



ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

FEBRUARY 2024

Volume 19, Issue 4
February 2024



*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,

In the fall last year, I held several Sunday workshops following the service. In those workshops we absorbed a lot of important information about St. James' including congregational attendance, offerings, building and property issues, regionalization, and we discussed possible pathways forward.

Parallel to that process, I tasked Deputy Rector's Warden Dean Jobin-Bevans to meet with ministry leaders to talk about their ministries, governance, volunteerism, etc. This was an important step because all the ministry leaders signaled that we must adapt to the structural changes faced by St. James'.

In the last month, I have had several conversations with our Canon-Administrator Laura Walton, Bishop Riscylla, and Janet Marshall, Director of Congregational Development. I think we have turned a corner with respect to regionalization and I expect a definitive proposal to be put forth in the next month or two. However, everyone agrees that St. James' being the larger church and essentially acting as a hub or regional church, also must engage in a visioning process of its own. To that end, Dean and I have recently met with Janet Marshall and we are pleased to advise you of the following:

1. **Step One – Visioning Session** with the congregation will be held on **Saturday, March 2nd 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** (light snacks, refreshments, coffee and tea but no lunch). This is the session for members of the parish, and I would ask you please mark it in your diaries. It will be facilitated by Janet Marshall and another trained facilitator. The purpose will be to identify 'pillars of purpose and strengths' at St. James' which then form our guiding principles for congregational development.
2. **Step Two – Community Building** – the intent is to invite key community members to the parish to identify community issues that St. James' can assist or perhaps not assist. It likely would be 3 or 4 community stakeholders who potentially want to build partnerships with St. James'. It would not be a Saturday event but could follow a Sunday service or perhaps during the week as a lunch and learn; and it may be two or three sessions with different people invited. We think the congregation has a good sense of the social issues facing our community as demonstrated in our local outreach. However, they/we may not know the opportunities for partnerships and correspondingly, limitations. It will follow quickly on our visioning sessions and if you have an interest in this process speak to Dean or myself.
3. **Step Three – Scenario Building** – this would be another Saturday session with a date to be determined. Its purpose would be to consider concrete proposals for congregational development. This would lead to working with the Diocese on a MAF (Ministry Allocation Fund) Grant for congregational development.

As we prepare for the March 2nd meeting, I know many of you are involved in other volunteer activities in Orillia. I would ask that you please share these interests with Dean or myself. These could be possible contacts we may invite for our step two process, and we may also learn more from other community groups.

In the past I circulated an Environics survey. For a copy, please email me at rector@stjamesorillia.com

I give thanks to the congregation for their participation in discussions and workshops. St. James' is of immense importance to us but more importantly, it has a continued role in carrying out Jesus' ministry in this community.

Yours in Christ, Archdeacon 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



UPDATE ON THE KIBERA MEDICAL MISSION

What is happening at the Kenya Kibera Medial Mission?

As a special feature, the entire Kenya medical mission report submitted to St. James' recently is included as a separate addition to the February newsletter (online only). We encourage you to grab a coffee and read all pages of this well written report that clearly demonstrates the social impact of our support for this amazing medical centre located at Holy Trinity Anglican Church compound, Kibera Kenya.

The Social Justice committee has agreed to promote St. James' support for the Kenya Medical Mission as our 2024 Lenten Challenge. Funds are constantly needed for medications, lab supplies and equipment, salaries for locum physician service for eye surgery and special clinics. The report sent with this newsletter tells you how effective their current services are, and we are privileged to receive regular detailed reports on the work there. That our funds are responsibly utilized and monitored there is no doubt.

Stay tuned for details of our 2024 Lenten Challenge.

Rosemarie Freeman



A THOUSAND THANK-YOUS!



The ACW thanks all those amazing Parish Family members who, once again, gave so generously to the Family Christmas Project. We ended up providing gift cards for 22 families: a total of 57 children and 38 adults. Those were the 95 people for whom we ordered cards through our Fundscrip program. One mother sent an e-mail which read in part, "We would have had no Christmas celebration without your help - how can we ever thank you?" A quote from an agency letter said, "Our clients were very grateful to receive the cards as the holiday season can prove to be stressful for many families - and our staff always appreciates the opportunity to distribute them."

Our only problem was that a great deal of money came in AFTER we had placed our orders and - because we no longer have the "back-up" funds of our own as an ACW that we once had - we were unable to order for more than we knew we could cover.

That does mean, however, that we now have a reserve that we will hold until time for our 2024 Christmas Project, so that we can order our first batch of gift cards whether we have enough new money or not at the beginning of November. It also means that other monies that might have had to be put towards the Christmas Project can now be used for other family's or children's needs throughout this year.

Thanks again for sharing the Love of Christ through your donations.

Mae Cox

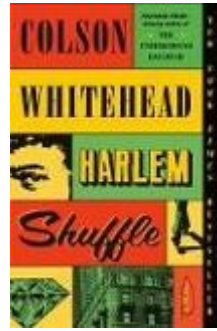


Choir Practice at Christmas - photos courtesy of Jeff Campbell

ST. JAMES' BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - FEB. 12TH

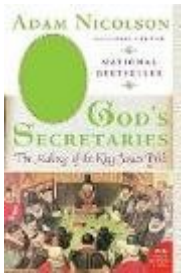
The St. James' Book Discussion Group will be meeting February 12th, 2024 at 10 a.m. to discuss the novel *Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead, double Pulitzer Prize winner. This is his eighth novel and the first of what has now become a trilogy. *Harlem Shuffle* is described as a family saga, a crime novel, a morality play, a novel about race and power and an ode to the Harlem that existed in the late 1950s and 60s. Come join us to discuss or simply listen to our comments and thoughts about this novel. All are welcome.

Linda Davidson



BOOK REVIEW

COMMENTARY ON 'GOD'S SECRETARIES' WRITER: Adam Nicolson ST JAMES' BOOK CLUB CHOICE; January 2024



It is safe to say that Adam Nicholson's 'God's Secretaries' is an absorbing read, an opinion shared by many, not least that of St James' Book Club members, voiced at our January 2024 meeting.

We are hurled back in time to 17th Century England by this book, when a young and vigorous nation, not above irritating to the point of distraction, the great powers of the day, sent out its small, sturdy, agile oak- en ships onto the high seas to harass the Spanish flotillas as they lumbered homeward, their holds packed with the plundered riches of the barely discovered 'New World'. The Spanish ships were repeatedly way- laid and summarily relieved of their precious cargoes by the upstart English who promptly scurried home ready to replenish her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's state coffers with their astonishing largesse. Living on a small cluster of islands, the English were fast discovering, might just be more of an advantage than they had thought. Now, if they could manage to persuade the recalcitrant yet pragmatic Scots to the north to join them in their great adventure, they might just be on their way to better things.

Fate would have it that Queen Elizabeth I clung bitterly to life until it was finally wrested from her by a Di- vine hand greater by far than her own. Choking on her words, she finally uttered the name of her royal successor: James Stewart. 'Jamie Saxth' as the Scots would have him, would become James the VI and 1st of a united England and Scotland. No wonder Queen Elizabeth had such a hard time speaking that name for she had executed James' mother, Mary Queen of Scots after a twenty-year confinement in a series of draughty old castles after she was driven out of Scotland by her own nobles, only to throw herself onto the callous mercies of her cousin Elizabeth. So was the stage set for a new reign and a new dynasty.

Not only were the English a vigorous nation with little to lose on the stage of the known world, but they were also blessed with considerable gifts, not least that of a unique and powerful language that in its ear- ly adulthood had recently produced the unsurpassed works of Shakespeare. During James' reign it was about to produce another: the King James Bible created by, of all things, what amounted to a rather complex Committee structure consisting of eight 'Companies', each with its own Director and containing from seven to ten distinguished members with assigned parts of the bible to study. Worse still, the Compa- nies were staffed by a collection of clerics with a sprinkling of laymen of disparate points of view while all being part of the still youthful Church of England. What, one might ask, could possibly go wrong?

In Nicholson's account, it is swiftly apparent that the English genius for organization was present even in these far-off days, for this was no petty group but a proper network of 'Companies' each answerable to the other and ultimately to the final arbiter himself: Richard Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, and prin- cipal organizer of this great project. So intricate was this organization that Nicholson provides his readers with precise notes at the end of the book naming each Company, its director, and Members. It is impossi- ble to imagine that they did not argue and debate to the point of distraction at times as these well- connected laymen, academics, and clergy of varying degrees of ecclesiastical grandeur set to their task. Despite and maybe even because of these circumstances, one of the great works of English literature fi- nally emerged.

(continue on next page)

Many other versions of the bible have since been created, arguably more accurate and certainly in an English more related to the present-day reader, but none have surpassed such passages as:

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth and the earth was without form and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep"

(Genesis Ch.1)

The voice of one crying in the wilderness. Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

(St Mark Ch. 1)

In the beginning, was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

(John Ch.1)

For now, we see through a glass darkly: but then face to face: now I know in part: but then shall I know even as I am known.

(1 Corinthians Ch,13)

And now abideth faith, hope and charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

(1 Corinthians 13)

But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.

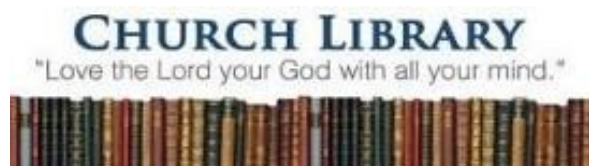
(1Thessalonians Ch.5)

There are of course, any number of other quotes, often held dear by readers who learned their letters in part by reading the King James as well as hearing it in church on Sundays, no doubt tastefully intoned in English churches and thundered from Kirk pulpits off accompanied by the fire and brimstone of incendiary Scottish preachers.

Nicholson is nothing if not thorough in his account. We tend to skip Prefaces in the books we read, but that of 'God's Secretaries' is well worth reading, as are the copious notes at the end of the book as they provide excellent points of reference.

Having introduced us to the making of the King James Bible, Nicholson ends his account with a final chapter which sails serenely across a lyrical summer sea. It is the finest chapter in his book by far and a worthy end to this interesting and informative account.

Beth Morum



We are happy to be able to let you know that several new books have come to our Library.

As well as having the "INDIGENOUS BIBLE" which we have enjoyed on occasion over the last several months, we've added a new book by Joyce Rupp entitled " BOUNDLESS COMPASSION".

"THE REAL MARY" and "HONORED" are also two new titles about the life of Mary.

Take the elevator or climb the stairs, you never know what you will find to enjoy in our Library.

Sue Glowa

KUDOS TO THE PENNYWISE THRIFT SHOP



Once again, the Pennywise Thrift Shop, managed by volunteer Joyce Hird, has enjoyed a great year in several ways. First, the shop has generated some amazing funds for the church outreach efforts. You can see by the chart below that a generous \$23,000 plus has been raised.

Just as importantly, the shop has served many folks in the community with articles at very affordable prices and generated many friendships (a cozy, inviting place to come). In addition, the shop provides a wonderful place for volunteers to participate in a much-needed service. Many volunteers are not regular parishioners at St. James' but find it very satisfying to participate in the work of this shop.

2023 was another incredible year for our Pennywise Thrift Shop. Many thanks to Joyce Hird and her team of volunteers. Well done!

Rosemarie Freeman

Description	2022	2023	Percentage increase
In store Sales	\$ 19,868.60	\$23,606.90	16%
Fashion Show		\$ 1,522.00	
online sales	\$ 1,968.00	\$ 2,350.00	17%
Kidney Foundation	\$ 448.92	\$ 469.15	4%
Gold/silver Dealer	\$ 2,196.55	\$ 1,869.90	3%
Scrap metal	\$ 197.00	\$ 235.00	
Gross totals	\$ 24,679.07	\$30,052.95	
Voucher	Cost \$ 1,209.00	92 Cost \$ 2,008.00	
Net total	\$ 23,470.07	28,044.95	
Volunteer hours	3636.5	5117.1	29%
Customers	1724	4952	29%

ST. JAMES' RECONCILIATION CIRCLE

On Monday, January 8, members of the St. James' Reconciliation Circle joined Sharon Langfield and Mary Lou Meiers of St. Paul's Centre for an explanation of the first round of artwork at the Ogimaa Miskwaaki (Chief Muskquakie/ Yellowhead) Gallery.

(<http://www.stpaulscentre.ca/the-ogimaa-miskwaaki-gallery>).




The Gallery was created in response to Call to Action #83 and was produced with Indigenous and Settler artists taking turns creating artwork in response to each other. There are currently 4 Rounds completed, and more settler rounds are being created (non-Indigenous response to the project) - the next on January 25 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Mary Lou and Sharon have invited anyone who is interested to participate in a cycle of gallery chats (Rounds 1-5) which are free of charge or by freewill donation. Alternatively, they are willing to come and speak to members of the congregation after a Sunday service here.

If you are interested in learning more about this initiative, please contact Phyllis at office@stjamesorillia.com.
Marilyn Clark

2024 ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 25
Immediately following
the 10 a.m. Service



In-person meeting in Stubleby Auditorium.
Coffee/tea & light snacks to enjoy during the meeting.

Shrove Tuesday

Pancake Dinner



**February 13
5:30 - 7 p.m.**


**\$8 - Adults
\$4 - 10 yrs.
& under**

Graciously hosted by
Orillia Scouts
in the auditorium.
All are welcome!



*“God never tires of forgiving us;
We are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy.”
Pope Francis*

CENTERING PRAYER AND MEDITATION
TUESDAY AT 12 NOON in person in Choir 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

FOOD BANK SUNDAY
First Sunday of every month



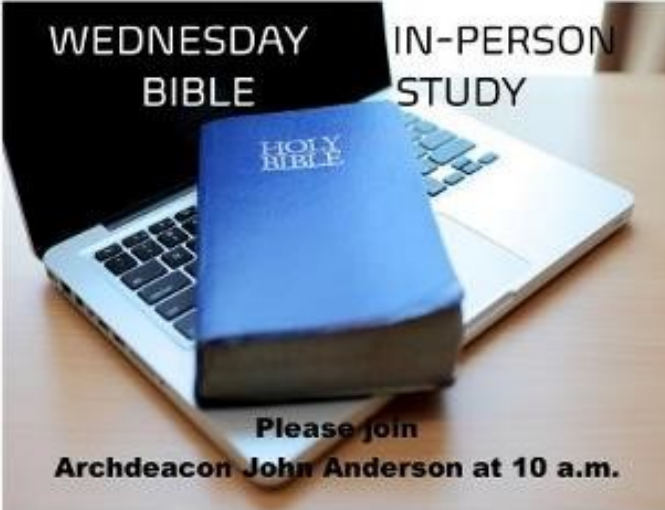
Our Green Bags are located in the narthex for your use. Fill them with any item listed here. They will be delivered to The Sharing Place Food Bank.

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

WEDNESDAY BIBLE IN-PERSON STUDY



Please join Archdeacon John Anderson at 10 a.m.

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 Anglican-Lutheran, St. Athanasius Anglican, St. James' Anglican & Community Members.
Our goal is to provide food and fellowship in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Orders need to be in the office by the end of the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, February 4th for pick up on February 11th.

See the February Specials.

Please consider supporting this fundraising opportunity by placing an order. No order is too small! When our total order is large enough, we are not charged for shipping. Currently we have 8 loyal supporters. We would love to have you join us! Please speak with Sylvia Baker or Leslie Fortune if you have any questions

When Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday February 4, 11, 18, 25

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

Tuesday February 6, 13, 20, 27

- 12 noon Centering Prayer
- 12 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Wednesday February 14

- 11:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Imposition of Ashes
- 10: 30 a.m. to 12 noon Loonie Lunch
- 12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Wednesday February 7, 14, 21, 28

- 10 a.m. Bible Study
- 10: 30 a.m. to 12 noon Loonie Lunch
- 11:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

- 12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Thursday February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

- 12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Friday February 2, 9, 16, 23

- 11:30—1 p.m. Knit/Crochet Group

Saturday February 24

- 10 a.m.—1 p.m. Pennywise Shop

FundScrip

February 2024 Promotions
Valid from February 1 to February 29 - 9:30 AM ET

Sobeys - Multi-Banner Grocery		IGA	SAFeway	⚡
Sobeys	5% Regular 3%	FRESH CO	FOODLAND & CO-OPS	...and more!
Banana Republic	9% Regular 7%	Chocolats Favoris		
BR	⚡	9% Regular 7%	⚡	
Gap	9% Regular 7%	Old Navy		
GAP	⚡	9% Regular 7%	⚡	

Physical Gift Cards ⚡ Electronic Gift Cards

*“During Lent, let us find concrete ways to overcome our indifferences.”
Pope Francis*

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES and SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday February 4

- Food Bank Sunday
- FundScrip Sunday

Tuesday February 6

- 2 p.m. ACW Executive Mtg.

Monday February 12

- 10 a.m. Book Discussion

Tuesday February 13

- 5:30-7 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper hosted by Orillia Scouts
- 7 p.m. Ministry Council Mtg.

Monday February 19

- Family Day – Office Closed

Tuesday February 20

- 2 p.m. Pastoral Care Mtg.

Saturday February 24

- Coldest Night of the Year (Team St. James')

Sunday February 25

- Annual Vestry Meeting following 10 a.m. service

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 February 4**. Orders and cheques (payable to St James' church) can be dropped off at the Church office. Pick up will be **Sunday February 11** Thank you for your continued support of this beneficial project.



FUNNY CHURCH BULLETINS

- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- The evening at 7 p.m. there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.



February Birthdays

Cheryl Behan, Heather Crate,
Wayne Gardy, Sue Glowa,
Albert Greer, Norm Kee

February Anniversaries

Jen & Andrew Hill

ST. JAMES' ANGLICAN CHURCH
 58 Peter St. North, Box 272, Orillia, Ontario
 L3V 6J6 325-2742
 office@stjamesorillia.com
 http://www.stjamesorillia.com

Rector: Archdeacon John Anderson
 Editors: The Communications Committee
 Composer: Nancy Noakes-Morrison
 Production: Phyllis Johnson

