



# ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

## JUNE 2023

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June 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 THE DESK OF ARCHDEACON JOHN

Dear Friends in Christ,

Recently, the Globe and Mail featured an article on the City of Oshawa's downtown and its problem of responding to the growing demands of homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, and higher levels of serious crime. Those services responding to the needs of people on the margin tend to be in the downtown core – feeding programs, shelters, needle exchange, or places where a person can get a shower or do their laundry. As these programs are in a central area, it attracts more people in need. As needs get worse, especially with opioid addictions and lack of mental health services, this leads to friction with downtown businesses who allege they face greater crime such as thefts, vandalism, loitering in their shop fronts, and even serious assaults. Is the solution to distribute these services throughout the city rather than in one area?

Also recently, the City of Barrie has been considering passing a by-law to give authorities the power to restrict giving out monies, food, tarps for shelters, and other measures. The intent is to discourage the homeless from being a presence in certain areas – such as at a traffic intersection or in front of a local retailer.

The reality is that cities across Ontario are struggling with the same problem of homelessness, food insecurity, and the rising human costs of opioid addictions. The CBC reported that in 2022 there were 722 individuals in Simcoe County experiencing homelessness, with half of that concentrated in Barrie. Almost one in five of homeless people surveyed in Barrie have moved into the city in the past year.

We will not be able to legislate this problem away. We will not be able to move services around the city so that people do not congregate in the downtown core. These types of measures label the homeless as the 'problem'. I would suggest that the City of Orillia is facing the same situation. If anything, there is a greater need for programs like Loonie Lunch, the Community Breakfast, and Pennywise, than in the past. As I have said several times lately, the people who come to our local outreach programs are not Anglicans, but citizens of Orillia.

Therefore, one of the first things we can do as a church and as citizens is to remind our elected leaders at a municipal, provincial, and federal level that they have an obligation to care for their citizens. We must find creative ways to respond to homelessness, food insecurity, inadequate mental health services, and drug use. There needs to be more financial support offered to places like St. James' so that we can respond to the needs of people in our community. A lot of time and energy goes into looking for grants to run programs, but there must be a more sustainable way forward.

"FATHER! - TO GOD HIMSELF WE  
CANNOT GIVE A HOLIER NAME."  
William Wordsworth

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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

However, as churches we can and must continue to do our best to respond to the ugly realities happening in our cities. At the same time, all churches across all denominations are facing similar declines in growth of members, volunteers, and resources. We need to find more ways to work together with our other Anglican parishes and across ecumenical lines. For example, St. David's is passionate about repurposing its property for affordable housing. Let us find an opportunity to invite them to our table to hear what they want to do. How can we find ways to support and help them?

We enjoy a great relationship with the Sharing Place, including the use of our kitchen to make tens of thousands of meals or filling the food bank box every first Sunday of the month. What new forms of partnership can we develop that look like this relationship?

Finally, I am convinced that a new, comprehensive model of local outreach is needed, and in fact is beginning to happen at St. James'. Perhaps our model for repurposing St. James' is to be that community hub in the downtown core. Given our location, our facilities, including our kitchen, and our experience in being active participants in the life of those in our community in need, we seem the logical place to help the most vulnerable in our city. Therefore, as a corporation we are continuing to have conversations with our City Councillors, community partners, social service agencies, businesses, and social organizations, to explore how this can be achieved. But it is important to emphasize that this can only be done with volunteer and financial support.

Let us not be persuaded that this is an 'us' versus 'them' situation; let us not ignore or punish those who may find themselves needing the help of places like St. James'. Rather, let us be led by our call to be followers of the One who sat at the table with the vulnerable.

Peace be to you, and I am available at any time to talk about your own ideas about how we can, as a church, respond to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Archdeacon John

## SPOTLIGHT ON MELDA MORGAN

Melda Morgan was born in Wales and nursed at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. There she met Dr. Graham Marson and married him in 1946. Their only son, Christopher, was born in Wales, their daughter, Sian, was born in Birmingham and, the second, Fiona, was born in Leeds. Then in 1957 they immigrated to Canada, settled in Ancaster and their third daughter, Melanie, was born there.

In 1981 the Marson family moved to Orillia to be closer to their cottage on Lake Kashagawigamog in Halliburton. Winters were spent in Panama City, Florida, but now Melda lives year-round in Leacock Retirement Lodge.

Melda's passions included playing golf and bridge. She was also part of the Snow Bunnies and a bowling group. Her volunteer time was spent at the Orillia Public Library and OSMH.

Melda says, "I have always gone to church". Until the last few years, she has been a regular attendee at the 10:30 a.m. service and an active member of the Altar Guild, besides helping out at the ACW bazaars.

Every other week she still talks with her best friend from boarding school, as well as her friend Sheila McLachlan, from St. James', seen in the photo on the left.

Melda's Pastoral Care Visitor since 2017,  
Kate Allen.



## FOX LAKE MISSION UPDATE



For the past several years St. James', through the Social Justice and Outreach Committee, has developed a relationship with the Cree community of Fox Lake in Alberta by supporting the children of Fox Lake, through a financial donation. Fox Lake is the largest community of the Little Red River Cree Nation (pop. 6700) with about 3700 residents. It is also an isolated community relying on winter ice roads and 2 barges to leave the community. Sean (son of Linda Davidson) and Ashley Davidson, his wife, have been living in Fox Lake for several years working as teachers in that community.

You may (or may not) know Fox Lake has been significantly impacted by wildfire this year. What began as a small 23-acre fire on May 2<sup>nd</sup> turned into a fire deemed out of control within 24 hours and an evacuation order was given. And it actually was the first day that barges were in operation. Most people left with minimal belongings with buses used to move many of the people living there. As of May 16<sup>th</sup>, the fire was still deemed to be out of control having grown in size to about 40,000 hectares. However, it has not yet crossed the Peace River, which would threaten the other 2 communities of Little Red. Officials say more than 100 structures have been destroyed by fire including the RCMP detachment, the Northern store and post office and power lines/poles as well as homes of members of the community. Loss of housing is particularly concerning due to the already existing overcrowding of homes.

Fox Lake residents are currently spread out in communities across northern Alberta. Because the community is so remote, it is actually the first time some residents have been away from home. As a Cree speaking community, there are also several older residents who have been relocated who do not speak English. Sean and Ashley were also safely evacuated, after an 11-hour delay, to the community of High River.

A temporary tent city is under construction at John D'Or that will hopefully provide a more familiar setting for at least some of the Fox Lake evacuees. Rebuilding will face some serious challenges including dealing with different levels of government, sufficient funding and even logistics that impact timelines - the barges have a weight limit as to what they can carry in terms of equipment and supplies. Normally any building begins in the winter which is when equipment and supplies can be moved into the community using the Ice Road. Also, the highway leading to Little Red is a gravel road, which is easily damaged by heavy vehicles.

However, Chief Sewepagaham expresses an attitude of optimism. "I am not looking to rebuild Fox Lake the way it was, but the way it should be. This means no more overcrowding. Appropriate infrastructure leading into our nation of 6,700. Infrastructure and homes that reflect the growing population of 3,700 people that call Fox Lake home."

While the province of Alberta has provided all evacuees with emergency assistance funds, and other funds and donations will be received, Little Red has also started a go fund me to go towards personal items and baby needs (FOX LAKE FIRE EVACUEES-LRRCN APPROVED <https://gofund.me/6d8b9dbc> )

We will provide updates as we are able in the future and keep you posted on how we may help.

Linda Davidson



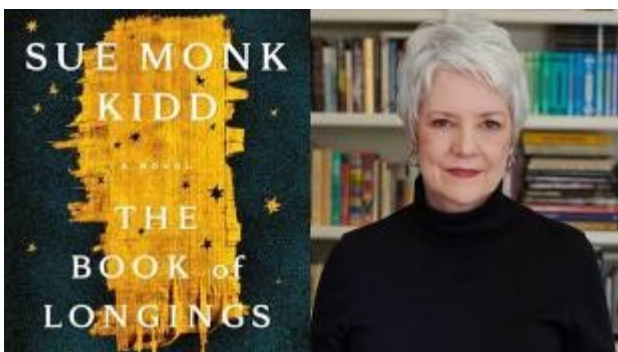
Long Reign the King! About 30 people enjoyed watching the Coronation on the big screen in the church, followed by a luncheon. A big thank you to our volunteers!



### **A.C.W. SPRING SALE**



## ST. JAMES' BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The St. James' Book Discussion Group will be meeting June 12<sup>th</sup> in the Parlour at 10 a.m. to discuss "The Book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd. Described as an audacious feminist take on the story of the New Testament, "The Book of Longings" is the story of the fictional wife of 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.

Linda Davidson

The parishes of St. James' Orillia and Washago Price's Corners present...

### A Staged Reading

Sat. June 10 2023 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.

**GET WHAT YOU NEED**  
A comedy by Jackie Bennett

\$10 (cash only) general seating  
Tickets available at 58 Peter St. N. Orillia

Profits go to the Community Breakfast Program

**St. James' Anglican Church**  
58 Peter St N, Orillia

For information call 905 751 3251 or email gwynbjb@gmail.com



### St. James' Wednesday Noon-Time Summer Recitals



- July 5**  
**Ronald Greidanus**  
internationally renowned pianist and conductor of The Georgetown Bach Chorale
- July 12**  
**Autumn Debassige**  
versatile singer/performer  
**Blair Bailey**  
accompanist/performer of local fame
- July 19**  
**Alan & Sophy Cooper**  
eclectic singers/musicians with  
**Susan Charters**, local engaging storyteller
- July 26**  
**Clement Carelse**  
charming organist from P.E.I.



All are welcome.  
Bring a bag lunch.  
A cool drink will be supplied.  
Free will offering welcomed.

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- August 2**  
**Marshall Martin**  
organist, par excellence from St. Andrew's
- August 9**  
**John & Susan Smith**  
soothing Celtic harp & clarinet
- August 16**  
**Rebecca Campbell**, vocal,  
**Gary Curran**, tenor,  
**Marney Curran**, piano, a delightful combo
- August 23**  
**Brent Mayhew**, amazing pianist  
**Anna Trubashnik**, a stunning singer
- August 30**  
**Wilhelmina Tiemersma**, an "original" organist, a regular summer artist at St. James'

### 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 BIBLE IN-PERSON STUDY

HOLY BIBLE

Please join Archdeacon John Anderson at 10 a.m.

# FündScrip

*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

## 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.**

*Thank you!!*

**TOP NEEDED ITEMS**

- o Hygiene products
- o Canned Soup Veg/Mushroom/Chicken Noodle
- o Canned Vegetables
- o Canned Meat and Fish
- o Peanut Butter (375 g & 500 g)
- o Pasta Sauce and Pasta
- o Rice (not instant or minute)
- o Wholegrain Cereal (less than 12g sugar)
- o Flour
- o Coffee (not instant)
- o Tea



Woo-hoo!! Exciting news!

The Parish Photo Directories will be available at church each Sunday for those who had their picture taken at the church. The Photo Directories will also be available at the church office for those who wish to pick-up during the week.

I would like to give a massive thank you to all of the volunteers who made this possible!

Leslie Fortune

## CHURCH LIBRARY

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



Thank you to all who donated their books to the recent ACW sale. As a result of our sales, plus the kind and generous donations of some, we hope to be able to buy several new books for our church library. We're hoping to purchase current books which will not only enrich our collection but will also support our different ministries.

The titles of the new books will be made available by the fall newsletter.

Happy reading!

Sue Glowa

## 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.*

When you've already started eating and somebody says, "Let's Pray."



**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Sunday June 4, 11, 18, 25**

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

8:30 - 9:30 Community Breakfast

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Tuesday June 6, 13, 20, 27**

12 noon Centering Prayer

12 p.m. Pennywise Shop

**Wednesday June 7, 14, 21, 28**

10 a.m. Bible Study

10:30 a.m. to 12 noon Loonie Lunch

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

12 noon Holy Eucharist

**Thursday June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

**Friday June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**

12:30—2 p.m. Knit/Crochet Group

**Saturday June 24**

10 a.m.—1 p.m. Pennywise Shop

**MONTHLY ACTIVITIES and SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Sunday June 4**

Food Bank Sunday

FundScrip Sunday

**Tuesday June 6**

2. p.m. ACW Executive Meeting

**Saturday June 10**

**2 p.m. and 7 p.m. A Staged Reading  
"Get What You Need"**

**Monday June 12**

10 a.m. Book Discussion

**Tuesday June 13**

7 p.m. via Zoom Ministry Council

**Tuesday June 20**

2 p.m. Pastoral Care Meeting

**Sunday June 18**

Father's Day

**ORILLIA MINOR  
LACROSSE**



Once again, St James' will sponsor a team in Orillia Minor Lacrosse. At this moment, we do not know which age group. Over the years there have been many different age groups. You can see some of the team pictures in the hallway to the auditorium. The youngest "peanut" team is so entertaining as our name goes from shoulder to shoulder and their enthusiasm is wonderful. Sometimes the goalie must be carried out since walking in all the protection gear is difficult. And I have seen a wee player just exhausted with all the running, just sit down on the cool floor, and take a break. The older teams have done us proud. This is a great community project, and we can post their schedule of when and where they will play. They would love your support at a game. If you wish to donate any amount towards this sponsorship, please talk with Phyllis in the office. Thank you.

Wayne and Joan Gardy

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*

**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 - THERE WILL BE NO FUNDSCRIP IN JUNE. SUNDAY JULY 2 WE HOPE TO RESUME, GOD WILLING.**

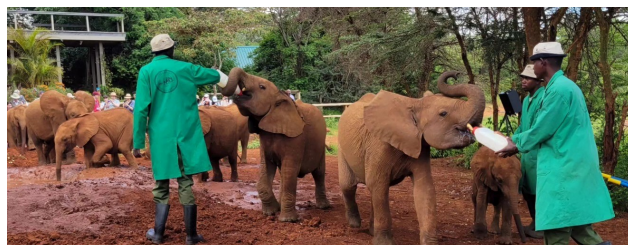


**FUNNY CHURCH SIGNS**

- If you are more fortunate than others, build a longer table, not a taller fence.
- If God is your copilot, switch seats!

**WELCOME HOME!**

Please be ready to welcome our intrepid Kenya Medical Mission adventurers home. As of June 3, they fly back to Canada and to us. In future editions of this newsletter, you'll read all about it.



**June Birthdays**

Kay Ashmore, Wayne Cox,  
Carter Gillett, Ashley Gillett, Len Glowa,  
Robert Greenwood, Martha Howarth,  
Shirley Huntley, Nancy Morrison

**June Anniversaries**

Marg & Brian Allen,  
Leslie & John Fortune,  
Sue & Len Glowa,  
Dianne & Ronald Howell

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