



# ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

## MARCH 2023

Volume 19, Issue 5  
March 2023



*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 ARCHDEACON JOHN

Dear Friends in Christ,

Lent is a journey.

When we go on a journey, we take things with us to help us, and we leave things we do not need behind. A journey can be familiar. For example, Lisa and I took the kids to the same place in Myrtle Beach for their March Break for several years. It was the same hotel, same time of the year, same travel plan, and we pretty much knew what to bring. After five years, though, we decided it was time to change it up.

What can be more exciting than the familiar, at a point, is the *new* journey on which we are called to embark.

There are many biblical stories of being called into a journey: Abraham and Sarah going to a new land, Moses leading the people of Israel, or Jesus' journey in the wilderness. They were following God's call and trusting in God's promise. We can imagine that Abraham and Sarah or Israel had a lot of anxiety as they wandered. There was grumbling and mumbling and asking, "Why are we here? What are we doing? Where are we going?" This is normal.

You have been called into a new journey at St. James'. It may not be the one you want. However, just like Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Israel, God does not always ask us our permission – rather, God calls us. Over the last few Sundays as part of our coffee hour, we have met as a community to talk about the current state of our church, to consider what shared ministry could look like with other parishes in our area, and to do some 'blue sky' thinking. Let me first say how pleased the wardens and I were for the excellent turnout. It shows that you are interested, and you care about St. James'. I was also very grateful that we saw this as a collective responsibility and there was no finger pointing. I think we all recognize the problems, but it is finding the answers that is the more difficult task.

Perhaps we can all see this as our personal journey into the wilderness over Lent. That is, we are being asked by God to contemplate the life of our parish and the Church. Perhaps there are things you may think we need to take on for this journey (different forms of worship or more programming) and then there are things we may have to let go (smaller churches or buildings).

Over Lent, I will continue to talk about our journey together, but indirectly. You do not need a stark reminder every Sunday on the state of the church. That would be alarmist and only create anxiety. Rather, on this Lenten journey we are all being asked how God is calling each of us into a relationship of love, hope, and faith, with Jesus and with one another. Perhaps this will inspire you to meditate upon some of the answers, the possible solutions, and even the important questions around the future of our church. When we come to Easter, a time of resurrection, we will once again engage in what new things have been planted and renew our Spirit.

Continued on page 2



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

There is some good news! In our Lenten journey, we have so much more to help us than did Abraham and Sarah or Moses and Israel. We have Scripture to rely upon. We have the ministry of Christ to see as a model on our journey. We have the saints that have gone before us and walked in the same footpaths on their journey. We have the history of a parish that has done (and very much continues to do) good works in this community.

As I said on the Last Sunday of the Epiphany, Jesus told us 'Do not be afraid'. He walks with us, he promised he would.

God bless you all on the journey ahead. I very much look forward to continuing our community conversations and hearing your further thoughts and ideas arising from this time of reflection.

*Yours in Christ*  
Archdeacon John

## MEANINGFUL LENTEN GIVING

You may have realized already that, financially at St. James', we are facing some very serious deficits and that, this year, there are **no** budgeted funds available for our outreach programmes. Local outreach ventures like Loonie Lunch and the Sunday Breakfast can seek some funding from local grants available. Not so for our missions in Fox Lake, Alberta, Honduras, Roatan or Kenya. Somehow, if we wish to continue to support these and other needs outside of this area, we must raise the funds needed ourselves. How can we do this? Campaigns several times a year for those specific national and international missions is the way the Outreach Ministry hopes will compensate for the lack of funds from the general church budget.



So, with Lent upon us, this is our plan.

Lent is a time of preparation for Easter. It is a time of discipline and self-denial. It is a custom to give something up that you often enjoy – like your Tim Horton's coffee, chocolate, lunch at a restaurant, etc.

We suggest that you engage in giving up a small bit of change (like a quarter a day or more if you wish) during the Lenten period. Remembering the old-fashioned coin folders we often received at church in years gone by, we are resurrecting that same programme for you to participate in a daily giving plan. We have available at Sunday services and coffee hour and in the church office, folders that you can pick up for use. There is a slot for you to put 25 cents a day in each little slot and by Easter return the folder to the church for our national and international missions specifically at this time of year, Fox Lake, and the Honduras scholarship mission.

If you can fill this folder with quarters for 40 days, it will total a \$20 donation towards our outreach and can be eligible for an income tax receipt. That can go a long way to helping us meet our goals to continue supporting these missions.

Of course, if you find the folder donations not feasible for you, it is just fine if you prefer to donate specifically to our national and international missions. Just make sure, if you are writing a cheque, that the memo records that it is your Lenten mission offering.

Likewise, this could be an activity that would interest your young grandchildren and eliciting their participation might help them recognize the need to help those in need.

However you choose to participate, keep in mind that this is the only way we have of maintaining our mission commitments nationally and internationally. Thank you for your enduring help in meeting the needs of others outside of our church boundaries.

Rosemarie Freeman - Outreach Ministry

*"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy."  
Pope Francis*

## HEARTS



"I cannot speak highly enough of the HeARTS program. It meets the needs of older Seniors in a way that is usually lacking. At 80 years of age & living alone I truly felt isolated. This program has given me something new to look forward to each week. The Gentle Moves exercises are beautifully integrated into the art agenda, so the program helps both body & soul.

"I cannot speak highly enough of the two leaders Sukhi & Mariam. Both are dedicated to helping us improve our lives through fitness, self expression & pride in our accomplishments. In my case & most importantly for me, I made many new friends (it's hard to make new friends at 80!) I was so pleased to meet some young people as I have no children & miss hearing a young person's point of view. Sukhi & the two Georgian College volunteers renewed my faith in the younger generation & even made me feel younger!

Please allow this program to continue!! The interesting content & wonderful new friends truly have given me a new lease on life!"  
Dale L.



## SUNDAY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

The Sunday Community Breakfast program is only possible with public donations and grant funds. Every Sunday a dedicated Team, comprised of volunteers from St. James', St. David, St. Athanasius, or Orillia women's hockey, prepare a delicious hot meal. Our guests may be hungry, lonely, or in need of a safe, warm location to socialize with friends. Everyone is welcome.



The fifth Sunday in a month offers an opportunity for our sponsors to participate in welcoming guests and breakfast preparation. On January 29, despite challenging winter weather, Scott & Karen Wilson (pictured here) cheerfully assisted with auditorium seating set up, coffee service and kitchen tasks. The Wilsons own/manage the Giant Tiger store on Atherley Road. Every week, we receive a donation of milk, bread and butter for the program. Without this generosity it would be extremely difficult to maintain healthy menus.

Established in 1961 in Ottawa's Byward Market, Giant Tiger is a privately held company that has over 260 locations across Canada and employs over 10,000 team members. **All Giant Tiger locations are locally owned and operated by a team member who knows and is involved in their community.**

Christine Hager

## LIBRARY BOOK REVIEW

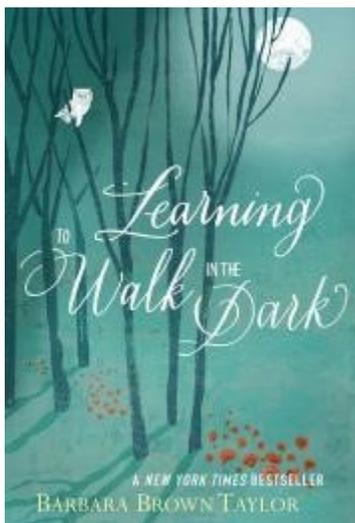
Learning to Walk in the Dark - by Barbara Brown Taylor

When my son was very little, he used to call out to me in fear. "Mommy" he would cry, "there is something in my room!" I would use my super Mom powers and clear his bedroom of the imaginary creature of the dark.

What makes darkness frightening to some and not others? What makes it frightening at some times and not others? Does having a light make a real difference or is it a security blanket?

In her book, Learning to Walk in the Dark, Barbara Brown Taylor addresses these questions by exploring darkness – the physical and psychological kind as well as the spiritual and theological kind. She finds God, even in the darkness, and gives us a way to let darkness teach us.

I was left wondering if rather than chasing away my son's fears, that I should have been teaching him to embrace the angel of the dark?





## SPOTLIGHT ON SHEILA MCLACHLAN

Sheila McLachlan grew up in Mount Dennis, Ontario and attended Church of the Good Shepard. She completed her nursing training at Toronto General Hospital and then worked as an Air Stewardess with Trans Canada Airlines. After four years, she had to leave the airline because she and Hugh McLachlan decided to marry. While raising their three sons, Sheila worked as an RN at West Park Hospital in Toronto.

In 1991 Hugh and Sheila moved to Orillia and closer to their family cottage on Horseshoe Lake, south of Parry Sound. They started attending St. James' Anglican Church and became members of the Chi Rho group. She joined the Sewing Group and enjoyed participating in the bazaar and St. Nick's Day.

One of Hugh's hobbies was making model soldiers and Sheila joined him in making models of women and shadow boxes. Hugh died in 2022 and now Sheila is moving into a Rest and Retirement home in Simcoe, Ontario. She will be living near her son Greg, but mail can be sent c/o Greg. Contact the Church office for address.

Kate Allen, Pastoral Care Visitor



### PENNYWISE THRIFT SHOP

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

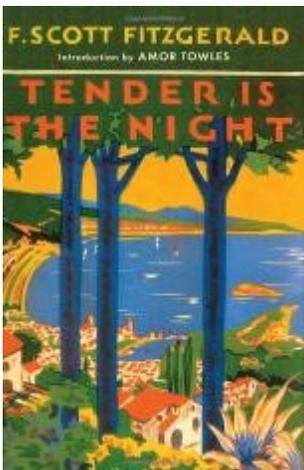
50% off all Adult Coats and Children's Outwear  
February 14 to March 2



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



## ST. JAMES' BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

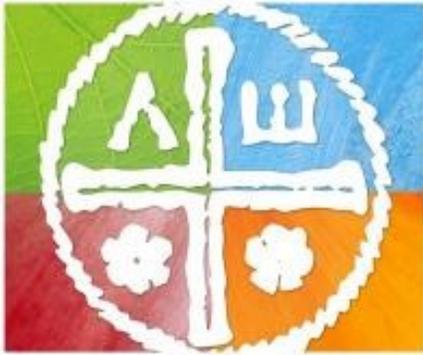


The St. James' Book Discussion Group will be meeting March 13th, 2023 in the Upper Room at 10 a.m. to discuss 'Tender Is The Night' by F. Scott Fitzgerald - widely regarded as one of the twentieth century's greatest writers. This novel is the fourth and last novel set in the period of time referred to as the Jazz Age, a term Fitzgerald coined himself. The novel is framed by the theme of the makeup and breakdown of character and culture. It is also considered autobiographical, making it arguably the one closest to his heart.

We are reading this book in honour of Hugh Rowlinson, who choose it for our group. Come and join in a lively discussion!

Linda Davidson

## 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](mailto:office@stjamesorillia.com) or 705-325-2742

**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

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE IN-PERSON STUDY**

**Please join Archdeacon John Anderson at 10 a.m.**

## TEA AT THREE

Thursdays at 3:00 from 3:30 p.m.  
 A Zoom meeting with no agenda other to connect with other Church friends face to face for a casual time. Anyone wishing to join contact Christine Blair church office email at [office@stjamesorillia.com](mailto:office@stjamesorillia.com) for an invitation.

**WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!**



"I wonder how many Lents I'd have to fast....?"

## FOOD BANK SUNDAY

**First Sunday of every month**

**Our Green Bags are located in the narthex for your use. Fill them with any item listed here. They will be delivered to The Sharing Place Food Bank. Cash Donations are welcomed and can be at the church office.**

**Food Donations: Most Needed Items**

- Fresh Produce from your garden (in season)
- Canned vegetables or fruit
- Meat in a Can (Chili, Beans, Chunky Soup, Spaghetti, etc.)
- Soup (Canned or Dry (MI, noodles, etc.))
- Canned Tomato Products
- Pork and Beans
- Canned Meat (Turkey, Ham, etc.)
- Tuna or Salmon
- Pastas (bagged or canned)
- Pasta Sauce
- Peanut Butter (smooth or crunchy)
- Powdered Milk
- Rice
- Side dishes
- Breakfast Cereal (Hot or Cold)
- Crackers
- Jams
- Baby Products (Diapers, wipes, food formula, biscuits, etc.)
- Toilettes

*Thank you!!*

\*Please check expiry dates before donating food items.  
 \*\*Sorry, but Health Regulations prevent our accepting homemade preserves.

# CHURCH FAMILY HAM DINNER



**A wonderful meal enjoyed by all.  
Thanks to all our volunteers both in and outside of the kitchen.**



## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP SERVICES

### Sunday March 5, 12, 19, 26

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
8:30—9:30 Community Breakfast  
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

### Tuesday March 7, 14, 21, 28

12 noon Centering Prayer  
12 p.m. Pennywise Shop

### Wednesday March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

10 a.m. Bible Study  
Followed by Eucharist at 12 noon  
10: 30 a.m. to 12 noon Loonie Lunch  
12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

### Thursday March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES and SPECIAL EVENTS

### Saturday March 4

2 p.m. Hugh Rowlinson Memorial

### Sunday March 5

Food Bank & FundScrip Sunday

### Monday March 13

10 a.m. Book Discussion

### Tuesday March 14

7 p.m. via Zoom; Ministry Council

### Tuesday March 28

Pastoral Care Meeting 2 p.m.

*“Nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God.”*  
Romans 8:39

## SHROVE TUESDAY



**Your Ministry Council**

Anyone interested in reading the current Ministry Council minutes may contact the Church office for a copy. A copy is also posted on Bulletin Board in Hall.

**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 March 5**. 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 March 10**. Thank you for your continued support of this beneficial project.

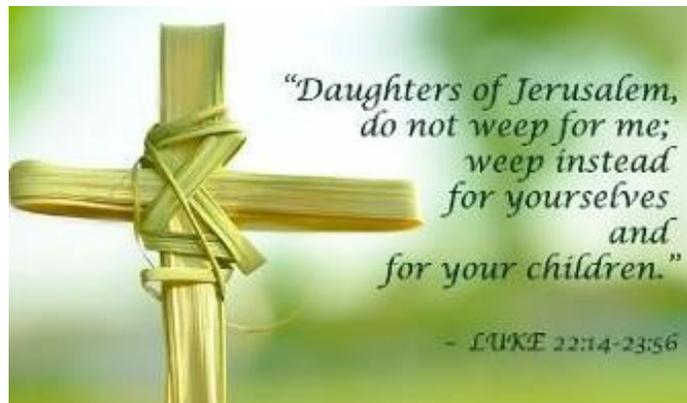


**FUNNY CHURCH SIGNS**

How do we know Peter was a successful fisherman?  
By his net income.

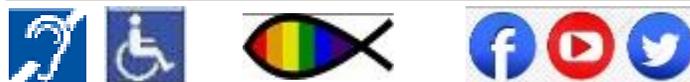
Why wouldn't the Pharaoh let the Hebrews go?  
He was in de-Nile.

Need to build an ark? I noah guy.



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**This Newsletter has no sponsor this month.**