JAMES' RECONCILIATION CIRCLE



The June 2022 Anglican Journal featured a timely article by Indigenous leaders in the Anglican Church setting out how “Indigenous Anglicans have embarked on our own journey of self-healing.” In part this has been accomplished by the building of the Indigenous Anglican Church, called “Sacred Circle”.

In part these writers wanted to correct a fair amount of misreporting in recent Canadian news. I found it to be a good reminder of the ongoing working relationship between the Anglican Church and Indigenous Anglicans. We are reminded that the Anglican Church of Canada has issued two apologies to Indigenous Anglicans, in 1993 and 2019, regarding the Church’s role in residential schools and the spiritual harm that was done. As well, Anglican entities in Canada have contributed \$12.9 million as restitution to residential school survivors.

Anglicans across Canada at the parish and Diocesan level have continued to provide financial support for an array of projects: healing projects to address trauma from residential schools; water in the North; youth engagement; translation; or urban ministries.

However, money alone is not enough, and it does not absolve us from past wrongs. As the article says, “While financial settlements are very important and garner much public attention, no amount of restitution can ever fully compensate for the deep harm to Indigenous communities caused by the Anglican Church of Canada.” Part of healing is about continued awareness, education, and making systemic changes to the structure of the church to promote reconciliation initiatives. This is a goal and objective of the St. James’ Circle.

As Anglicans it is important to learn more about the Indigenous Anglican Church which is served by nine Indigenous, Inuit, and Metis bishops and many clergy. Working in co-operation with partners within the Anglican Church in Canada, all of us seek to “develop a robust family of relatives where we learn from each other and where our cultural and spiritual practices are belatedly respected and nourished within the Anglican church family in Canada and throughout the Anglican Communion.”

Canon John

“There are four things that we ought to do with the Word of God:

Admit it as the Word of God, commit it to our hearts and minds, submit to it and transmit it to the world.”

William Wiberforce



HERITAGE PROJECT

This is the 1886 Sunday School Picnic at the “White House” in Longford. The Rev. W.J. Armitage is standing in front of the post on the right side of this photo. The three ladies with him were Mrs. Webber, Miss Alice Stewart (the daughter of the Incumbent, the Rev. Stewart) and Mrs. John Wesley of Rama peeking out from behind the post. Some of the children’s faces were blurred because they could not hold still. The photo is in the collection of the Orillia Museum of Art and History.

Fred Blair

ST. JAMES' BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP RETURNS!

We are pleased to announce that plans have been made to resume our book discussion group. Anyone who is interested in considering reading any of the books listed and joining our discussion is warmly welcomed. Discussion dates are listed below, and we will meet in the Upper Room. Previous group members recently met to set out an agenda for the coming year – most of us brought at least 2 recommendations with a culling down to the following eight choices representing a diverse array of genres. Stay tuned for reminders but here is our reading list if you want to get started now. (And you can ask any of us titles of other books we also recommended for consideration!)



September 12th, 2022

'Braiding Sweetgrass' Robin Wall Kimmerer.

As a botanist, Robin Wall Kimmerer is trained to ask questions about nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she also embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. Kimmerer brings these two lenses of knowledge together to take us on "a journey that is every bit as mythic as it is scientific, as sacred as it is historical, as clever as it is wise".

October 17th

'The Midnight Library' Matt Haig

The Midnight Library is an award-winning fantasy novel described as both well-written and thought-provoking in looking at the life choices we have made, the alternate choices we could have made and ultimately considering what is important in life.

November 14th

'Why Gather? The Hope and Promise of Church' Martha Tatarnic.

In the midst of the pandemic, Rev. Martha Tatarnic found herself in a crisis, wondering whether or not there might be something else she could do with her life. Her questions were those that could be found in the broader church as well. Why be together in Jesus' name? Does any of what we do as the church in gathering, in proclaiming, in serving, in being together, in not being together, does any of it matter? This book is described as both critical reflection and simultaneously affirming.

January 9th, 2023

'Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes Cultural Studies of the Gospels' Kenneth E. Bailey

Beginning with Jesus' birth, Bailey examines the life and ministry of Jesus with particular attention to the Lord's Prayer, the Beatitudes, Jesus' relationship to women, and Jesus' parables. His expertise in Middle Eastern culture provides a deeper understanding of both the person and the significance of Jesus within his own cultural context, revealing Jesus in the light of his actual historical and cultural setting.

February 13th

'A New Earth, Awakening to Your Life's Purpose' Elkhart Tolle (first 4 chapters)

Elkhart Tolle is a popular self-help author who has also generated controversy and criticism within Christian circles as to what he writes. Some affirm common ground with the tradition of Christian mysticism while others see his teachings as profoundly non-Christian. We will be reading the first four chapters.

March 13th

'Tender Is The Night' F. Scott Fitzgerald

A modern classic, this is the fourth and last novel of F. Scott Fitzgerald, set in the period of time referred to as the Jazz Age in America. Of these, Tender Is the Night is arguably the one closest to his heart. As he himself wrote, "Gatsby was a tour de force, but this is a confession of faith."

April 17th

'Permanent Astonishment: A Memoir' Thomson Highway

This is a memoir of Order of Canada playwright Thompson Highway's life as a child and adolescent. It offers insights, both hilarious and profound, into the Cree experience of culture, conquest, and survival while growing up in the land of ten thousand lakes and islands and the land of ice and snow that is Northern Manitoba.

May 8th

'The Book Of Longings' Sue Monk Kidd.

The Book of Longings has been described as an audacious feminist take on the story of the New Testament, with the main character married to Jesus. Grounded in meticulous research and evoking the political and cultural landscape of ancient Galilee with extraordinary authenticity, Kidd's novel is the story of the remarkable (and fictional) character, Ana.

July Calendar

We are not able to provide a calendar of meeting times, events, or programs, due to COVID-19. Please join us for in-person Worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. or 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.

Hospital Pastoral Care

Having met the required hospital protocols, Mae Cox, our Pastoral Care Visitor for OSMH, is now able to actually visit patients in person. If you know anyone from our Parish Family who is in Soldiers, please notify the Church Office so a visit can be arranged.

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 705-325-2742 if you would like to sponsor a month.

Fundscrip

The Fundscrip deadline is **Sunday July 3**. Orders and cheques (payable to St James' church) can be dropped off in the bin at the Gardys'. If you need directions, please call Phyllis in the office 325-2742. Pick up will be **Friday July 8**. Thank you for your continued support of this beneficial project.



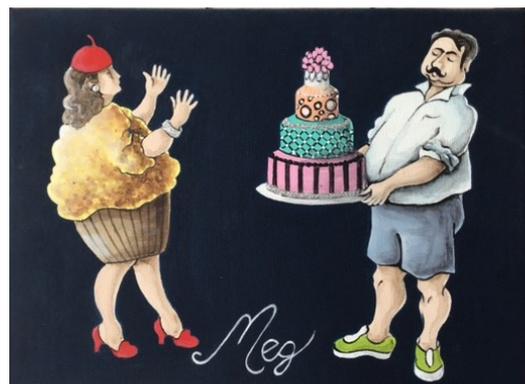
July Birthdays

Polly Burns, Rosalind Cleland, Leslie Fortune, Joan Gardy, Pauline Godward, Christine Hager, Donna Hutton, Lori McClelland, Sheila McLachlan, Shirley Sanders, Judith Sinclair, Susan Smith, Bill Tiffin, Debbie Woodman

July Anniversaries

John Anderson & Lisa Walters, Murray & Rosalind Cleland, Alan & Sophy Cooper, Mae & Wayne Cox, Brian & Heather Crate, Dave & Rosemarie Freeman, Chip & Joyce Wiest

No more are we told to "flatten the curve!"
Margaret Casebow



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