

ST. LUKE'S

NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2020 - 2021



Leonel, Sheila, and Stuart ready for walk-up communion in front of the Parish Hall every Sunday from 10:00 to 10:30am

Calendar of Events Page 15



Newsletter Summary

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Rector's Message

In my message for the last newsletter, I likened our current situation in dealing with the pandemic to a battle, or even a war. I think the analogy still certainly holds. Do you remember in the early days when people were thinking maybe this would be over in a couple of weeks? This has been a long campaign and there is no scheduled end in sight. As I write this, we are just about to enter the season of All Saints and All Souls. We remember that we are not alone, but are supported spiritually by the Communion of Saints of which we are members. Our forebears in the faith who have gone before us, the saints, or faithful of the Church who live today, and even those yet to be born form a mystical communion and we can draw from their faith and their examples at all times, and especially during the hard times.



I remain so grateful for the faithful response of so many who continue to give of themselves to reach out (in safe ways) to those in need. I bump into some of you from time to time, usually from a distance across the street, or with us each wearing a mask. I am getting better at distinguishing the smile of friendship by looking at the corners of people's eyes. We are all learning new cues in the language of faith and love. Most of us are missing human contact to some degree, but I especially feel for those who are alone. We are trying to reach out through many means including online and by telephone. I would like to suggest that one way that you might make a difference in all of this is to be intentional about reaching out to people you know who are alone. Make it a project to bring some cheer into others' lives by reaching out in faith and love. If you are connected through internet, I invite you to join us in prayer for our Sunday services, and also for our Evening Prayers which are just 20 minutes each evening (except Fridays.) All of our online services are available through our video blog at www.stlukesburlington.blogspot.com

Also, in your own daily prayers, please be intentional about praying for medical staff, all front-line workers, scientists and research workers trying to develop a vaccine and leaders trying to steer our society safely through these troubled waters. Also, please pray for those who are going through loss. All of us are, to some degree, but people have lost loved ones, their health, their jobs or businesses or their homes. We need to treat each other with compassion.

Lastly, do remember that we can get through this, especially when we turn to our faith. St. Paul, as he writes to the Romans, says that there is nothing on earth or in heaven that can separate us from the love of God through Jesus Christ our lord. Not even death can separate us from that love because it is God's purpose to give us abundant life and God's kingdom.

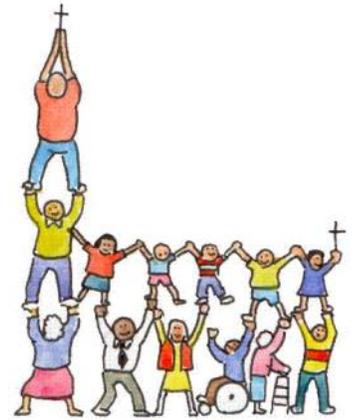
I am so grateful for all of you. I miss you all and look forward to the day when we can be together in person. But, in the meantime, we are together in spirit, along with the great cloud of witnesses known as the Communion of Saints.

Your brother in Christ,

Stuart.

Wardens' Report

Your parish wardens were hopeful that at the time of writing this communication, we would have been back in the Church; in-person, but alas, the spread of the Covid-19 virus has proven difficult to defeat. We had planned on a return to services at Thanksgiving, but at the “eleventh hour”, decided it was still too risky to proceed. The daily infection rates were continuing to climb, so we believe we made the right decision. Parishioner health is the forefront of our decision making. You may know that the clergy has introduced a “drive-up” communion for those wishing to attend the virtual communion on-line and then partake in an actual communion (bread only) in a safe and efficient way.



“Virtual” meetings, phone-tree calls, etc. continue and this newsletter supports the goal of staying in touch with many of you.

Your parish executive continued to meet regularly (via ZOOM) to address on-going and future needs of this wonderful parish. Our parish council enjoyed the usual summer hiatus and resumed in November.

We reiterate our hope that you have been staying healthy and remain vigilant regarding your own activities. At the time of writing, our city is on the brink of moving back to a modified Stage 2, should the infection rate continue to climb. We are hopeful we can contain it, lowering our collective risk of exposure. The Anglican Diocese of Niagara continues to monitor the situation and provides updates as necessary and guidelines that we need to respect.

We still intend on offering recorded and live streamed services, so parishioners who are reluctant to attend in-person, can continue to participate in actual services. Our survey that was completed by over 100 parishioners told us that many were not yet ready to return to in-person services, so we have invested in technology to be able to do recorded and live-streamed services better. We are also going to be able to project liturgy on a screen in the church to avoid additional contact by handing out service bulletins.

Our financial position has been positively impacted by diocesan, provincial and federal aid programs, as well as the additional generosity of many parishioners. As you likely now already know, we have had to forgo significant, annual fund-raising opportunities, resulting in the loss of a considerable portion of our much-needed (and planned) revenue.

Wardens' Report continued.....

Events such as the annual Spaghetti Dinner, the Giant Garage Sale, Music at St. Luke's, Special Event parking revenue (e.g. Sound of Music Festival; Ribfest), Children in Need Concert, as well as rental income. We again prayerfully ask that you consider not only your regular givings, but an additional "special" amount to help us manage our financial position through to the end of the fiscal year. A cheque or e-transfer are the most efficient ways of making a donation.

Regrettably, we were unable to hold our annual St. Luke's Parish Dinner this year and while it typically is a great source of revenue for the parish (by way of the silent auction), it has always been a fabulous evening of church fellowship – we all miss it and can now only look forward to next year, being our 187th anniversary!!

As well, when you read this you will have heard that our annual Christmas Market was also cancelled this year, due to the pandemic. Like so many other events, it is a huge fund-raising activity and brings so many of our parishioners together in so many ways – organizers, volunteers, cooks, vendors, customers, etc. We must recognize the Committee led by Carole Prytula and Bob Bruce, for their enthusiasm and tireless work to try to organize the Market, despite the obstacles thrown their way. Fortunately preparatory work was not all lost, as they plan for next year.

We previously reported a number of repairs and improvements underway, while the church is not being used. A number of work projects continue, however below you will see the result of the great work of Ramsay Holmes. THANK YOU, Ramsay!! The clergy will be organizing a "blessing of the doors" to honour the work and to officially thank Ramsay.

The new columbaria project continues to move along and one of the first things you will notice related to this project is the repair to the walkway between the church and the Great Hall. This was an annual source of concern, due to water settling and freezing, causing a high risk of slip and fall accidents.

We are so grateful and blessed to have volunteers continue with the Food for Life program during the pandemic. The people who use this program are a testament to the community need.

We always ask that you make your Parish Executive, Wardens, Parish Council members and Clergy aware of issues, questions and views, both positive or constructive, so we can continue to represent you in the best way possible and continue to make St. Luke's a welcoming place. We also ask for your continued prayers for us to serve in the best interests of this parish. 5

Wardens' Report continued

Lastly, sadly the Danielsens (Marie & Ron) recently moved to the Ottawa area to be closer to family. Ron has been very involved in a variety of projects, for which we are thankful and we thank Marie for her contribution as Deputy People's Warden and then People's Warden. We welcome Daryl Wilson as he (prematurely) moves from Deputy People's Warden to replace Marie. Also, by the time you read this, we will have seen the nomination and appointment of a new Deputy People's Warden.

We have also lost a past Warden and his wife (Alan and Judith Brodie), as they move to be close to family in Barrie. We will miss them and thank them for all they contributed and wish them the very best.

We wish for you a blessed, holy and happy Christmas, even though it will look and feel very different this year. We join you in hoping for a better 2021. We continue to pray for your spiritual and physical well-being.



Rector's Warden – Tim Tiernay (tim.tiernay@bell.net)
People's Warden – Daryl Wilson (dcfwilson@gmail.com)
Deputy Rector's Warden – Rosemary Armstrong (rosemarymarmstrong@gmail.com)
Deputy People's Warden – Helen Bittner (hbittner@cogeco.ca)

From The Deacon



At the time of writing, our Covid numbers are on the rise. Hotspots in the province have gone back to modified Stage 2 and Halton and Durham are waiting to see if we, too, will be returning to modified Stage 2. Unsettling times for everyone.

Amidst all the uncertainty of what life might be like in the next few months and how different things may be, our St. Luke's family have shown their resilience, their understanding, their strength and most of all their love and compassion for others in our community.

Our parishioners have found our on-line services to be meaningful and comforting. Our numbers at our "drive-through" communion on Sunday mornings have slowly increased. We are a tough group and together we will get through this. We are all in this together. Naturally we are all disappointed that our Christmas Market, both in its usual form, and in its modified form (Christmas grab bags) did not happen, but we will come back from this bigger and better next year.

I am truly grateful for the volunteers who join me each Tuesday at Food for Life to distribute pre-bagged produce, baked goods and meat to our friends in the community with food insecurities. We recently used some of our funds to purchase 50 dozen eggs from Food Basics.

We have also ordered 60 bags of Christmas bark from the El Hogar team to give as a small gift to each client at Christmas.

Our parishioners have been diligent in connecting with other parishioners through phone calls and emails. Our Pastoral team continue to reach out with phone calls, and physically distanced visits.

Deacon's Report continued

We are all working in so many different ways to continue to make St. Luke's vibrant and to keep it strong.

It will certainly be a different kind of Advent and Christmas season for everyone, but we will continue to work together to make it a special one.

Please continue to pray for one another, please stay safe and please be gentle to yourself.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas season in whatever form yours might take and may it be filled with love and joy and happy memories

Sheila



Pastoral Assistant Report

Holy Complaining in the Old Testament

"There's a time for everything, a season for everything under the heavens."

Ecclesiastes 3



My St. Luke's friends:

We are now moving into the 8th month of Covid19 emergency measures, and, quite predictably, we all have some complaining to do.

And this can be tricky because, in challenging times, it is often assumed that 'the right attitude' is one of optimistic, forward-looking, no-matter-what confidence. A sense of reassuring certainty that, whatever our daily experience may throw our way, we'll keep our chins up, somehow.

And, yet, our own experience often begs to differ. As people of faith, we hope, yes, and persist and, by the grace of God, we commit to praying for and encouraging each other.

But we also grieve, and even hurt, and our speech and even our prayers are bound to reflect that wide, and at times frightening scope of our human experience.

And, as Christians, we can see this happening both in our daily lives and even in the witness of the Scriptures.

The examples of complainers, or lamenters, in the Old Testament are numerous. There is in fact a whole genre, a whole type of literature in the Bible known as 'Lamentations', so many of these can be found throughout. Examples go from all the way back to Adam in the garden, through Moses leading Israel in the desert, until the Prophets who were all complainers over the unfaithfulness of the people before their Lord. There's even an Old Testament book entitled 'Lamentations', for good measure.

And there are also the Psalms, a book containing 150 songs addressing a wide range of religious concerns—intercession, thanksgiving, exulting joy—and, also, grief, pain, shame, and even anger. If you have noticed, there are many psalms, in fact, addressing these most unpleasant bits of our human experience.

For example, Psalm 13 begins: "How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?"

Then there's Psalm 22, recited from the Cross by our Lord: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish? My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest."

Pastoral Associate Report continued

And Psalm 86: “Hear me, Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Guard my life, for I am faithful to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long.”

These psalms, together with other texts of lamenting we can find throughout the Scriptures, are not mere complaints. If nothing else, they are holy complaints. They were uttered and consigned to writing by people who struggled in their belief, even as they indeed believed.

As believers, we walk by faith. Our human nature, almost by design, seems to resist this walking by faith, and—understandably so - we struggle. We hurt, and even suffer. And, even as we trust in God, our experience requires that we may speak to Him without the pretense of actually knowing what we are doing.

And, so, we lament. In prayer, in worship, in meditation and praise, by ourselves, or with others, we complain.

To complain, to lament as children of God and believers in the Gospel, is a rather radical albeit raw means for telling our Lord everything, without reserves. Especially, in those times - as these - when we feel that we just must do so.

And we can lament, freely and in confidence, because we know ourselves human, unable to figure ‘everything out’, and also because we know our God to be a loving Creator, who understands this our ignorance as much as we ourselves may be inconvenienced by it. We lament because we believe that the will of God will indeed be done—but while we are at it, we also want God to know that, often enough, *we don’t really get it*. That we need help.

We can do this—you can do this - with our own words. Speaking out loud -with some self-restraint about the volume, perhaps. Not mincing the words, and speaking—or praying - from the heart. Even if it hurts, even if we just must lament, complain—because our Father knows it, and is holding it all together already.

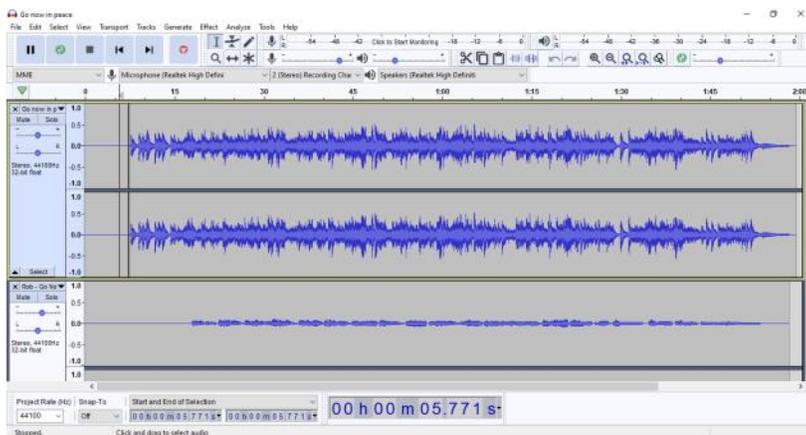
Your friend,

Leonel (leonel@stlukesburlington.ca)

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Hello friends,

Since my last submission, the choir and I have prepared and presented (virtually) two anthems: Wesley's "Lead me, Lord" and Besig and Price's "Go now in peace" (I include a screenshot below taken from Audacity, the programme I use to bring our choir together virtually). These came together beautifully, and I hope you enjoyed listening to them. Thank you especially to Chris Hughes, Vicky Micks, Bonnie Lennard, Marilyn Allen, Rob Laurie, and Allan Ellingham – not only for their anthem participation, but also for their voices in the weekly hymns! The choir also managed a physically distanced, outdoor gathering before the weather cooled – it was wonderful to see everyone who was able to make it.



Dorothy Haartman gifted us with a lovely violin piece for one of our Sundays - thank you to you, Dorothy! She will also be presenting a piece on Sunday, November 1 (which will likely be in the past by the time you read this) – we hope you enjoy (enjoyed) it!



Music Director Report continued

In the meantime, I have rejoined the in-person worship service recording sessions, to provide background music where appropriate. It is wonderful to reconnect with the team after working mostly in isolation for some time.

I have heard some lovely feedback about my postludes, and I hope my selections continue to move and inspire you. I have been delving back into some earlier repertoire (16th to 17th centuries), which I haven't done for some time, and am enjoying it immensely.

Our Worship committee will be meeting soon via Zoom to discuss our liturgical plans for Advent and Christmas. These will look very different this year, but I know my colleagues share my commitment to make these services as meaningful and comforting as we can under the circumstances.

As for my own musical plans for Christmas: again, it will look a little different, as the preparations of anthems are very unique with the inability to meet and sing in person. There will be organ music, piano music, choral music, and hopefully more. I pray our gifts will bring joy and peace to you.

In addition to my work at St. Luke's, I am working together with the Burlington Civic Chorale to create virtual choral music with them, and will also be featured in a virtual concert presented on YouTube by the Royal Canadian College of Organists. It will be available to view on October 30 at 7 pm; I am unsure whether the video will stay up, but just in case, here is the link: <https://youtu.be/Gz-sHD4GpIQ>

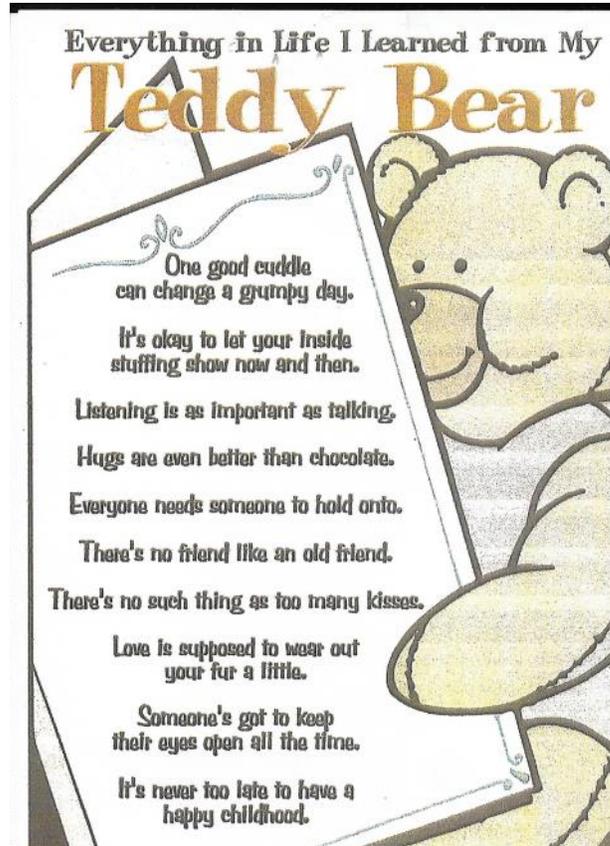
I pray you all are staying safe and well. My thoughts and prayers are with you.



Respectfully submitted

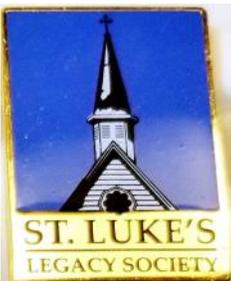
Jennifer Goodine,

Music Director.



Submitted by Sheila Plant

St. Luke's Legacy Society



"The Legacy Society invites us to consider how we can utilize our assets garnered during our lifetime in a creative and substantive way to support St. Luke's in perpetuity."

Jim Glass

Our On-Line Services and the Bulletin

We are blessed with dedicated clergy who are putting together a wonderful array of on-line services often including music and video. In addition to the regular Sunday service, there is an evening prayer each evening except Friday as outlined on the events page in this newsletter. The services of course can be viewed at any convenient time, not just Sunday morning or the typical evening prayer times. It is great to sit in your living room in your relaxing work clothes and sing along with the hymns, (and nobody can hear).



The Psalm 34

I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually
be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.
O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together.
I sought the Lord, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.
Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
This poor soul cried,
and was heard by the Lord,
and was saved from every trouble.
The angel of the Lord
encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them. 7



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.

Evening Prayer for 5 Nov 2020B



Evening Prayer
The Service of Light

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Thanks be to God.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can extinguish.

How can I Know About All The Things That Are Still Happening Every Week at St. Luke's?

Read the On-Line Bulletin!! The parish secretary is also publishing a bulletin every week with the happenings and news of the Parish, often much more than can be part of the ,service announcements. You can check the bulletin weekly by going to the Church website at www.stlukesburlington.ca and clicking on "Bulletin" on the front page. There is still an amazing number of things going on that you need to know about. Send submissions to the office for the bulletin to help keep us all up to date. office@stlukesburlington.ca

Winter 2020-2021 Calendar of Events

All Sunday and mid-week worship (in-person) services remain cancelled until further notice because of Covid-19.

We will resume in-person Church services when we are able to do so.

Please join our community gatherings through

VIRTUAL CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship at 9am

Evening Prayers at 7pm

Every evening, except Fridays

All above services are in the form of podcasts that can be played **at any time**. Go to www.stlukesburlington.ca and click on "Virtual Worship and Sermon Podcasts". You can then click on the picture of the service you want. For services, the words for the hymns and the liturgy are included in the podcast so you can follow along.

* * * * *

And, from the Niagara Anglican Diocese

Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan

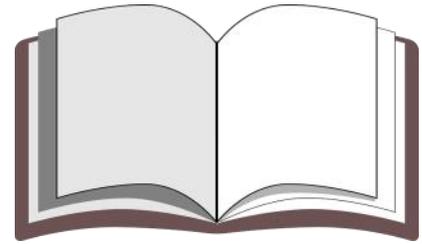
Every Sunday at 10:00a.m.

[facebook.com/niagaraanglican](https://www.facebook.com/niagaraanglican)

* * * * *

Watch for the church bulletin listing upcoming notices and events such as future Zoom based Advocacy Breakfast and other on-line activities.

Life Passages



Every year on All Saints, we give thanks for the life and witness of all those among us who have died.

It seems only appropriate that we remember parishioners who have passed away and those whose services were officiated by our clergy.

Due to Covid 19, things have been very different, in that we have not been able to conduct services for many people who would have had a service in the church. Please know that they have not been forgotten and that when we can, services will be held.

DURING ALL SAINTSTIDE, we remember all who have died in this parish & whose services were conducted by our clergy, over the past year.

Yvonne M. Rosser

Florence Reed

Doug Schofield

Robert Ferris

Margaret Jones

Maria Pubillones

Judy Robertson

Norah Dea Alwis

Joseph Stanley

Doris Aeberli

Jody Kaczur

Margaret Davies

Priscilla D'Arcy

John MacKenzie

Catherine Donna Johns

Iris Newbold

Reginald Pollard

Frank Gue

Robert J. Daigle

Hazen Haywood

Dave Rogers

Elizabeth Connolly

Donna Adamson

Robert Samuel Sim

Joan Pallett

Phyllis Helen Massey

Jean Hewitt

Sydney Walkinshaw

Katherine G. Root

Emily Matter

Sidney C. Wyatt

Francis Joseph Heymans

Donald Adamson

Earl Findlay

Terrance Hughes

Roy Gilbey

Marie Moore

John Hague

Clara Chadwick

Sheila Jewitt

Phyllis Shura

Flora Deszca

Magaret K. Cleaver

William D. Martin

Carole Ann Hiscock

Marjorie Cole

William Robertson

Elisa Bendall

O Father of all, we remember those whom we love but see no longer; Grant them thy peace, and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. LUKE'S PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



We are all looking forward to when we can return to our beautiful Church.

Photos by Dorothy Kew



Coffee Hour via Zoom every Sunday at 11:00am. Look for the Zoom invitation in the Church Email with the Sunday service links.

ST. LUKE'S PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

SOME GROUPS MEETING BY ZOOM



Given that the COVID restrictions are likely to continue well into 2021, more groups are going on-line. Outreach, Advocacy Breakfast, Stitching Circle, Men's Faith and Fellowship, Men's Literary Society (better known as the Scotch and Cigar Night), Parish Council, and others have moved on-line. Send the newsletter a screen shot of your group.

The technical challenge may be concerning to some.

Please contact rickreycraft@hotmail.com if you need technical help or have the skills to offer help to others and we will try to make the connections.



St. Luke's Stitching Circle



The Stitching Circle continues to meet at 10am, Tuesdays, via Zoom. We knit or crochet and chat, and it's always good to see each other's friendly faces. All are welcome! It's not as easy to fix knitting problems on-line but we're willing to try...! For an "invitation" to the weekly Zoom, please contact Mary Taslimi at mary.taslimi@cogeco.ca

We've been busy creating and have lots of beautiful knitting to sell in aid of the Christmas Market. Please see our photos here in the newsletter for some sample items, including pillows, fingerless mittens, tea cozies, baby blankets, children's hats and sweaters, adults' hats, and our ever-popular dish cloths. Some are sold already! For prices and to purchase, or to enquire about other items we may have, please contact Marlene Marks at mmarks2@cogeco.ca



Various by Jenny Ferris



Childrens' sweaters by a variety of knitters—some already sold



Tea Cozies by Jane Milne



Fingerless mittens by Jane Milne



Flower and Ladybug pillows by Jane Milne



Music at St. Luke's 2020/21

The Music at St. Luke's committee regretfully has cancelled its November 21st event, "Cruisin'" due to the pandemic restrictions. However, we are still hoping to be able to host our Robbie Burns supper on Jan. 23rd. We will keep you posted. Meanwhile, we all send best wishes for your health and safety.

Submitted by Bonnie Lenard

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please call or justcremation.com for details

The History of St. Luke's Partnership with El Hogar

El Hogar has come up several times recently in Church communications but some newer parishioners are asking "What is El Hogar?". Since our annual team trip to Honduras was canceled this year we did not have our usual El Hogar Sunday presentations in the Spring which keeps the parish informed.



El Hogar is a project of the Anglican diocese of Honduras to provide a home, an education, and hope for the future for desperately poor and abandoned children. Over its more than 40 years, it has grown to include about 200 boys and girls in its program and relies on churches and individuals like us across North America for the support it needs to operate. Some of the students are residential, placed there by the equivalent of the Honduras Children's Aid Society, and some are day students so they can retain a connection with whatever family they have. There is now an elementary school and a technical training high school. It is truly inspiring to see how well they give hope for a better future to these children. The website at www.elhogar.org is a great source of more information, pictures, and video.



2019 was our 12th trip from St. Luke's. 43 different people have gone, mostly parishioners, their friends or daughters or granddaughters. Ages have ranged from 17 to 80. Fifteen of these have gone more than once. Erika Skafel from this parish was so touched by her visit that she volunteered at El Hogar for a year and has now been employed there full time for 4 years as the North American Liaison. There is a 2021 trip planned for April but could be delayed again.



St. Luke's sponsors 3 children at the school, funded by our sales of gingerbread, chocolate bark, Marilyn Barnes' cards, and Easter Eggs. A number of parishioners sponsor children there and/or donate through St. Luke's to provide additional funds. For further questions contact Ros and Rick Reycraft or Janice and Michael Skafel.

Sunday School Report

Sunday School and the Youth Program are on hold of course but some of the children/youth wanted to contribute to the newsletter.

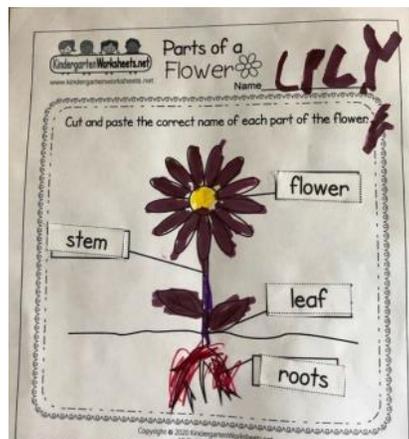


Saraya and Shevaan Samarasinghe are missing their friends and teachers at Sunday School



- Megan Miller with Bronwyn and Rhys
- Rhys riding on Mike's bike
- Bronwyn on her 7th birthday with Gramma. They are all happy to be back in school, Bronwyn in French immersion.

Lily Faint loves to draw.



Sunday School Report continued



Olivia, Ava, Jacob and Thomas with their recent family addition, Bailey, in Halloween costumes. Olivia is at Brock University plus part time at Canadian Tire, Ava just turned 16 and has her G1 driver's licence, Jacob is still delivering the Post and has started hockey—practices only allowed. Thomas is in grade 5 and also in hockey. The Walker Edwards

“The Speakers’ Lunch”

The aim of the Speakers Lunch group is to foster awareness among parishioners of happenings & endeavours in the wider community that may be worthy of interest and support. The group typically meets at 11:30 am on the second Thursday of each month for social time, followed by a “Bring Your Own Lunch” and a talk by the speaker of the month. All are welcome - please call Doug Flett (905-637-7009) or Tim Tiernay (905-639-0345).



We have a list of very interesting speakers lined up for when we are able to resume, however unfortunately with the slow pace of recovery from the pandemic, we are not able to state with any certainty when we will be able to resume. Once we are, we will be communicating as widely as we can, so be ready to attend to hear about “Climate Change”, “Mental Health Awareness”, “Burlington Transit” and “The Work of the Salvation Army”.

We have been pleased at the growing interest and attendance at the lunches and hope that you can continue to spread the word as to the fun and fellowship to be had at our meetings. If you have any questions, suggestions as to subjects or speakers for future meetings or wish to join our organizing committee, please email or call Tim Tiernay tim.tiernay@bell.net.

Also, if you have not provided your email address or text number in the past, please do so and we can alert you to when we will be resuming.

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of these lunches in the future. For now, continue to be cautious and stay well.

Parish Life Report

Hello Everyone, From Our Home to Yours! I know many of us are missing St. Luke's and each other, and are looking forward to the time when we can gather to worship and enjoy fellowship in person again. Even so, the months since the pandemic began seem to have flown by, and already we are anticipating the coming of winter. I take great comfort in knowing that each of us is blessed with the wonderful solace and companionship of Christ in our hearts to carry us through.



I hope that those of you who are normally involved in the many St. Luke's Parish Life activities are also taking full advantage of this God-given time for some well-deserved rest, respite and personal care. So often, this is an area that gets left behind as we involve ourselves in the many worthwhile endeavours we normally devote our time and talents to.

I also feel blessed that today's technologies afford us the means by which to keep in touch and offer each other support and fellowship despite the necessity for physical isolation this pandemic has placed upon us. It is not the same as being together in person, but still it is something to be grateful for.

I'd like to encourage those of you who have not already done so to come out to the Zoom coffee hour and say hello some Sunday morning. I think you will find it heartwarming to see all the familiar faces there. The link can be found on the St. Luke's web page, near the bottom, and the coffee hour starts at 11:00. So make yourself a cup of tea/coffee, find a comfortable chair, and come 'visit'.

Unfortunately our Christmas Market for this year, like other activities/fundraisers that require a coming together, has been cancelled, but the renewed energies that will bring to next year's market will perhaps be a 'silver lining'. Meanwhile, as December draws closer, I Wish You & All Your Families Near and Far a Happy & Blessed Christmas!

Yours very truly,

Lesley Emery
Parish Life Chair

Report of the Retrofitting LED Lighting in the Church and Parish Hall

In late 2019 the rector and wardens of St. Luke's reviewed the possibility of reducing electrical lighting costs for the two parish buildings by retrofitting the incandescent and florescent light fixtures with LED lamps. Based on multiple quotes and a good recommendation from St. John's Anglican Church we contracted with Jans Electric, a local business.

A special Vestry Meeting was held on January 13, 2020, approval was given to fund this work from the memorial fund and pay it back over 4 to 5 years from savings. An incentive rebate from the IESO of \$5,640 has brought the proposed cost of \$31,950 down to \$26,490 + partial HST.

Work commenced on February 3, 2020, spaced around parish meetings and events during the month.

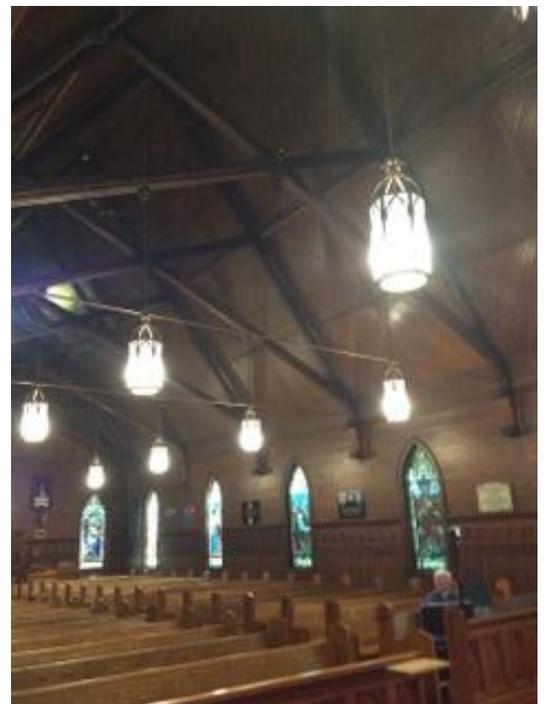
Lighting in the church was enhanced from 5000K lumen lamps to dual 3000K Lumen lamps with twin socket adaptors; dimmers installed on all lamps, and lighting behind the stained-glass window inside the Nave at the Narthex entrance was upgraded significantly. The work in the Church and Parish Hall is now complete.

Several items require special mention from this undertaking:

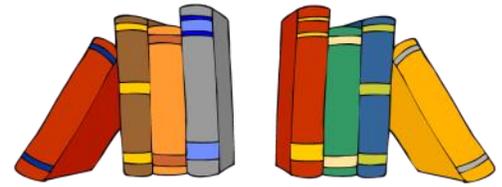
- The enhanced illumination in the Nave of the church has been highly praised by a number of parishioners with comments such as, " I can now read from my prayer book".
- The ability to adjust the level of the lighting in the church, the Great Hall, meeting rooms and rector's office has allowed us to have great flexibility in all of our undertakings.
- The flickering light associated with florescent lamps has disappeared.
- The final cost of the project was \$33,364.61 less a rebate from the IESO of \$5,752., or \$27,612.61. Annual savings under normal conditions are projected in the \$5,000 to \$6,000 range.
- Special thanks to Canon Stuart Pike, Michael Skafel, Ray Payne, and Carole Prytula for their assistance with this project.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Bruce

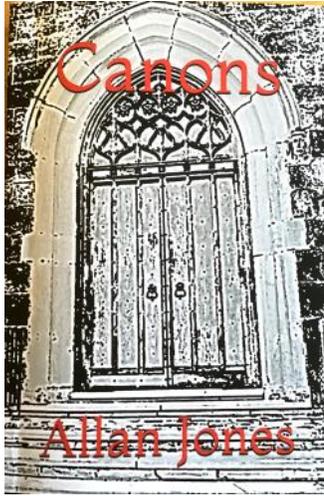


News and Views from the Library



The library is to enhance the spiritual life of its readers.

I am going to introduce you to two Burlington authors who have recently had novels published.



The first one is Allan Jones, whose book, **Canons**, (F JON) was published in 2019. The book is primarily set in two areas, Keswick, Cumbria and the Lake District in England and the city of Hamilton, Ontario. The Diocese of Niagara is referred to as the Anglican Diocese of Hamilton-Brant an entirely fictitious name as are all of the characters in the novel.

This book begins when the body of Roman Catholic priest, Father Duncan Aster from North Bay Ontario, is found drowned in a lake in Cumbria, England. The priest was attending an annual religious retreat in that area. The person who found the body was an Anglican priest, Reverend Andrew Moore, from Stoney Creek, Ontario. Moore would not assist the police inquiry nor would he speak to his bishop, Bishop

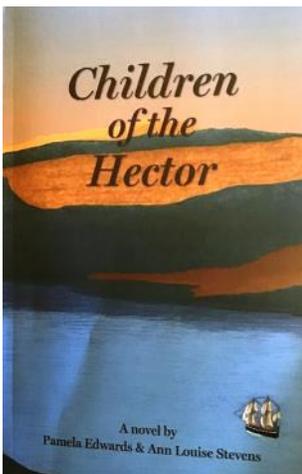
Azikiwe, about the matter. It was decided that Moore should be sent back to Canada to further the inquiry.

A disciplinary hearing, a court of canon law, was set up at the Cathedral in Hamilton. Sergeant Harriet Calder, an officer with the Cumbria police, was sent to Canada to observe the disciplinary hearing, hoping to find out the reason for Aster's death.

I found the book to be a good read. The many references to the Hamilton and Burlington area were interesting. The organization of the court of canon law and the role of the Chancellor of the diocese were explained. This was very informative as we don't hear much about those procedures.

Allan Jones has also written a series of art crime novels, the Catrin Sayer mysteries.

The cover of the book is a sketch of a door of Christ Church Cathedral, Hamilton based on a photograph taken by the author.



The second novel, **Children of the Hector** (F STE) was co-authored by Anne Louise Stevens and Pamela Edwards in 2020. These two writers are lifelong friends and both are retired elementary school teachers who live in Burlington. The book is an historical fiction based on the real life trials of Anne's ancestors, Hugh and Sophia Fraser, who immigrated to Nova Scotia in 1773. Anne knew that her ancestors had come from the Scottish Highlands where they struggled to survive the harsh life. Anne's extensive research reveals the challenges they faced, and those of three subsequent generations.

Library Report continued

Hugh and Sophia set out for the new world with three of their four children, Jane, Mary and Donald. Their elder son, John, remained in Scotland because he was unwell. They set sail aboard a leaky ship called the Hector. They arrived at Pictou, Nova Scotia, to discover a very primitive settlement. Before winter set in they realized that they would have to move to Truro in order to survive the snow and cold winds. There they were befriended by a family who saw them through the winter by providing food and shelter. The next year they returned to the Pictou area where they were granted their own property for settlement. The story follows the lives of the next three generations of the family. The author’s research revealed the incredible endurance of these people, during the voyage and during the years that followed.

The authors have written a novel that brings fact and fiction together that will treat you to good story as well as informing you of the hardships and dangers presented to the those brave enough to seek a better life in the new world.

Once the library is opened, all of the new books that have been purchased since last February will be displayed on the “New Books” shelf in the library. Most of them have been reviewed or listed in the previous two newsletters. If you have books that you would like to return before the entire Parish Hall is open, you may take them to the office. Maureen has kindly agreed to return them to the library. Once coffee hour has returned, we will have a book display.

Jane Milne, Chair

Benches Refurbished



One of the parishioner projects that has gone on is the refurbishment of the benches around St. Luke’s. The church grounds are a wonderful green space that attracts many strollers each day.



Ministry of Outreach

Contacts: Co-Chairs – Jackie Maver (905 681-6097) and Rosalind Reycraft (905 635-3976)

Mission Statement: Moved by the Holy Spirit and guided by the teachings and actions of Jesus the Christ, the Ministry of Outreach, in partnership with the community of St. Luke's, responds to the needs of our neighbours, locally, nationally, and globally by enabling, empowering, educating, and advocating.

All of the ministries under the Outreach umbrella continue to work as best they can in their ministry areas given the restrictions of Covid-19. The group as a whole continues to meet weekly to support each other, learn from each other, and enjoy each other's company.



Advocacy Breakfasts

The Advocacy Breakfast group had to cancel some of our breakfasts at the start of the pandemic, and so as the months went on, we decided to book our speakers anyway and present them through ZOOM. And it worked! Many of you joined us even without our usual cooked breakfast!

We have had several sessions so far: two with Melanie Walker who gave us much to think about during these times with her presentations on Resiliency and on Mindfulness. We also heard about the Migrant Farm Workers in Niagara. You were generous in paying the usual \$7 breakfast fee which goes toward the speaker or their organization and we were pleased to be able to help out with our donations. Because of these virtual successes, we plan to continue through ZOOM.

On November 14th, we will be pleased to welcome Shelagh Nuttall from SAVIS, who will share the mandate for this vital social justice agency in support of victims of human trafficking, and their families. She will describe their role in our community, and respond to inquiries from our participants. Many groups are contributing to the crucial awareness of this concern.

Outreach continued

Most recently, there have been statements of concern and calls to action from the Diocese of Niagara and the National Church.

Initiated at the UN, the Orange Campaign, brings this issue to the attention of the public in early November. In the past, the Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen, have been part of a Candlelight Vigil at City Hall. Due to current events, it is possible this will need to be interrupted or held virtually.

In the new year, we intend to continue to offer opportunities to share information via ZOOM. We encourage you all to be aware of our programme dates through the usual areas - St. Luke's announcements and messages from our group. We will be delighted to welcome you to our presentations. And as always, if you have any topics that you are interested in, please pass them onto us.

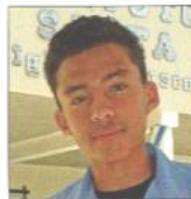
The Advocacy Breakfast Group (Dave Beck, Holly Laird, Jackie Maver, Gay Powell, Carrie Raybould, Ros Reycraft, Janice Skafel)

El Hogar Service Team

¡Muchisimas gracias! A big thank you to everyone who has supported our latest fundraising efforts for El Hogar. Due to all the Covid-19 restrictions and not being able to use the church's kitchen, we did a much-modified version of our gingerbread and bark making.

We had to request that all orders be submitted by November 1st so that we could make sufficient amounts of gingerbread and bark. Sales of those items plus Marilyn Barnes' cards, and Honduran coffee supplied by El Hogar Projects Canada in Toronto went very well. Thank you so much for once again supporting El Hogar!

The money raised will go towards the payment of the three sponsorships we pay on behalf of St. Luke's.



Our sponsored children are all at the Technical Institute. They are Rony, Victor, and Yeferson. We will look forward to meeting them in person once we can finally travel to El Hogar. We do have a trip scheduled for April 9th but given how Covid-19 continues unabated that may not happen. We will keep you posted.

What also goes unabated is our desire to work to support El Hogar's children. Thank you so much for your part in that!

For more information please contact Ros. & Rick Reycraft 905 635-3976 or Janice Skafel 905 332-0837.

Outreach continued

Christmas Families

Please help families this Christmas who otherwise would not have food and gifts.



St. Luke's parishioners will be sponsoring 3 families and teenagers. The names will be given to us by St. Matthew's House.

I will have the list out as soon as I receive it. We will need lots of gift cards this year.

Many thanks

Verónica Richards-Miller

905-637-6341, richmill@cogeco.ca

Mary Sherwood—Madagascar Missions

Mary is still in the Carleton Place hospital as she waits for a place in a Long Term Care facility nearer to her children. Her recovery is slow, but she is doing fairly well. Work on regaining better use of her right arm/hand and right leg is ongoing. Some days there is some confusion as she remembers old memories but the short term is sometimes a hit and miss.

Mary has specifically asked for our prayers, so please remember her.

You can email her at marysherwood@sympatico.ca or send notes to Mary Sherwood, 9-395 Joseph St., Carleton Place, ON K7C 3Z5.

Submitted by Sandra Tiernay

Ubuntu

This vibrant group continues to offer support to the cause of the dedicated Grandmothers of Africa who are caring for their families.

Meetings are through the ZOOM format and members have recently shared a unique fundraising opportunity with Don's Bakery in Muskoka. This features an ordering format whereby participants can select bakery items and have them available for safe pickup in December. Funds raised will be donated to the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign. For further information about this or any other areas, contact Carrie Raybould (905-681-2816).

Outreach continued

Refugee Sponsorship

i) The Al-Alems in Lebanon

We continue to keep our Syrian family, Karima, Mohamad, Faten and Ahmad in our hearts and in our prayers as they wait out what must seem like forever to get to Canada from Beirut. They arrived there more than 7 years ago with their family, the Hajj-Kasems, who now wait for them here in Burlington.

Faten & Ahmad



The Syrian war, now in its ninth year, has displaced 6 million people internally and turned almost as many into refugees. A million and a half ended up in neighbouring Lebanon among its own population of just over 4 million, giving it the highest ratio of refugees to native population in the world.

This adopted country of Lebanon for the family must have seemed like a welcome respite from the war going on in Syria, where they have lost their home, family members and friends and at first, Lebanon's policy was to host them until the war in the neighboring country had ended. But in reality, as time goes on, Lebanon has been intentionally making life harder for its Syrian refugees, instilling a fear of detention and eventual deportation on top of the daily trials of discrimination, curfews, and lack of food.

In a country that already has a high unemployment rate, work has been hard to find for Mohamad. Yet, right after the explosion in Beirut in August, Mohamad was at the epicenter of it all, donating blood to help the overwhelmed hospitals after that horrific explosion.

They live about 15 km from the port where the explosion happened and were safe and unharmed physically. We are relieved to hear that. But the explosion has created numerous complications about employment, the economy and food security. Lebanon's economy before the explosion already had a poverty rate that had risen past 50%.

With this, on top of everything, the family has trouble keeping faith that they will ever get to Canada. They are struggling, discouraged and overwhelmed, and simply long for a place of peace where they can be with their family. They are grateful for the \$250 we send each month, raised by the small fundraiser we had in the spring, which means that at least they

Outreach continued

don't have to worry about rent. Their arrival here is still unknown and it is a waiting game for their application to get through the immigration process. With our experience from other Refugee Families that we have privately sponsored through St. Luke's since 1996, we know that there is very little we can do to speed things up.

Karima and family are in one of the busiest places for refugee processing, which means that there may be a longer wait for everything to be processed in Beirut. There are a lot of cases waiting. COVID has not helped, and with the port explosion, existing problems have now been exacerbated.

ii) Fundraising:

As we think ahead to their arrival, we need to continue to pray for them and to continue to raise funds for their first year's living costs plus start up costs. If you can donate at this time towards the preparation for their new lives here, please give towards our refugee sponsorship ministry.



Please consider a donation before the end of the year at: <http://bdra.ca/donate-now/>. You can also make a small monthly donation if you prefer. Small sums add up fast!

You can also write a cheque to St. Luke's with "Refugee Sponsorship" in the memo line or e-transfer funds to St. Luke's via your bank.

This spring, at the height of the Covid-19 first wave, St. Luke's parishioners answered our call to provide funds for the immediate needs of the Al-Alems, who were experiencing ever-greater financial difficulty meeting basic needs.

Thank you for wanting to support this family so compassionately with your prayers and financial gifts.

We are also thankful for our partners through the Burlington Downtown Refugee Alliance (<http://bdra.ca/>). We have all of course been focused on our own lives during this pandemic, and it has inevitably somewhat diverted our attention away from so many needs elsewhere. But we want to focus our attention now on the Al-Alem family, who are enduring so much more than we can imagine here.

Your financial support for the Al-Alems will make all the difference in enabling their successful transition to a new life in Canada, a comfortable and safe new home, and the countless - and often expensive - things that refugee families have to do soon after they arrive.

Outreach continued

This pandemic paralyses us in so many ways, and our plans for any fundraisers have had to be curtailed this year. Still, our imaginations keep moving forward as we try to work out how we can continue on with creative and innovative ways to raise the funds we need to prepare for their arrival. Please watch out for some fun things coming next year! You won't be disappointed!

Watch for continued updates on our BDRA website <http://bdra.ca/> and our newsletters and we thank you all for your support and prayers.

Submitted by Janice Skafel

Greening St. Luke's > Climate Justice Committee

The Greening Niagara Committee has updated their mandate and changed their name to **Climate Justice Niagara**. The revised mandate is:



"The people of the Diocese of Niagara have long expressed a concern for creation consistent with the Fifth Mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion, "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth." In 2019, the synod of the diocese declared a climate emergency; Bishop Susan Bell urged Niagara Anglicans, "to live up to our responsibility as the protectors of God's earth."

Climate Justice Niagara will equip the leaders and people of the diocese to live more deeply into the Fifth Mark of Mission and our diocesan Mission Action Plan within our parishes, homes and communities and to be strong advocates for local and global change in the following ways:

Prayer; Education; Action; Advocacy."

For more details, visit the website: <https://niagaraanglican.ca/climatejustice/terms-of-references>

In keeping with the new diocesan name, the Greening St. Luke's committee will take the name: **Climate Justice** committee. It will continue to report to the Outreach Committee.

Submitted by Michael Skafel

Outreach continued



Primate's World Relief and Development Fund

PWRDF CHRISTMAS CARDS



PWRDF sells Christmas cards on-line @ www.pwrdf.org. Simply go on-line to choose your cards. A minimum donation of \$25 is needed for a tax-receipt. Orders must be placed by December 1st. Allow 2 weeks for shipping.



Make your Christmas shopping easier this year, buy from the PWRDF catalogue - a goat for a grandchild, medical supplies for a nurse or doctor friend. You see the idea. The catalogue will be in your latest Niagara Anglican, so watch out for it.

A Look Back at St. Luke's Rectors: A Continuing Series by Dorothy Kew

The Reverend George William Tebbs

With the death of the Reverend Frank Hovey on 15 October 1918, St. Luke's was once again without an incumbent until the appointment on 6 January 1919 of the Reverend George William Tebbs as the fifth rector.



Reverend George Tebbs, St. Luke's Archives

George Tebbs was born 1 November 1872 in Peterborough, England and married Louisa Augusta Doleman in 1898 in Nottingham. They came to Canada in 1905 where Tebbs served as superintendent of the Irish Boys Home in Hespeler, Ontario till 1913. He attended Wycliffe College, Toronto, and became a deacon in 1911, was ordained priest in 1912, and served parishes in Hillsburgh, Erin and Reading before moving to St. Mark's in Orangeville in 1913 for two years. He served in Hamilton churches, including the Church of the Ascension in 1918, before being appointed as rector of St. Luke's. After the war the congregation of St. Luke's, under the leadership of the Rev. Tebbs, established a building fund and, with special appeals, the foundations were laid for a new memorial parish hall which was dedicated 22 July 1922.

According to Percy Kelly's history of St. Luke's, Mr. Tebbs had wide and diversified interests, reaching out beyond the congregation to the general public. Beginning in 1922 the services from St. Luke's were broadcast over Radio CKOC in Hamilton, and in 1931 the radio station asked Mr. Tebbs to do a radio broadcast himself, as "Old Man Sunshine", as a way of encouraging radio listeners during the period of the Depression.



Rev. George Tebbs as “Old Man Sunshine”. Courtesy Burlington Historical Society

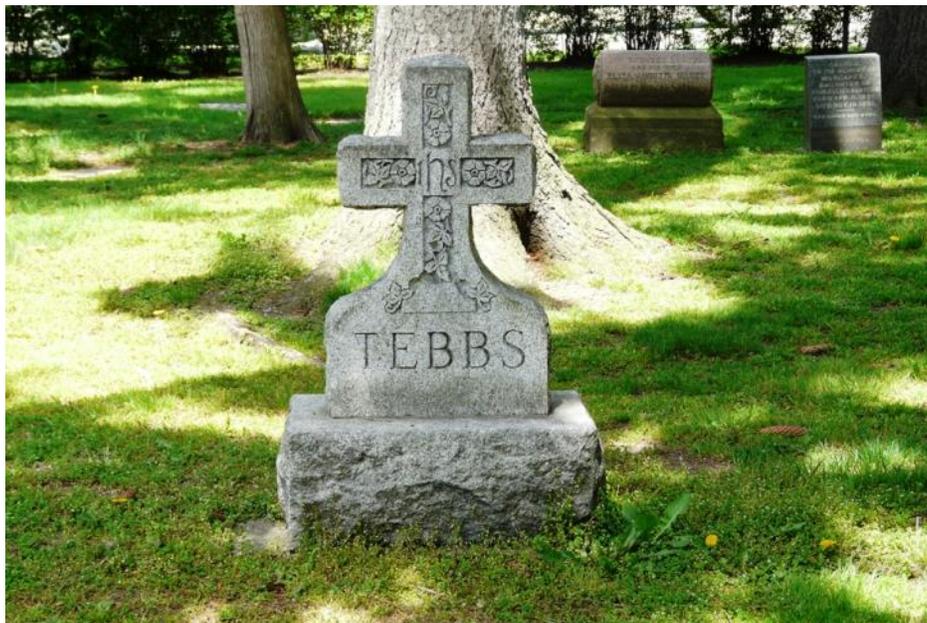
He was also involved with the Boy Scouts and helped to form the Burlington Lions Club, and was also a Freemason. Among his diverse interests was a love of gardening and he helped to found the Burlington Horticultural Society along with other prominent residents including Paul Fisher, Fred Ghent and Spencer Smith. He was the first president of the Society as well as a past president of the Ontario Horticultural Association.



Rev. George Tebbs in Masonic regalia, courtesy Burlington Historical Society

In 1927, the Rev. Tebbs dedicated the memorial grave stone to Captain William Johnson Kerr and his wife, Elizabeth Brant on the west side of the church where they had been buried by Rev. Thomas Greene in 1845. The stone was erected by members of the Barton Lodge of Hamilton, of which Captain Kerr had been the Worshipful Master. During Mr. Tebbs's tenure as rector renovations were carried out in the church – the old seats were removed and new pews installed and the two side aisles became the present large centre aisle. A beautifully carved reredos screen behind the altar was donated by the Chancel Guild.

In 1942, Rev. Tebbs retired as a result of ill health. He died 10 September 1945 at St. Peter's Infirmary in Hamilton and was buried in St. Luke's churchyard. According to Richard Ruggle's on-line publication, **Anglican Clergy of Upper Canada**, Bishop Broughall, in his 1946 Synod address, referred to him as follows: "Always cheerful and kindly, he loved flowers and was an expert horticulturalist." Rev. George Tebbs is also commemorated, with his wife, Louisa, in the Gethsemane Window, also known as Thy Will be Done, erected by the congregation in 1952.



Rev. George Tebbs Stone, D. Kew

Sources:

Ancestry.

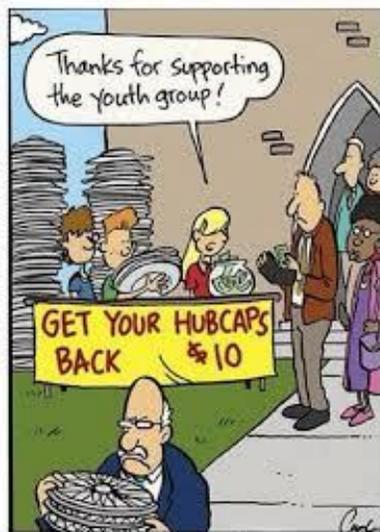
Percy A. Kelly. **St. Luke's Church, Burlington, Ontario, 1834-1967.** Burlington, ON, 1973

Richard E. Ruggle. **Anglican Clergy of Upper Canada / Canada West / Ontario.**

Editor's Sense of Humour

Your Reward (or Punishment) for Reading to the End

At this time we deserve 2 pages of humour!



A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah'. The teacher asked, 'What if Jonah went to hell?' The little girl replied, 'Then you ask him'.

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, 'I'm drawing God.'

The teacher paused and said, 'But no one knows what God looks like.'

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, 'They will in a minute.'



This sign might work in front of the church.



Editor's Sense of Humour—Page 2



One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, 'Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?'

Her mother replied, 'Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.'

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, 'Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?'

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of the church elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note and posted on the apple tray: 'Take only ONE. God is watching.'

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies.

A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples.'



Thanks to Bill Milne for contributing the children's stories.



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If you would like to submit an article or photograph for this publication, please e-mail newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca

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