

# **ST. LUKE'S**

***NEWSLETTER – WINTER 2021/2022***



**October Advocacy Presentation featuring our own Erika Skafel speaking from Honduras on El Hogar**

**Calendar of Events Pages 18, 19**



## **Newsletter Summary**

- Page 3        Stuart - We are open! Plus One Burlington activities
- Page 4/5     Wardens— Financial challenges and achievements
- Page 5        Butterfly Garden
- Page 6        Leonel— Reaching out to others as a community and as individuals
- Page 7        Deacon Sheila - One Solitary Life—Jesus and his impact on the world
- Page 8        Rung of Hope—by Indigenous author Steven Charleston
- Page 9/10    Music Director Jennifer— In-person music returns
- Page 11/12   Help Wanted—Volunteer opportunities
- Page 13/14/15   Columbaria Progress Report
- Page 16       Photos of return to In-person services
- Page 17       Tourtiere Sales, Items needed for refugee family, El Hogar Christmas goodies
- Page 18/19   Upcoming Events and Services
- Page 19       Recent Special Services
- Page 20       Life Passages , Legacy Society thoughts by Jim Glass
- Page 21       Parish Life—Resuming Parish Life activities
- Page 22       Speaker’s Lunch Update
- Page 23       Music at St. Luke’s and Youth Updates
- Page 24/25   Knitters & Friends—Going strong on-line
- Page 26       Library Report and Poppy Crocheters at work
- Page 27       Quilters plus Support our Advertisers
- Page 28/35   Outreach Ministry Update on: November advocacy speaker, El Hogar Honduras, Community Lunch, Christmas Families, Madagascar Missions, Ubuntu Grandwomen, Refugee family coming soon, Fresh Food Box Halton, Bikes for migrants workers, PWRDF and Lytton community recovery.
- Page 36/38   Dorothy Kew on “The Mystery of the Thomson Plot” conclusion
- Page 39       Humour
- Page 40       Our Loyal Advertisers - These organizations deserve our support for making this newsletter possible

## Rector's Message



I write this during All Saintstide at the beginning of November. Since the last time I wrote we have started having in-person worship again. Of course there are considerable restrictions: 50 person maximum at any service, the wearing of masks inside and the strong request that those attending be fully vaccinated if over 12 years of age. I was wondering what it would feel like to preach to a congregation that is masked, but I must say how wonderful it has been to see people in the pews, rather than just preaching to a camera. We note that the majority of people are still “attending” by watching our Live Stream, or watching our recorded 10 a.m. Sunday service from the comfort of their home. I am so grateful for all of you, whether attending in person or virtually from home, you still are an essential part of our congregation and your participation is valued. Come in person when and if you feel comfortable, but attending from home is still important and valued.

We've certainly been Zooming over this last year and a half. Although a life on Zoom can be a bit wearing, I am so grateful for this medium which has continued to allow us to connect in truly meaningful ways. Besides our regular weekly Zoom meetings which has enabled planning, prayer, Bible Study and fellowship, there have been many other ways that Zoom has been playing a key role in enabling connection:

Three One Burlington Events: Appreciating Indigenous Heritage on September 30<sup>th</sup>, One Burlington “Main Event” featuring Multi-Cultural performances at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre and Multi-Faith reflections on October 16<sup>th</sup> and “Celebrating Islamic Heritage” on October 27<sup>th</sup>. You can see videos of the first two events through One Burlington's website [www.oneburlington.net](http://www.oneburlington.net) and there will soon be added a video of the last event as well. We've also used zoom for Executive and Parish Council meetings and, last week the whole Diocesan Synod met very efficiently by Zoom. You may see the Bishop's Charge at [www.niagaraanglican.ca](http://www.niagaraanglican.ca)

Please read on in the pages that follow to find out more of what is going on.

One thing which I think is imminent is the long-awaited arrival of our new refugee family, the Al Alems: Karima, Mohamad, Faten and Ahmed. Karima is the eldest daughter of the first Syrian family we sponsored several years ago. This will be quite the family reunion and an other really important way that St. Luke's is making a difference in people's lives. Please look out for ways that you may help us to provide for them.

I want to continually thank the clergy and lay staff of St. Luke's, the parish executive and council and all the many volunteers who continue to do their work which makes St. Luke's such a vital parish. Blessings to you all.

Your brother in Christ,  
Canon Stuart Pike

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stuart".

## Wardens' Report for Winter 2021 Newsletter

Looking out at the sunshine and the colourful leaves that are clinging to the trees reminds us of the ever-changing patterns of life that have become even more poignant in the last 18 months.

This has been a very challenging and unique time for us as we continue to manage the finances and needs of our parish. When we passed our budget in February, it was with the hope of the return of many of our fundraising activities. Because of ongoing restrictions, our Christmas Market, Music at St. Luke's, Parish Dinner and others in which we all look forward to participating cannot take place yet again

this year. One bright spot is our Food for Life Programme. It has been able to continue throughout the pandemic under the leadership of our deacon, Sheila Plant, along with faithful volunteers. Most rentals that we count on have not been possible, but we are grateful for the continuous rental to the Montessori School that now occupies most of the third floor of the Parish Hall.

Some projects continue:

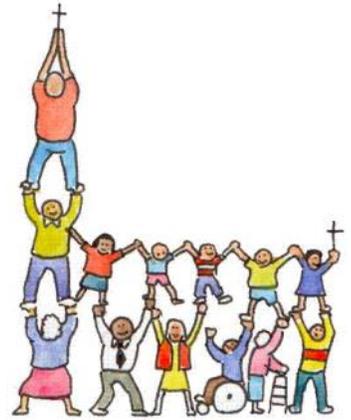
We are very fortunate to have Bob Bruce chairing our new columbaria project. The foundations are in, some landscaping done, trees well protected from heavy equipment as we await the arrival of the actual columbaria. When you see Bob, be sure to thank him for all his work on this 'monumental' task.

The water line to the church has required many repairs and had two actual breaks in the past two years and had to be replaced at a cost of \$10,000. This was done just in time for re-opening of in-person worship and should provide dependable service for many years to come.

It was with thankful hearts that we opened our doors once again for in-person worship. The media team continues to work tirelessly to deliver 'live' worship to those who attend in person each week as well as those watching from home. They also upload the service to YouTube for later viewing. These faithful volunteers are basically operating a small TV studio. Be sure to thank the members of the media team whenever you have the opportunity.

To provide an added level of safety and comfort in returning to church, our Diocese has mandated that all volunteers be doubly vaccinated and that proof of this be recorded. This has now been completed at St. Luke's.

Our clergy and wardens are working diligently to manage the ongoing spiritual life of our congregation as well as the upkeep and finances of our church. As we near year end with overall giving down from last year, we give thanks for your generosity and faithful giving in the past and ask that you prayerfully consider your response to the current financial needs of the Parish.



Wardens' Report continued .....

A crisis such as we are experiencing sometimes provokes us to take a fresh view on our lives, organizations and institutions. The time of testing helps us to see things in a fresh way. Perhaps this recent experience has triggered some thoughts you may have about the ministry of St. Luke's and our church community. Your Wardens and Parish Council members invite you to express your questions, issues and views so we can represent you in the best way possible and continue to make St. Luke's a welcoming place.

Let us continue to pray for and encourage one another.

Rosemary Armstrong: Rector's Warden

Daryl Wilson: People's Warden

Terry Raybould: Deputy Rector's Warden

Helen Bittner: Deputy People's Warden

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Butterfly Garden

We recall some dedicated parishioners installed a butterfly garden in the area near the columbarium as an area of quiet reflection in 2020. This has grown to be a beautiful haven for both butterflies and parishioners. Thanks to Dorothy Kew for these photos.



## Pastoral Assistant's Report - Pastoral Care



Closer to you than you might think.

My friends, as we slowly return to gathering in person for worship and restrictions seem to soften their weight on our fellowship, we also find new opportunities for bringing the prayers and presence of the whole church community to more people in need of just such.

This work is done, most ostensibly so, by both ordained and lay appointed ministers, who indeed have and continue playing a key role in this regard, both in this community and the church at large.

But, throughout these months of coronavirus -and the restrictions to go with it- we've learned anew that our ministry as a Christian church extends and grows into every act and word of love each one of us has shared and continues sharing with others, especially so if in need.

There are so many in this congregation who have made their own task and ministry to support, in this or that other way, those who may need it the most -from the lonely, to the food insecure; from the one who grieves, to those who just want to chat and share whatever joy lights up their hearts. So many of you have been faithful friends in Jesus to those whom you know to need it the most -and that's a pretty good definition of what 'pastoral care' is all about.

Friends in Jesus. And this is just what accounts for our receiving one another, in generosity and patience, in service and affirmation. Habits of our life together.

But -and you might have experienced this yourself- our efforts and our love are not always welcome, let alone reciprocated. You may well have already found yourself in instances in which no matter how much you love, and wait, and forgive, and serve, no response seems to be forthcoming. At least, not the response one might have hoped for, in the first place.

And, then again, such is a point where the Christian nature of our calling, and love, and service, is bound to be the most obvious. We seek to be friends in Jesus to those whom we reach, so the love of Jesus may be known, their pain relieved, and both their and our lives be even more blessed because of this daily realization.

Some of you some stay in touch over the phone, and at this point in the pandemic, some are even able to visit with one another. Please continue doing so, and as able, think of the folks you have not seen or heard from for some time, and give them a call, and say you did so because you love them. I do believe that's just what Jesus would do.

Your friend,

*Leonel*

## *From the Deacon - Advent 2021*

I'm sure that all of us at some point have stood in front of the greeting card display at the card shop, drug store or even grocery store. We spend time looking for that special card and we find one that's perfect. Then suddenly we put it back: it doesn't seem quite right. This can go on for several minutes and usually we end up with the first one we'd picked in the beginning. Then we occasionally find that one card and when we get home, we decide it's too special to send and we keep it.



My Mother was a scrapbooker before scrapbooking became a hobby. She loved to collect quotes, pictures and special greeting cards that she had received from family and friends. I once found a Christmas card that she had bought, but never sent. After reading the words on the card, I understood why. I share it with you. The card was on parchment paper, with flourishes along the edges. The writing was done in calligraphy.

### *“One Solitary Life”*



“He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in still another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty. Then for three years he was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He never visited a big city. He never

travelled two hundred miles from the place of his birth. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness.

He had no credentials but himself. He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race and the leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that

### *“One Solitary Life”*

Deacon's Report continued .....

God gave his Son to us.....he was a gift.”

So, as we move toward that special night in the stable when that precious child was born in a simple manger, may we never lose sight of what this “one solitary life” has done for us. May we also use this time of Advent and Christmas to give thanks for all our blessings.

Rev. Sheila Plant, Parish Deacon

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Rung of Hope

### **Today, I Believe**

“Today, I believe. There are days when I feel so discouraged I am not sure whether it is worth turning on the news. This is not one of them. There are days when I doubt the human family will ever live in peace and respect. This is not one of them. There are days when I think healing has passed me by. This is not one of them. Today, I believe in the final victory of hope over fear. I believe in the worth and dignity of every human being. Today, I believe all will be well with me through the love and grace of the Spirit. I may have bad days again, but this will not be one of them. I have a choice, and today I choose to stand again as a believer in the future before me. Some days, I believe I can change the world. This is one of them.”



### **Pray With Me**

“Pray with me. Come sit with me, here beneath the shade, in the quiet corner of creation, and together we will sort out the worries of the world. We may not have the power to make things right with a single word, but we have words enough to speak the truth, and there is a power in truth greater than money can buy. From our bench we will survey the great garden of hope, growing in an abundance that knows no borders, welcoming the children of every land, sheltering the elders who stroll the paths of peace. Come pray with me, in any way you want, until our prayers appear like fireflies, here beneath the shade, telling us it is time to go, time to make our way home until another day.”

--Ladder to the Light: An Indigenous Elder's Meditations on Hope and Courage.

By Steven Charleston

Submitted by Sheila Plant



## FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

As you may know, St. Luke's (with continued guidance from the Diocese) has returned to in-person services, with cautions still in place. Congregational singing is still discouraged, but this restriction will likely be lifted soon, though we all must still wear masks while doing so. Currently, the in-person masked choir consists of up to four singers, but with new rules, I believe we can add two more, to have a group of six. Not everyone is comfortable singing in masks (understandably!), but it would be lovely to have more presence in the choir pews. Speaking of masks, we now have five "singers' masks", which are specially made to have more space for breathing as well as extra material above and below the mouth to allow for more jaw movement. So far, the response is favourable from those choristers that have used them, and I hope to order more soon!

I want to give a special thank you to our masked choir: Vicky Micks, Chris Hughes, Rob Laurie, and Allan Ellingham. Thank you for singing at our services during such a challenging time – I know your presence and talents are greatly appreciated by those attending the service in-person and online. Thank you also to those who have done in-person special music: Rob Laurie, Dorothy Haartman, and Darwin Allen. We also had Graham Young joining us on Remembrance Sunday on his trumpet (with bell cover and portable plastic barrier), and Allan Ellingham is preparing a special solo for an upcoming service.



Music Director Report continued .....

Thank you also to those who continue to contribute their voices to our virtual Taize services: Chris Hughes, Vicky Micks, Bonnie Lennard, Dorothy Haartman, Rob Laurie, and Allan Ellingham. More choral chants are being recorded and will be added to our virtual Taize repertoire as our on-line services continue.

We are allowed to have choir practices now, but all participants need to be masked and socially-distanced, which does create some difficulties. I will be looking at options over the next couple months, and with feedback from Rev. Stuart and the choir members, will be forming a plan by January 1, 2022.

On Sundays, not only have we been getting used to singing in masks and following many other Covid protocols that are involved in a live service, but we have also been livestreaming. Livestreaming has its own set of challenges, including how to balance the volumes of voices (both spoken and sung) and instruments. With help from Gord Sherritt (a friend of Daryl's) and Stephane Potvin (a colleague of mine), we have made several improvements, including the purchase of a multidirectional microphone, adjustments to (and removal of) other existing microphones, and sound tests to determine volume settings, etc. Thank you to Daryl Wilson, Ray Payne, Michael Skafel, Rick Reycraft, and Don Bettger, our tech crew, for their time and commitment to this important part of our online ministry.

Finally, I wanted to include the link to the latest virtual concert prepared by members of the Hamilton Centre of the Royal Canadian College of Organists (RCCO), including myself. It is a Halloween-themed organ concert, originally broadcast live on YouTube on Friday, October 29, 2021. I hope you enjoy it! [https://youtu.be/Fafm\\_OxCofg](https://youtu.be/Fafm_OxCofg)

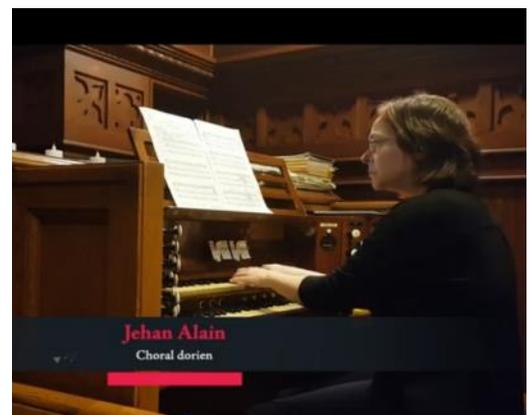
What does the future hold? Well, the Worship committee has already begun planning our Advent and Christmas services, and though things will not be entirely "back to normal", we hope to provide (in-person and virtually) a meaningful and musical season.

In the meantime, I pray you all continue to stay safe and well. God bless.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Goodine,

Music Director.



# HELP WANTED—Volunteer Opportunities at St. Luke’s

## Indigenous Peoples – Building Awareness

St. Luke’s Indigenous Peoples Awareness Team presents educational opportunities and experiences that contribute to an awareness of issues and culture of Indigenous People. Increased levels of understanding will provide a foundation for future relationships based on respect and justice. Opportunities include guest speakers, events, worship and studying Indigenous authors.

As we emerge from this pandemic you can be part of restarting this interesting and important work by joining our team or volunteering for specific tasks. Call or text Bob Osborne at 905-921-7387.



Former Mississaugas of the Credit Chief Carolyn King (CM) speaking at St. Luke’s



Group Advent Study (2019) – Doctrine of Discovery

\*\*\*\*\*

## OUTREACH MINISTRY

This active, dynamic ministry is looking to increase its membership with people who wish to respond to the needs of our neighbours locally, nationally & globally by enabling, empowering, educating and advocating.

Your new ideas and help with existing programmes will make a difference to so many others.

Contact Jackie Maver or Ros Reycraft

\*\*\*\*\*

## COMMUNITY LUNCH

Needed: Cooks, Set-up, Servers, Greeters, Clean-up

The Community Lunch at St. Luke’s will return when it is “Covid-19 safe” to do so and hall restrictions end. We look forward to working together again to provide an opportunity for seniors and others to socialize over a good meal. When that happens, we will need volunteers in the roles mentioned above. We have fun working together and hope you will consider joining us.

Contact Heather White if you are interested in joining.

905-639-2922 or by email through [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)

# HELP WANTED—Volunteer Opportunities at St. Luke’s

## **FRESH FOOD BOX HALTON—BE A PART OF THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN!**

We could use one or two additional volunteers to distribute the fresh food boxes to customers on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, beginning in January.

Easy work with pleasant people—serving a local need. Contact Dave Beck

\*\*\*\*\*

## **ADVOCACY BREAKFAST GROUP—Say there ....**

If you have attended an Advocacy Breakfast, either in person or by Zoom, you have experienced the amazing and varied experiences that have been shared by the inspiring guest speakers who have presented their gifts and spirit of social justice in past Advocacy Meetings.

The six members of the St. Luke’s Advocacy Team would be thrilled to welcome you to join the team!

Planning of the events, topics to be presented and when possible, the delicious breakfast preparation, are all happily shared, with lots of friendship, life experiences and dedication to the spiritual growth of our Parish.

To join in as we continue to present interesting opportunities, please contact any of the following: Ros Reycraft, Jackie Maver, Janice Skafel, Gay Powell, Dave Beck, Carrie Raybould

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FRIENDS OF ST. LUKE’S**

Since 1970, each year in late August, St. Luke’s hosts an afternoon of fellowship for the most senior members of our parish, or those who have limited mobility, who may no longer be able to attend in-person worship services. This event is called “Friends of St. Luke’s”, for indeed many of these people have made wonderful contributions to the life of our parish in their younger years, and we want to say thank you and let them know that we have not forgotten them! This annual Friends of St. Luke’s Day is a one day effort that requires many volunteers to ensure that everything goes smoothly and we need your help.

The afternoon consists of a short hymn sing in the church, followed by sandwiches and tea in the parish hall. It is a combined effort that requires the help of many to make it a success. Since the majority of the attendees are in wheel chairs and arrive by handy-van from various nursing homes across the city, we need volunteers waiting to receive them at the curb, and to return them to the vehicles afterwards. We also need drivers, to bring those who live alone to and from the event.

In the church, we need people to greet as the “friends” arrive, and ushers to see them to their seats.

In the Parish Hall, Martha Hemphill oversees an array of volunteers that help prepare and serve our guests, and volunteers who make tea and sandwiches and provide treats. There is usually a chocolate or two involved as well, a prayer and a welcome by clergy, and a short fun activity to acknowledge the many years of involvement of the many friends attending. The date for this event will be announced in the Spring, assuming we can go forward. Please consider signing up to help when the time comes. We are sure to have some fun!

Yours truly, Lesley Emery Friends of St. Luke’s Day Coordinator.

# St. Luke's Columbaria Project: Preparing the Site

By Dorothy Kew, Columbaria Committee

Photos by Dorothy Kew and Bob Bruce

In late September preparations for the bases for the columbaria began in St. Luke's Churchyard. The first task was to erect tree protection fencing along the pathway and around the east side of the cemetery where the columbaria would eventually be placed.



The pathway leading from the east side of the church towards the present columbarium had to be covered with mulch and plywood.



Columbarium continued .....

In early October excavation for the bases of the two columbaria was begun by Calibre Concrete.



Soil from the excavations was taken away by truck



The next step was putting together the rebar frame for the hole to hold the poured cement



The finished rebar frame ...



The rebar frame was placed in the excavated hole ...



Columbarium continued .....



... and the cement was then poured in.

The worker finished off the pour, making sure that the concrete settled evenly



... and then the forms were installed around the base.

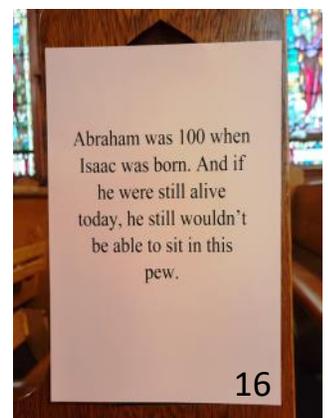
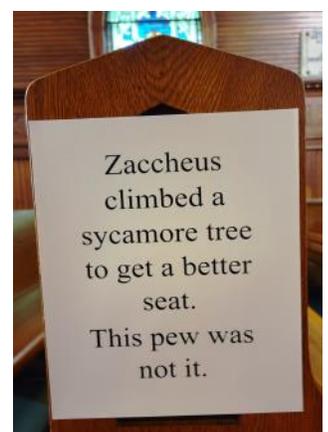
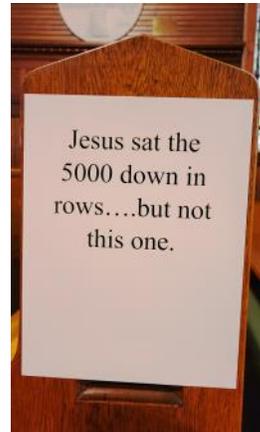
The two bases are now completed. We are still awaiting delivery of the columbaria from Calgary.



## Return to In-Person Services



## Signs Guiding Us For Physical Distancing



## **TOURTIERES ARE BACK!**

We know many of you have been waiting and asking about our famous St. Luke's Tourtieres and we are happy to announce that they are back!

The Pie Makers have been busy in the kitchen cooking meat and making pastry and will soon have a fresh batch ready to go. We will be offering them for sale in late November so please watch the bulletin for information about the order date and pick up date. Please do not call the office for info or to purchase. All profits will go to General Funds. Thank you for your support.



Submitted by Sandra Tiernay

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Refuge Family Household Donations Needed**

Furniture for Refugee family  
We are looking for furniture and household items to help the family when they arrive, hopefully soon. Mum, Dad and 2 young children.

Looking for 2 single beds, bedding for double bed, etc.

Please call or e mail Verónica at:  
905 466 6031 or email through [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)



\*\*\*\*\*

## **El Hogar Christmas Goodies—We Made Extra !!**

We expect to have some Christmas gift items still available when this Newsletter is published  
For Gingerbread House kits modelled after St. Luke's, Belgium chocolate bark, Honduran coffee contact Ros Rey craft 905 635 3976 or email through [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)



Kits \$30 each with icing, candy, cookies

Bark \$10 each or 4 for \$35 100gm packs 3 flavours

Skor Bar bits & Dark Chocolate

Candy Cane bits White over Dark Chocolate

Toasted Almonds, Smoked Sea Salt & Milk  
Chocolate

Coffee \$20 per LB Fresh Medium Roasted



## Winter 2021/2022 Calendar of Events

All Sunday and Wednesday mid-week worship services are now in-person with Sunday 10:00 am live-streamed as well. On-line only services will continue to be offered for Evening Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as a Taize service on the 2nd Friday of the month. Watch the church website for details and to view on-line services.

### VIRTUAL CHURCH SERVICES



**Sunday Morning Worship at 10 am**

**Evening Prayers at 7pm** Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Taize Service** Second Friday of the month at 7pm

All above services are in the form of podcasts that can be played **at any time**. Go to [www.stlukesburlington.ca](http://www.stlukesburlington.ca) and click on "Virtual Service". 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. See the next page for more.

\* \* \* \* \*

And, from the Niagara Anglican Diocese

**Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan**

Every Sunday at 10:00am.

## **Special Events and Service Listing**

- Nov. 20 10 AM Advocacy Presentation via Zoom
- Nov. 28 10 AM: Advent Carol Service
- Dec. 5: Blue Christmas on-line only after 7:00pm
- Dec. 10 Taize Prayer Service on-line only available after 7:00pm
- Dec. 19 10 AM: Christmas Carol Service
- Dec. 24 8 PM, 10 PM: Christmas Eve (BAS)
- Dec. 25 10 AM: Christmas Day
- Dec. 26 8:15 & 10 AM: 1st Sunday after Christmas
- Jan. 2 8:15 & 10 AM: Epiphany Carol Service
- Jan. 9: 8:15 & 10 AM: Baptism of the Lord
- Jan. 14 Taize Prayer Service on-line only available after 7:00pm
- Jan. 16: 8:15 & 10 AM: Epiphany 2
- Feb. 11 Taize Prayer Service on-line only available after 7:00pm

All the above services are in-person, live-streamed, and available afterwards on-line except as noted. For access to live-stream and on-line services go to [www.stlukesburlington.ca](http://www.stlukesburlington.ca) then Virtual Service.

### **Recent Services**

photos by Dorothy Kew

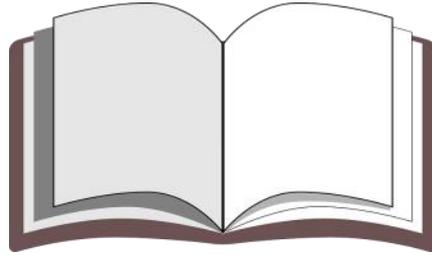


Remembrance Day above and Lower Right, Thanksgiving Lower Left,. Violins Adding to the Music Lower Centre



Some of the Many Knitted Poppies 19

# Life Passages



## *July*

Frank Whalen  
Edward Smith  
Stuart Taylor

## *August*

Sharon Lloyd

## *September*

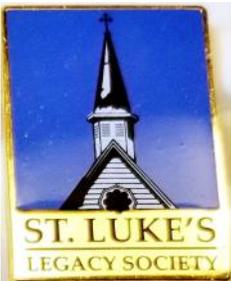
Louise Taylor  
Leslie Towndrow  
Mary Briggs  
Larry & Vesta Forbes  
Peter Stubbs  
Nicholas Banton

## *October*

Dale Beauchamp  
Iris Arsenault  
Diana Vendetti  
Laurier Robinson  
Brenda Brain

*\*We sincerely apologize if any names have been omitted. It is not intentional. As you are aware, we are not conducting funerals in the same way as we were, so we do not always hear about the passing of someone. Please let us know if a name has been left off our page.*

\*\*\*\*\*



## St. Luke's Legacy Society

"The Legacy Society is founded on the idea of what is called in the Old Testament a Covenant with God. It is our covenant with the church, and through the church our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ."

Jim Glass

## Parish Life Reports

“ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11)



I don't know about the rest of you, but I am feeling a little like a mole these days, poking my nose out of the tunnel after a long winter's hibernation. This pandemic has had that sort of feel to it, like a long, hard winter, and waking up feels more like a process than a single event as we move incrementally forward to a "new normal". Now, with so many of us having received two doses of vaccine, society is trying its best to reignite itself, to come back to the land of the living after its long sleep, despite the continued presence of the virus in our communities and across the world. I realize that for some, like our clergy team, you have been busier than ever and are likely in need of a well deserved rest! What a challenge this pandemic has been, no matter which side of the fence you've been on.

Now, as we turn our attention to figuring out the ways in which we can resume our parish life activities, I hope that many of you will return as we become able to start in-person fellowship and participation, and that you return to those activities feeling rested with renewed energy for the work ahead. Perhaps some of you have given thought over these many months at home to getting involved in new ways, trading longstanding roles for new ones, wishing to continue in roles already established, or becoming involved in parish life for the first time. We hope that you have given prayerful consideration to how your gifts can be shared for the good of the whole St. Luke's family and the larger community that we serve.

We can't wait to welcome you back! It will be so good to see you all again and to share in the fellowship that sustains us in our various efforts for Christ!

Among those groups under the Parish Life umbrella, the Knitters & Friends Group kept in touch via Zoom throughout when not able to meet in person, and you will see some of their beautiful creations in their own newsletter submission.

The Christmas Market held meetings in September/October, hoping to have a live market this year. Unfortunately, we have not yet been cleared by the Diocese for indoor fund raising events indoors, so once again we will have to take a pass this year. Fortunately, the Pie Makers will continue to sell their wares, and others may be exchanging some limited goods for funds on a purchase to donate basis.

The Speakers Lunch group and Music at St. Luke's have also made separate reports here, and for the remainder, we look forward with hope to the gradual resumption of a full array of parish life activities.

Yours in Christ,  
Lesley Emery Parish Life Chair

## Speaker's Lunch

The aim of the Speakers Lunch group is to foster awareness among parishioners of happenings and endeavours in the wider community that may be worthy of interest and support. The group 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).



Once again, as we enter the spring, your committee is arranging a diverse and interesting list of topics and speakers.

Regrettably, our Diocese is mandating limitations on group gatherings and food service. As such, we will not be resuming until January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Our Committee is also considering various safety protocols, including mandatory proof of vaccination for anyone attending or presenting at the lunches. By that time, it may be out of our hands to decide such a requirement, so we will update you prior to January. Please be assured, our primary concern is the safety of everyone attending.

We do have a list of very interesting speakers lined up for when we are able to resume. Once we are confident that we are safely able to do so 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 call or email Tim Tiernay through [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)

Also, if you have not provided your email address or text number in the past please do so we 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.

**Some past events  
Remembered !!**



## Music at St. Luke's 2021/22

The November and January events have been cancelled due to COVID uncertainties and the need to give appropriate notice to the entertainers involved. We are still hopeful the April event will proceed.

**April 30, 2022      The 12/4 Swing Orchestra**



Led by Jim Heaslip and featuring Tony Sciara this rocking jazz band entertains us with Dancers' Greatest Hits. Enjoy the golden era of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Perry Como, Harry Belafonte, Michael Buble and hear oldies like Strangers in the Night, Ain't That a Kick in the Head, Moon River and Sway. Bring your dancing shoes or just sit back and enjoy!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Church Youth Update



Bronwyn and Rhys ready for Halloween



Left, Shevaan and Saraya Samarasinghe ready for Halloween with their guide

Above, Theo and Lily Faint enjoy popsicle and painting at Grandma's house

## Knitters & Friends: Keep Calm and Carry Yarn

by Mary Taslimi



We Knitters & Friends continue to meet via Zoom, because unfortunately the weather just did not cooperate over the summer for outdoor meet-ups, at least not on Tuesdays when we gather. Although in-person would be nice, nevertheless we enjoy seeing a screen full of smiling faces every Tuesday between 10am and noon! We are considering meeting in Room 201 again when and as we are allowed. Participants will need to register their proof of vaccination with the office. To be included in the Knitters & Friends emailings to learn of developments, please contact Mary Taslimi via [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)

Members have been working hard on items for the Christmas Market. Although the Market will not take place this year, if there is a knitted item you would like to purchase, please ask Marlene Marks via [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca) and she will check our growing cache of dishcloths, toques, scarves, baby clothes and blankets, children's sweaters and more!

Knitters and Friends continue to embark on lovely "Paragon" scarves—see Lois Carey's beautiful work in progress in the photographs. For those who wish to try this wonderful pattern for variegated yarns, the book is entitled [Sock-yarn Accessories](#). Just be aware that the yarns suggested in the book are not all readily available, dyers being overwhelmed with orders as locked-down crafters treat themselves! For those who have not yet discovered this excellent resource, <https://yarnsub.com> can help you easily find close matches for discontinued, expensive, or hard-to-get yarns.

Marlene Marks and Mary Taslimi are working away at their temperature blankets—again, see photos. Mary's corner-to-corner version for the second half of 2021 has changed again, from stocking stitch, which she frogged (a knitting term for pulling a project apart, because to undo your work you must "rip it, rip it"!), to garter stitch, which holds the square shape better. As you can see from the two works, we are headed out of the warmer colours of summer and into the cooler colours of fall...



Top L-R Marlene Marks, Mary Taslimi, Norma Motley  
Centre L-R Dyana Layng, Elizabeth Crouch, Jane Milne  
Bottom L-R Marion Binns, Gail Coulas

Knitters & Friends continued .....



Marlene Marks' temperature blanket



Mary Taslimi's corner-to-corner temperature blanket



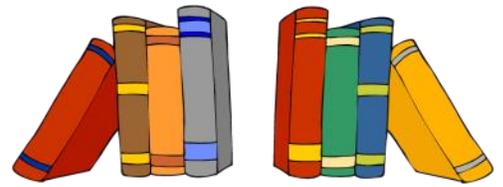
Trio of hats by Dyana Layng



"Paragon" Scarf by Lois Carey

## News and Views from the Library

The library is to enhance the spiritual life of its readers. We recently have had an opportunity to sort through donated books that were left in the library throughout the year. Suitable books for our collection will be catalogued and prepared for circulation. At the time of writing this report, the diocese is not allowing our library to re-open. We hope it won't be too long before parishioners can view our new books and can begin reading from our library collection again!



Melissa Kennedy, Chair

\*\*\*\*\*

## Poppies Galore!!!

A number of members of St. Luke's have been knitting or crocheting poppies which we use in the church, and hopefully outside the church if weather permits, in the lead up to Remembrance Sunday. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the poppy being adopted as a symbol of peace and remembrance. We certainly do not have the numbers, and will have a much smaller display than that shown on the cover of the November issue of the Niagara Anglican, but Canon Stuart hopes that the numbers will increase and the display grow in subsequent years. A special thanks to Phyllis Brandon who made 100 poppies for us.

Submitted by Elizabeth Crouch



Jackie Maver knitting poppies



Just a few of the poppies in the church for Remembrance Day service

## Quilters' Report

We are back in action and have resumed working on a queen size quilt that should take us to the end of the year. We are happy to be together again!

Melissa Kennedy, Chair



A work in progress!!

## Support our Advertisers

**Brant Florist**

905-639-7001  
gifts@brantflorist.com

2010 Maria St., Burlington, ON L7R 1K5  
461 Brant St., Burlington, ON L7R 2G2 [www.brantflorist.com](http://www.brantflorist.com)

**Need Windows & Doors?**  
Choose Pollard, a name you can trust

- Manufacturing for over 70 years
- Vinyl clad wood & all vinyl windows
- Sliding patio & entrance doors
- Industry-leading warranty
- Professional installation available

In-home consultation: 905.633.7444

**POLLARD**  
WINDOWS & DOORS

[pollardwindows.com](http://pollardwindows.com)

**PLANNING CIRCLE  
FINANCIAL GROUP Inc.**

Paul Pizzolante   
Certified Financial Planner  
Branch Manager

124 James Street South, Suite 220  
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2Z4

Tel: 905-528-4853  
Fax: 905-528-8840

Tel: 1 - 800 - 483-7126

*Just Cremation*  
905 333 3359

\* Cremation Arrangements  
\* Pre Arrangements

please call or [justcremation.com](http://justcremation.com) for details

## ***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.*



Who would have thought that our lives would still be turned upside down after all these months with COVID-19. Our ministries are still continuing to work as best they can in each area given the restrictions with which we live. The group continues to meet bi-weekly to support each other, learn from each other, and enjoy each other's company while continuing

to make a difference in the lives of so many people.

### **Advocacy Breakfasts**

The St. Luke's Advocacy Group has been happily able to continue to provide interesting speakers and learning opportunities in Social Justice areas this past Fall.

Among our guests have been Padre Antonio, who shared the experiences and needs of migrant workers in the Niagara Region; Luke Wilson, CEO of A Rocha; and Erika Skafel our special El Hogar contact.

Plans are finalized for the final Advocacy event date of this calendar year. On Saturday, November 20th at 10am, we will welcome Jane Nigh, who will share her knowledge and experiences concerning issues of Fair Trade. The usual information about the Zoom presentation will be shared via email and in the bulletin.

Plans for the new year are progressing very well and the dates will be announced via the bulletin as details are confirmed.

We are excited to be able to continue to offer inspiring speakers in this ministry.

As always, we invite any interested parishioners to join our presentations. ...AND we hope you will consider joining our planning team. Contact us at any time for more information.

Submitted by Carrie Raybould for the team, (Ros Reycraft, Janice Skafel, Jackie Maver, Gay Powell, Dave Beck)

## El Hogar Service Team

At the time of writing this article, we are well into the baking of our gingerbread and making of our chocolate bark. We have also been taking orders for Honduran coffee and Mariilyn Barnes' beautiful greeting cards in support of the children of El Hogar. Muchisimas gracias to everyone who was able to help in this effort by helping to bake, make, deliver or by purchasing these products. It is always an amazing experience to see this all come together so well.



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



We also would like to thank everyone who participated in the Wine Survivor project and the inspiring Esperanza evening highlighting transformations of current students and an El Hogar graduate.

We are always so excited about working 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 or email through [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)

## COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Community Lunch at St. Luke's will return when it is "Covid 19 safe" to do so and hall restrictions end. We look forward to working together again to provide an opportunity for seniors and others to socialize over a good meal. When that happens, we will need volunteers in the following roles. We have fun working together and hope you will consider joining us.

*Needed: Cooks, Set-up, Servers, Greeters, Clean-up*

Contact me if you are interested in joining us.

Heather White

905-639-2922 or by email through [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)



## Christmas Families

Once again this year we will be helping 4 families from St. Matthew's House. Without our help, they would have a very gloomy time without food and gifts.

The list of families and items needed will be in the bulletin soon.

You can always call me in a few weeks to find out details.

Many thanks!



Verónica Richards-Miller

905 466 6031. Cell, 905 637 6341, or email through [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)

## Madagascar Missions

While we still have had no word from the Anglican Mission Services on a replacement for Mary Sherwood in Madagascar, we do know that the orphanage and the inner city day centre are still part of their mission and it is 'business as usual' there.

Your donations are most appreciated at any time and be assured that they are still going directly for the operation and upkeep of both centres. Thank you for your support.

Please continue to keep Mary and the children and staff in Madagascar in your prayers.

Submitted by Sandra Tiernay

## Ubuntu

This vibrant group, part of Grandmothers to Grandmothers, continues to meet regularly via Zoom, in support of the Grandmothers of Africa.

Meetings include current information from the Stephen Lewis Foundation, fundraising projects and activities with other supportive chapters across Ontario and throughout Canada.

For more information, contact the Website, [www.the bug.ca](http://www.thebug.ca)

Submitted by Carrie Raybould

## Refugee Sponsorship



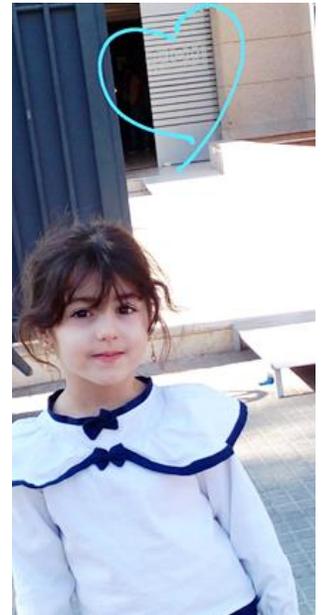
These pictures, of our family waiting in Beirut to join us here in Burlington, were taken about the time that Karima and Mohamad got their second COVID vaccination doses.

The pictures show Faten and Ahmad with their Dad, Mohamad. How exciting to think that they get a new chance to have their lives changed in Canada. To be with their extended family here.

We have heard about all that has been going on in Lebanon in the last year and how that country is in crisis with its economic collapse, political corruption and the deadly port explosion last year. Life in Beirut has been difficult for our family. Not only as one of 1.5 million Syrian refugees in Lebanon, but with

lack of opportunity to work and high inflation rate. Weekly grocery bills can equal a typical family's monthly income. Basic medicines are often unavailable, and there is a fuel shortage. Last month, the country was plunged into darkness due to this fuel shortage.

But the family continues to prepare themselves as they wait to come. Karima is teaching Faten her basics in English.



It seems that their time of travel to Canada is approaching steadily. As well as their vaccinations, they have all had their medicals. Another step in the process of their application. We are beginning to look at apartments and to take stock of our household donations so far.



There is a notice elsewhere in this newsletter for grocery and household items needed for our family and we hope you can check it out.

You will notice that the blue heart above Faten is circling what looks faintly like the letters IOM (International Organization for Migration). This is the organization that supports the IRCC (Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada) in all things related to migration and will be the organization that will help the family in getting the health assessments, give them their pre-departure orientation and organize their transportation here. We are told that we will get fair notice of their travel time, and will they arrive before Christmas? So much of this is unknown, but we again thank you for your prayers and your support as we prepare for them. We raised about \$2200 in the two take-out meals we had this summer from *Rose in the Kitchen*, and by the time you read this, we will have had our fun Trivia evening, and at the same time raising money for our family.

Continued ....

Continued from previous page

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



### **Fresh Food Box Halton**

NO ! - IT'S NOT A BURGLAR MAKING OFF WITH LOOT FROM THE PARISH HALL ! IT'S A LONG-TIME FRESH FOOD BOX CUSTOMER COLLECTING HIS BOX OF PRODUCE.

Since August, St. Luke's has once again been serving as a distribution site for the Fresh Food Box for Halton program (FFBH). This is a great way to purchase a variety of fresh, generally local, produce at a price lower than at most major super-markets. The FFBH program also supports a number of local farms and agricultural businesses.

Kerr Street Mission in Oakville administers the program. A produce company in Brantford packages the fresh food boxes and delivers them to the Parish Hall on the first and third Tuesdays of each month (unless Monday is a statutory holiday in which case food boxes will be delivered on the following Wednesday).

Two sizes of food boxes are available - a small box at a cost of \$10 and a large box at a cost of \$20. The boxes may be picked up between 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on each delivery date. For information about how to place an order, please refer to the weekly on-line bulletin, or contact Dave Beck at (905) 632-0489, or by e-mail at [davebeck6205@gmail.com](mailto:davebeck6205@gmail.com).

Submitted by Dave Beck and Gay Powell

### **FOOTNOTE: BE A PART OF THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN!**

We could use one or two additional volunteers to distribute the fresh food boxes to customers on the first and third Tuesdays of each month beginning in January.

Easy work with pleasant people -serving a local need. Contact Dave at the phone number and e-mail address above for more information.

## Migrant Workers

For this past growing season in the Niagara Peninsula, we have now supplied 14 bicycles for Niagara Migrant Workers from our parish members (and their friends) and dropped them off at the bicycle centre at St. Alban's Anglican Church in Beamsville. They were delighted as it is hard to keep up to the demand for bicycles. This is usually the only means of transportation for the migrant workers that come to this area each year.



We have received several appreciative letters from the church for the support that St. Luke's has given. Thank you to each of you who looked at those unused bicycles in your basements or garages and thought of where they could be best used.

We will not be taking any more bicycles for now, but keep watch for our call again in the new year.

Submitted by Dave Beck



## Primate World Relief Development Fund

*Report on PWRDF's response to the fires in Lytton—from an article by Janice Biehn, Communications Coordinator*

When fire destroyed the village of Lytton and Lytton First Nations on June 30, 2021, the Territory of the People's local priests, wardens and parishioners sprang into action helping neighbours. The Parish Hall at All Saints, Shulus near Merritt stayed open 24 hours a day to provide a gathering place for families and a place to get a meal. Discretionary funds from Territory parishes, the wider church and an emergency grant of \$5,000 from PWRDF were disbursed. "Those funds were given as discretionary funds to the local parish, so the priest and the Warden and the treasurer and others in the parish have had the autonomy to help people directly," explains the Rt. Rev. Barbara Andrews, who was the territory Bishop until she retired in April 2020, but was appointed Interim Financial Officer just weeks before the fire. "Most of those funds went out as cash for gas, food, meals in restaurants, furnishings and to those who need help with rent."

In the meantime, donors continued to give to PWRDF, totaling more than \$40,000 to date. "We have not requested those funds yet because we know they're going to be really needed on an ongoing basis," says Bishop Andrews. With donations coming directly to the territory totaling more than \$65,000, Bishop Andrews says funding is in place for the short-term. "Right now we're okay, but give us a couple of months and we'll be really ready." She should know. A veteran of fires in 2017, 2018 and 2019, Bishop Andrews says it doesn't take long before funds from the Red Cross and other organizations run out. "As soon as it's off the front page, people forget about it, and that's where I think the church really shines, because we know the people. Our learning from other fires has been to use the local people on the ground to make decisions. Even sitting in Kamloops, we don't really know how to make those decisions."

After the 2018 fire, for example, PWRDF donations were crucial in helping families replace furniture. "We had a very simple application form that could be signed by anyone in the parish, verifying that the person was in need. The local committee said the priority was the 10 families who lost their houses in the Ashcroft reserve. The Band Council member put me in touch with the community development officer who asked us to hold the funds until they received their new houses. I don't think we declined anyone, and people received \$1,500 – \$3,000 for new furniture."

To make decisions in the Lytton recovery, the territory recently named the following local people to the newly established Lytton Fire Fund committee:

Peggy Chute, the parish treasurer, who lost her home and is currently living at the lower mainland,

John Haugen, a warden and member of the Anglican Committee of Indigenous People (ACIP), who lost his home and is living in Boston Bar,

PWRDF continued .....

Amy Charlie, a Pastoral Elder, who has been evacuated twice this summer,  
The Rev. Angus Muir, the local priest and on evacuation alert until the end of August,  
Heather White-Aie, a local school teacher and also on evacuation alert until the end of  
August.

More than 1,200 people took refuge with family and friends, in hotels, evacuation centres and campgrounds throughout B.C. People have relocated throughout the region to Merritt, Kamloops, Chilliwack, Abbotsford and other communities. “This spreading out has made it hard for people to stay in touch with family and friends,” says Bishop Andrews. Those who lost their homes have no central place to gather or to learn what is going on back home.

Lytton Parish leadership – despite losing their own homes and all financial and parish records – have been among the scattered, and have found creative ways to visit with neighbours and offer support to those who need assistance across the province. “This is our home, and what makes it special is the people,” says Ernie Michel, a Pastoral Elder in training.

The loss of community is also devastating to those in the surrounding area and on the west side of the Fraser River. All their central services were located in the village of Lytton. A trip for groceries or to the bank now means an hour or more drive. Those without transportation and resources are finding it a challenge to just maintain day-to-day life, and parish leadership continues to provide transportation whenever possible.

They continue a ministry of presence, listening and giving help where they can. “More often than not we hear from people, ‘We are okay now but we will need help to find housing soon,’ or ‘Can you help my friend, family or neighbour who has greater needs than me?’” Many people do not have access to a phone to communicate with the wider community and local folks are doing the best to help connect people with family, friends, potential landlords, the bank and employment.



The historical St. Mary and St. Paul (left) located on Lytton First Nation land, was totally destroyed. Known locally as the Cathedral of the Nlaka’pamux, a great many artifacts and piece of Anglican Church history were lost.

However, St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Parish Hall and Rectory remain standing with surprisingly minor damage to the outside. It appears that as one of the few buildings left in the community it will become an important gathering place for the community.

Submitted by Jackie Maver

## The Mystery of the Thomson Plot – Continued

By Dorothy Kew



*The Thomson Plot, ca, 2012*

As I wrote in the last newsletter, in 1891 the Thomson family – Robert and Anne and their son, Joseph James, along with **Mary Van Every**, Anne’s mother, and **Laura Hostetter**, her niece, were living in Ward 2, Hamilton, most likely at “Amisfield”. **Robert Thomson** died in 1901 and is listed as buried with his parents in the family plot at St. Luke’s. In 1905 Joseph, age 44, married **Margaret Taylor**, age 28, the daughter of **Sir Thomas Wardlaw Taylor** and his wife **Margaret Vallance**. They were married in Hamilton in the Presbyterian Church. By 1921 the household consisted of Joseph, his wife Margaret, his mother, Anne, and his cousin, Laura, living at 1 Duke Street, Hamilton. This was the location of “Amisfield”.



“Amisfield”, <https://househistree.com/houses/amisfield-castle-hamilton>

**Anne Laurence Thomson** died 1<sup>st</sup> December 1926, at 1 Duke Street, Hamilton. The informant was her son, **J. J. Charteris Thomson**. Cause of death was given as fracture of surgical neck of left femur, and infirmities of old age. She was in her 88<sup>th</sup> year. The funeral director was Blatchford & Wray, Main and West Avenue, and place of burial was given as St. Luke’s Cemetery, Burlington.

Sometime after 1921 **Joseph James Charteris Thomson** moved to Niagara Township. **Laura Hostetter** died 7<sup>th</sup> September 1933 in Beamsville, and according to her death certificate, was to be buried at St. Luke's. The informant was Mr. Charteris Thomson, most likely Joseph. She is not mentioned on the plaques in the Thomson plot, which may have been inserted in the wall prior to her death, but she is in the burial register, listed as Miss Hostetter. According to the register, her remains were brought from St. Catharines, and interred on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1933, by **William Ketchum**. Hers is the only burial record for the family that I have been able to find in the St. Luke's registers.

**Joseph James Charteris Thomson** died 11<sup>th</sup> May 1952 at Woodend, and is buried in Warner's Methodist Cemetery, Niagara Township. His wife, Margaret, is also interred in that cemetery.



*Canadian Headstones*

To return to the Thomson Plot ... according to the plaques on the wall of the Thomson plot, as well as the burial register, there is also a **Joseph B. Hostetter**, who died in 1900, interred there. He was the grandson of **Mary Van Every**. I have not so far been able to find a death registration or any other record for him in the Ontario records on Ancestry. Within the walled area itself were three footstones, each with initials on the top, as follows: A.L.T., R. T., and M.V.E., for **Ann Laurence Thomson, Robert Charteris Thomson, and Mary Van Every**.

The Whitehern Museum website has transcribed the letters of **Mabel Baker McQuesten**, of Whitehern, who lived near to "Amisfield" and who makes several mentions of the Thomson family in her correspondence. It is suggested that there were other Thomsons in Hamilton who were related to Robert and Anne Charteris Thomson. These include four brothers – Harold C., Alfred, Ernest and Charles, but how they might have been related is not stated.

**Mary Anderson**, contact for Whitehern Museum, confirmed that the family was Presbyterian and would most likely have attended McNab Presbyterian Church, and that the burial records for the family would be with that church, most likely at the Presbyterian Archives in Don Mills, Toronto, Ontario.

Why then were members of the family buried in St. Luke's churchyard? A couple long-time members of St. Luke's have suggested that the area where the plot is located was not part of the church's property. However, I have been informed by **Ritchard Taylor**, another long-time parishioner and vergier, who has, with the late **Terry Hughes**, carried out extensive property research on the church, that the area is indeed part of St. Luke's. Interestingly, the property behind the cemetery, now an apartment building owned by **Maurice Desrochers**, was previously owned by the Thomson family and that may be why members of the family are buried in the churchyard next door.

In 2013 the wall of the plot, which was in poor shape, was taken down. The plaques were laid in the ground along with the foot stones and a very low wall constructed around the plot.



Current view of the Thomson Plot

The story of the Thomson family and their interment in St. Luke's Churchyard, however, remains a mystery.

# Editor's Sense of Humour

## Your Reward (or Punishment) for Reading to the End

GLASBERGEN  
© Randy Glasbergen  
glasbergen.com



"Blog unto others as you would have them blog unto you.  
Spam not, lest ye be spammed! Though I surf through the  
valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no virus..."



Thanks to Bill Milne and Bob Bruce  
for contributions

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

The father offered his son the following deal.

"You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

Got to love the Dad's reply - "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"

\*\*\*\*\*

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand.

"Daddy, what happened to him?" the son asked.

"He died and went to Heaven," the Dad replied.

The boy thought a moment and then said, "Did God throw him back down?"

\*\*\*\*\*

**Teacher was testing the children** in her Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven.

She asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into Heaven?"

"NO!" the children answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?"

Again, the answer was, "NO!"

Now she was smiling. Hey, they're getting it, she thought! "Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into Heaven?" she asked.

Again, they all answered, "NO!"

She was just bursting with pride for them. "Well," she continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "YOU GOTTA BE DEAD!"



Proud to Support our Friends at St. Luke's Anglican Church

*People Caring for People... Since 1938  
Because... Life is Precious*

485 BRANT STREET, BURLINGTON  
1167 GUELPH LINE, BURLINGTON

905-632-3333

[www.smithsfh.com](http://www.smithsfh.com)



Dodsworth & Brown Funeral Home  
Burlington Chapel

by Arbor Memorial

905-637-5233 • [www.dbburlington.ca](http://www.dbburlington.ca)

Caring for Families Since 1964

56 Years of Service



Thank you to our local businesses for supporting St. Luke's News and Views. Please give your support to these civic minded businesses.



Residence: 905/681-0266 Office: 905/681-0444

Fax: 905/681-2937

WILLIAM L. THATCHER, B.A., L.L.B.

Thatcher and Wands

Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries

(An Association)

1457 Ontario Street. Burlington, Ontario L7S 1G6

**Newsletter Editor's Notes:** In an effort to reduce paper usage and save postage expenses we also post this newsletter **in colour** online at [www.stlukesburlington.ca](http://www.stlukesburlington.ca). If you prefer to read the online version, please let the office know and we will stop mailing it to you.

If you would like to submit an article or photograph for this publication, please e-mail [newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca)

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses

To: The Parish Church of St. Luke  
Anglican Church of Canada  
1382 Ontario Street  
Burlington, ON L7S 1G1

Publication Agreement No. 40047438

