



ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

MAY 2022

Volume 18, Issue 7
May 2022



*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,
Happy Easter and Happy Spring!

I want to thank everyone for their support, cards, flowers, and well wishes, as I recover from my surgery. They told me it was a knee revision surgery, but it turned out to be a little more complicated. However, after a long two years I am finally able to walk with a straight leg and put weight on my left foot. I am now starting a program of physio-therapy akin to a person getting a knee replacement. At the time of writing this news-letter, I hope to be back as your Celebrant in a couple of weeks.

I want to send out a special thanks to Rev. Colin for covering for me during my absence (again!). I will share a secret with you: Colin has really enjoyed being back at St. James', and I know all of you have enjoyed seeing him again. Thanks also to the team for filling in the holes and getting the job done over Holy Week. These were all wonderful services, and it is a reminder how blessed we all are at St. James' to have dedicated staff and volunteers.

I am reminded that this time of year is a time of a renewal. It is also a time for spring cleaning. We clean up in our homes. We get the winter clothes put away and take out the spring and summer wear. We may even get rid of the many things that we don't need. We rake our lawns way too early because we want to be outside and feel the sunshine and warmth. Especially coming out of the events over the last couple of years, we are likely more willing to invite this renewal into our lives.

I like Rev. Colin's remarks in his Easter sermon that as Easter people, while we invite God's love and hope into our lives, we are also looking over our shoulder into that dark tomb. Even in my own experience of dealing with illness and suffering or looking back into the tomb, I am mindful that stone was rolled away, and that tomb was empty. Despite obstacles there is always hope. There is always God's grace. This is what keeps me plugging along and meeting the challenges because I am so thankful for daily blessings that brings about renewal.

Peace be with you, Canon John

Three ways you can celebrate with us:

In-person Sundays at 8 a.m. or 10 a.m.

Livestream at 10 a.m. on YouTube

Sunday 10 a.m. recordings can be viewed any time from our Past-Virtual Services

*"The spiritual journey is the unlearning of fear
and the acceptance of love."*

Marianne Williamson

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



STEWARDSHIP CORNER



A monthly update on the parish's finances, ministries, and the giving of time.

Let's first take a look at our finances to the end of April.

Revenues

Revenues to date are \$ 94,450 which is \$ 13,565 short of plan. Offerings are at \$ 72,888 but that is \$13,762 under plan and the significant contributor to the revenue shortfall. Fundraising at \$ 9,385 is pretty much on target.

Expenses

Year to date expenses at \$ 119,521 is under budget by \$ 9,049. All ministries remain under plan except Property.

Investment Income

First quarter dividends of \$ 385 were received.

The Bottom Line

We are reporting a year-to-date deficit of \$ 24,686 which represents a deviation from plan of \$ 4,941.

Investments

We were not required to drawdown our investments this month to address cashflow requirements.

Pennywise Thrift Shop

Pennywise shop is open to the public, Tuesday, Wednesday with fill a basket for \$5 to include clothing and shoes. On Thursday all household goods are 50% off. Hours are 12 noon to 3 p.m. Sorting of items received are Tuesday and Thursday morning by dedicated volunteers. Another member does the books on Friday.

Pennywise is an important ministry which contributes funds to the church. Revenues to date are \$ 4,925 even though the budgeted revenues are for \$3,730. It operates with very little expenses, given items are donated and it relies on volunteers. The shop has 15 volunteers who work the shop hours, 6 volunteers for sorting, 1 for the books, 1 for placing items online and Joyce Hird as volunteer manager. A great thing is that these volunteers are made up of both members of the church and non-members. It is an example of looking to the wider community to assist with important ministries that are helping people.

There are some things that you may not know about Pennywise. It helps the environment by recycling of items that come but are not saleable. Jewelry is examined for gold and silver and is taken to a dealer. Metal and electronics go to appropriate dealers. Kidney Foundation takes the clothing that cannot be sold. On Wednesday, many items, especially, clothing, are given out for free at Loonie Lunch. There is a free section in the shop where clothing and household items are given to those in need.

Pennywise is about helping people. It is not uncommon that it helps people to update their wardrobe when going for job interviews. One lady came in to thank the volunteers. She was out of a job for months and was so grateful that the volunteers helped her dress for success and that she landed a fulltime job which she loves.

Dave Simpson and Canon John



In light of the current rate of infections in the Diocese of Toronto, and the impact that it is having on our common life together, the College of Bishops has decided that the previously announced move to Green Stage will not take place on April 27, but instead will now take place on the Day of Pentecost, Sunday, June 5. On that date, all remaining Covid-related restrictions for gathering and worship will be lifted in the Diocese of Toronto (with the exception of the vaccine mandate for clergy, staff and volunteers). In the meantime, the Diocese of Toronto default position continues to be our Spring Guidelines.

This includes the following requirements:

- The wearing of masks during worship, meetings, studies, etc. is required
- The use of hand sanitizers is encouraged and is always available
- Readers, intercessors, etc. may remove their mask to perform their liturgical duty and then wear their mask afterwards
- All singers and musicians must wear masks
- Communion continues to be in one kind (bread) at two stations as done in the past
- Food and drink can only be restaurant style and accordingly coffee hour will be delayed as stand-up and self-serve is not permitted. Food cannot be served at church events, studies, etc.

If you have any questions about these restrictions or the Diocesan policy please speak with Phyllis.



The photo here is of the Rev. Wilhelm George Gerhard Dreyer who was born in Orillia in 1867. He grew up in Orillia, entered the ministry from our church, and later returned to visit family and St. James'. This would seem to explain why we had a photo of him in our archival collection. However, it may also have been because his mother was the first organist in our church and the first Recording Secretary of our Women's Auxiliary. Her three siblings may have also been the first choir members. Can you guess who she was? Watch for the answer in a Facebook post in May.

Fred Blair

FOX LAKE ALBERTA MISSION VIRTUAL VISIT

The most recent meeting of St. James' Social Justice and Outreach Committee began with a virtual guest from Fox Lake, Alberta – Mr. Robert Heath, Principal, Jean Baptiste Sewepagaham (JBS) School. Supporting children on First Nations communities has been an outreach mission the committee has undertaken over the last 7 years. For the last 6 years, we have been connected to the community of Fox Lake in northern Alberta. It is the largest of the 3 communities that comprise Little Red River Cree Nation with a population of about 3500 people. Robert gave us an overview of the community noting that it is a remote community with seasonal access via the Peace River (ferry barge and an Ice bridge in the winter) or by plane. The community has 2 schools; each serving about 400 enrolled students, although attendance is frequently much lower than this.



Housing is very spread out so as a result, most students are transported by bus on dirt roads with some students spending an hour on the bus each way. A few students walk to school or are driven by parents who are working. However, most people do not have vehicles. So school attendance declines due to 'snow days' as well as extreme cold days and mud days when driving also becomes hazardous. School can also be cancelled when there is no water or for funerals which are often community events. Fox Lake is a Cree speaking community – most children do not become fluent in English until Grade 3 – and Cree is typically spoken outside of the school classroom and at home. Most homes do not have a phone and only about 20% of the community at this time has internet access. Both schools provide breakfast and lunch to the students.



The biggest challenge that the schools have faced over the last 2 years is being closed due to COVID. While there is a low vaccination rate, people in the community believe that the schools are the source of community outbreaks. As a result, schools have been more frequently closed and for longer duration than in southern Ontario, for example. The lack of Internet and personal transportation to pick up homework packages has made pivoting to remote learning from home a challenge. However, Robert expressed a sense of optimism, noting an increase in the number of grade 12 students. Grade 12 is important, as job postings in the community all require grade 12 education. He talked briefly about new programs for next year including easy bulk family cooking so that students are able to take on meal preparation at home when needed. Robert also talked about the various ways that the schools have been able to use the money provided through St. James' to support the students in ways that would not be possible otherwise, as it would not be considered a school budget item. For instance, this past year drinking bottles were provided for each student. This allows students to fill their bottles with clean drinking water for the day from the large jugs available in the school. Availability of clean water is a major community problem. Indoor shoes and outdoor clothing have been other ways that St. James' has helped the students in this community over the past several years. The committee greatly appreciated being able to spend time listening and asking questions through our virtual visit. We felt much more connected to this mission.



Social Justice Committee

WANT TO HELP THE UKRAINE?



Many of us are anxious about the fate of the Ukraine and the world involvement but wonder what we can each do.

1. We can pray for the people of the Ukraine, and all involved in this war.

Here is a sample prayer if you want to use it:

Lord Jesus, the protector of the vulnerable, stretch out your hand over the frightened people of the Ukraine. We pray for those who are displaced and for those who wait in anxiety. Gather them each to the other for courage and solidarity. Offer them your peace to relieve their apprehension. We pray for the smooth and speedy resolution to this conflict and especially for the safety of all during this chaos. Amen

2. Make a donation if you are able to a reliable donation centre. Two suggestions are:

- a) Primate's World Relief and Development Foundation Ukrainian Relief Fund (make cheque payable to St. James' noted for PWRDF Ukraine)
- b) Canadian Red Cross -visit their web site at give.unhcr.ca and follow instructions

FREE SUNDAY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Beginning on Sunday, May 29 St. James' will be offering a Free Community Breakfast every Sunday from 8.30 to 9.30 a.m. in the auditorium. We have five teams organized to provide a nourishing breakfast to all guests every week. The menu varies from week to week but will always include nutritious food and fruit.



This is an initiative of the Outreach Ministry funded by a Diocesan grant and a donation from St. David's Church. It is an ecumenical venture and involves volunteers from St. David's, St. Athanasius, St. James', and members of the community.

We are happy to accept financial donations to this project with cheques made out to St. James' Church noted for breakfast programme or donations in kind such as sausages, bacon, eggs, jam, butter, breads, fruits, juice etc. If you plan to make a donation in kind, would you kindly notify the church office with your name and phone number so that a committee member can respond to your message.

Our goal is to provide food and fellowship to all who attend in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Rosemarie Freeman

How Does Our Garden Grow?

With the help of our community and YOU!

Planning for the 2022 gardening season has started. Your expertise and ideas are welcome as our vegetable capacity will be increasing, along with new flower beds & green space.

We plan to include **3 Sisters** grouping of beans, squash and corn as well as sunflowers to provide food for birds and pollinators.

We can find the right job and right time for you!
Especially if you dig dirt!



Unsplash photo credits L to R :

Tristan Gevaux

Sandie Clarke

Marcus Piske

Kent Banes

Contact Christine office@stjamesorillia.com

Social Justice & Mission Committee



A.C.W. SPRING SALE

Saturday May 14
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Plants
Baking
Crafts

If you have a garden that needs a bit of downsizing or need to make space for other plants, please consider potting (or bagging) your treasure and labelling it for our sale.

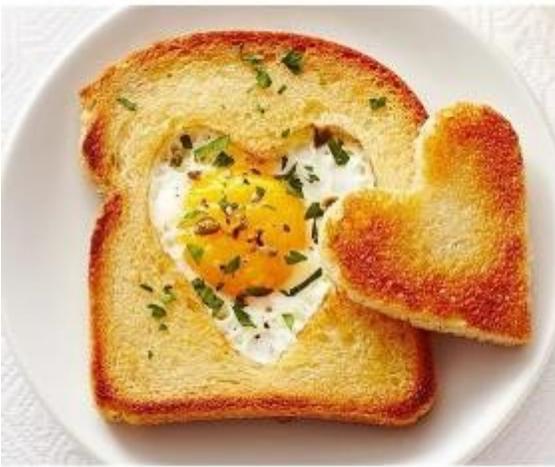
We also need our famous bakers to make their wonderful creations again. There will be a mini craft area also of our own parish family's treasures. We will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Do mark us on your calendar.
Joan Gardy

FREE SUNDAY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

*Every Sunday
(Starting May 29)
8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
in St. James'
Auditorium*

DONATIONS NEEDED
*Sausages, Bacon, Eggs
Jam, Butter, Bread
Fruits, Juice, etc.
or any Financial Donation
All Gratefully Accepted*



*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.*

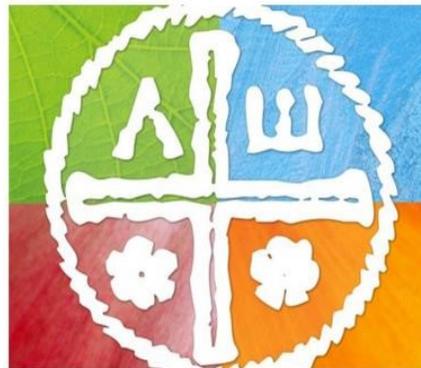
TEA AT THREE ON THURSDAYS



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.

CENTERING PRAYER AND MEDITATION

TUESDAY AT 12 NOON in person in Upper Room



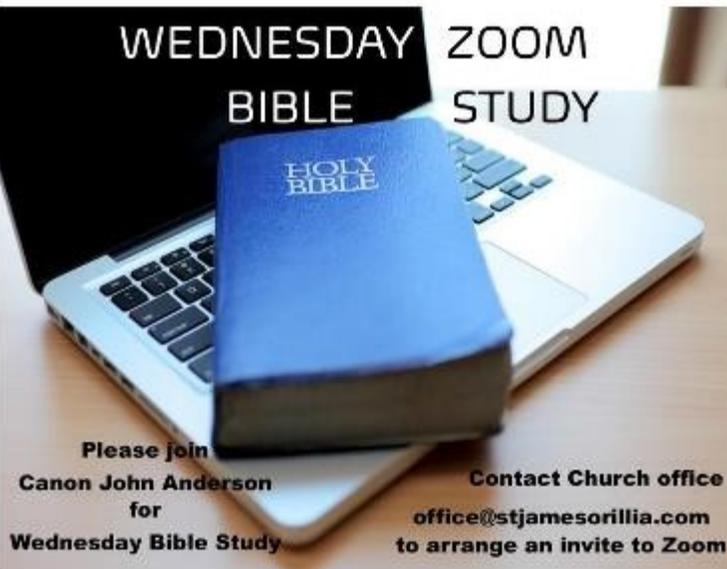
Centering Prayer is a receptive method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of the experience of God's presence within us. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship.

Centering Prayer is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer. Rather, it adds depth to all prayer and facilitates the movement into a receptive prayer of resting in God. Centering Prayer emphasizes prayer as a personal relationship with God and as a movement beyond relationship with God and as a movement beyond conversation with Christ to communion with Christ.

George Sanders leads the group for more info contact office@stjamesorillia.com or 705-325-2742

WEDNESDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

HOLY BIBLE



Please join
Canon John Anderson
for
Wednesday Bible Study

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



PENNYWISE THRIFT SHOP

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
12 noon to 3 p.m.

Bulletin Board

✠ OPEN SATURDAY MAY 14 during the Spring Sale

A.C.W. SPRING SALE
Saturday May 14
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

- 🌱 Plants
- 🍰 Baking
- 🧶 Crafts

Come early for best selection. Masks required. Covid protocols in place.
CASH only please; small bills or coins preferred.

FUNDSCRIP

While we can not fundraise in our usual manner during the pandemic e.g.

Concerts,
Dinners,
Cabaret,
Bake & Craft Sales,

FundScrip is a great way to support St. James'.
Please prayerfully consider it!

FundScrip
Where Shopping is Fundraising!

A Great Way to Support St. James' While Giving to Others!

What: Gift card program that gives a percentage to our Church

Who: Most major retailers and more! (gas, groceries, entertainment, etc.)

Where: Across Canada

When: Right now! Great way to budget for household shopping

Why: To support St. James' Church

How: Pick up Order Forms by calling the church office;
Place order the first Sunday of each month,
Pick up gift cards the following Sunday



DIGGIN' FOR GOLD

Drop off your unwanted broken chains, earrings, rings and mismatched pieces in your jewelry collection directly to the Pennywise Shop. Your 10k, 12k, 14k, 18k yellow or white gold will allow us to continue our Outreach and make an impact.



Proceeds go to support Youth Centre, Loonie Lunch, Lighthouse, Couchiching Jubilee House, Green Haven

Join us on
**SUNDAY
JUNE 5
&
SUNDAY
JUNE 12
12 noon**

DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY

STOLEN LANDS, STRONG HEARTS

Join the Reconciliation Circle for a two-part showing and discussion of the film in Parish Upper Room.
Bag Lunch permitted.
Contact Church office for more info. 705-325-2742

DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY

Please join us after church on June 5 and June 12 for a two-part showing and discussion of the film "Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts," produced by the Anglican Church of Canada. Please bring a Bag Lunch.

This film is about how a devastating decision, made over 500 years ago, continues to profoundly impact Indigenous and Settler people worldwide. Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action refer to this doctrine and call for its repudiation.

The St. James' Reconciliation Circle offers a showing of this emotionally moving film to help us understand the importance of engaging with our history and understanding our current call towards reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbours.

For information, please contact the church office.

Sue Charters

SPONSORSHIP ORILLIA MINOR LACROSSE

For many years now (except for the last two years when Covid eliminated any lacrosse for Orillia youth), St. James' has sponsored a younger team. It has been a joy to watch the little ones running around the floor with their little legs barely showing beneath their "St. James'" team jerseys. Sometimes if they are really tired - they just stop and lie down to catch their breath!

On behalf of Community Awareness, we are asking if you can donate any amount to cover the \$600.00 fee. You could leave a cheque marked Lacrosse sponsorship at the office.

We are almost back to normal, yay!
Joan Gardy



CHURCH LIBRARY

"Love the Lord your God with all your mind."



With the exception of Tuesday afternoons, our library is up and running through the week. Please feel free to drop in and browse the collection. Please remember to sign out the book before you remove it from the library.

Prior to Covid, many books were borrowed from the library. As a result, we are missing quite a few books. If you think you may have one of the missing books, would you kindly return it so that it becomes available for others?

We welcome donations and appreciate your thoughtfulness, as we are unable to purchase any new books at this time.

We are anticipating the addition of a CD collection from Canon John. These CDs are from a Sunday study group. Once they have been processed, they too will be available for borrowing.

A number of library books will be available for purchase at the upcoming Craft Sale on May 14. You may find just what you've been looking for.

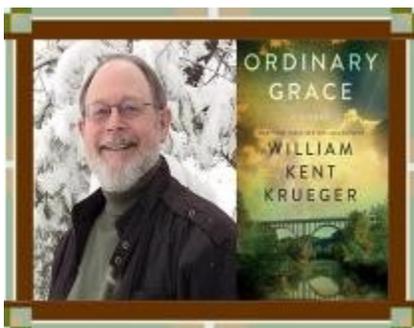
Sue Glowa

LIBRARY - BOOK REVIEW

Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger

In preparation for my recovery from surgery, Mae Cox provided me a delightful read from the church library. To unwind I love to read mysteries, so I was happy when I opened Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger.

The story is set in New Brennan, Minnesota, 1961. I think the author does a good job of balancing the simplicity of a time gone by – soda fountains, unsupervised play, and knowing all your neighbours – against the reality that hidden in the background are ordinary people dealing with afflictions – bullies, alcoholism, PTSD from WWII and the Korean War, and much more sinister actions.



The story is told from Frank's perspective forty years later. Frank and his younger brother Jake are faced with a series of surprising events in their sleepy little town. They wonder if the death of a friend struck by a train is as clear-cut as the police think it is; then there is the stranger that has come to town and finds himself connected to all the bad events that are happening; and finally, there is a murder which impacts on them in ways that they cannot imagine. Frank and Jake are 'PK's' (Preacher's Kids), and I find that Krueger does a good job of putting a human face on the father, a Methodist minister who must face his own demons of PTSD, and their mother (who is also the choir director), whose faith seems to be challenged by her husband's decision to become a minister.

The title of the book makes reference to the reality that despite the complexities of our life and the challenges that we may face, there are moments of God's ordinary grace which happen in our lives. It is that grace which supports us in moments of happiness, sickness, and grief. The novel explores how we sometimes take ordinary grace for granted but also how we are constantly surprised by it.

Please check out this book (literally) from our church library.

Peace, Canon John

May 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 May 1**. 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 May 6**. Thank you for your continued support of this beneficial project.

FUNNY CHURCH SIGNS



Store the Bible in your heart, not on a shelf.
God recycles. He made you from dust.
Lord, help us be the people our dogs think we are.
Forecast tomorrow: God reigns and the Son shines.



*She is clothed with strength and dignity,
and she laughs without fear of the future.
Proverbs 31:25*

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Editors: The Communications Committee
Composer: Nancy Noakes-Morrison
Production: Phyllis Johnson

