

ST. LUKE'S

NEWSLETTER – WINTER 2014-2025



How many Anglicans
does it take to put
up a banner?

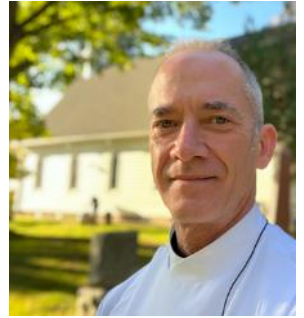


190th Anniversary Celebrations !

Calendar of Events and Services Page 18



Rector's Message



We are mid-way through the very busy Fall season at St. Luke's. It's a bit like running a long and joyful gauntlet of activities starting with Time and Talent Sunday and our very popular Sundae Sunday in September, through Harvest and Thanksgiving Sundays, leading up to our St. Luke's Week 190th celebrations including our St. Luke's Sunday and our 190th anniversary parish dinner with our Bishop Susan in attendance. And in amongst all of that are all of the regular groups and activities which operate week by week and month by month here. God has blessed us all and we have been a blessing to others through all that the people of St. Luke's do.

Coming right up is Remembrance Sunday on November 10th when we will host the Legion Colour Party and also the Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph the next day which I will lead as the Chaplain to our local legion. The events of Advent and Christmas will be just around the corner and I invite you to look through this newsletter and mark events on your calendars to make sure you don't miss anything.

There are exciting developments such as the accessible washroom in the Church, nearing completion, the redoing of our oldest sidewalks and further progress on the development of Church Avenue to become both a holy space and a park to welcome the City of Burlington to our Church.

With all the busy-ness of this season I invite you to take some time, especially during Advent, to be intentional and reflective about your faith. Advent is a time of expectation and a time to prepare for the coming of Christ, not only the coming of the Christ child at Christmas, but more importantly the coming of Christ at the end of the age and the coming of Christ to our lives day by day as recognized in those we meet. Jesus comes to us in the guise of the stranger: especially the poor, the weak, the outcast and those in need. There are many opportunities for you to see the face of Jesus every day. Just listen to the news, or even better, join in one of our many outreach ministries here at St. Luke's.

I wish you a holy Advent and a joyous Christmas Season.

Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stuart".

Canon Stuart Pike
Rector



From the Rev. Michael Coren

Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol was published in 1843, when Britain was being transformed from a rural to an urban society, with increased working hours, strain on families and wavering of traditions. Dickens wanted to emphasize the charitable nature of it all, to use it as a metaphor for social justice. The phrase "Merry Christmas" already existed, but Dickens was responsible for making it habitual, and the linking of Christmas with snow is also quintessentially Dickensian – perhaps the idea of a new purity, a washing away of dark, mid-Victorian inequality.

But Dickens was merely giving a reboot to a festival that had existed for centuries. Santa Claus or Father Christmas is a development of Saint Nicholas, a Greek bishop from the fourth century, possibly with a few hints of the Germanic god Wodan thrown in. The way he is depicted today is as much Coca-Cola and Hollywood as the early church, but then most good stories are collections of earlier legends. Decorating trees, kissing under mistletoe, carol singing, puddings and the like have various origins – some ancient, others modern, all delightful.

Then we have the story that started it all — the one that it's so fashionable to be cynical about. The early Christians didn't celebrate Christmas, and Easter was the central event in the church calendar. Actually, it still is. In the fourth century, it was agreed to treat the birth of Christ as a holiday, but as scripture doesn't give any dates for the event, it had to be made up. Winter is doubtful because sheep herding takes place in the spring, but nevertheless Pope Julius I opted for December 25, probably so as to appeal to pagan converts who observed the festival of Saturnalia in December.

There were other factors however. Many pre-Christian societies had long-established celebrations in December, and the winter solstice was important to northern Europeans who commemorated it with what they called the Yule, where logs would be put on the fire and those sitting around the flames would feast and drink.

It was also one of the few times when meat was readily available because animals were slaughtered due to the difficulty of feeding them in the winter. Add to all this the Roman elite's affection for Mithra, the god of the unconquerable sun, whose birthday was celebrated on December 25, and we have a Christian holiday just waiting to happen.

Michaelcontinued

But it's too glib, too convenient, to argue that the contrived nature of the Christmas holiday somehow means that there was no nativity and thus that the entire Christian story is – well – humbug. Consider the ancient non-Christian writings that speak of the Galilean preacher whose followers called the Christ, consider the evidence, and consider the facts.

I came to faith as an adult and only after years of thought, doubt, reading, and argument. I believe, not because it's easy or convenient, but because I'm totally convinced that it's all true. As for Christmas, it's the meaning and the significance rather than the fine details that matter. I'll celebrate with every fibre of my being, and thank God, literally thank God, for the birth of my saviour. It's the great miracle, the great new beginning, and the great and divine gesture made by God to and for all of us. Merry Christmas, and God bless you everyone.

Blessings *Michael*

Some Good News About our Syrian Newcomer Family

The Alalem family are all doing well. The kids are doing very well in school; Karima is applying for PSW work with a home-care agency, and Mohamad, after working for several years with West Windows, is now striking out on his own with his own business: Armanaz Windows and Doors. The name "Armanaz" is the name of his home village in Syria. We are so happy to see that this family has made the transition to good employment and is making a positive difference to our community. Mohamad usually uses Pollard Windows products and installs windows and doors for projects both big and small. He tells me how grateful he and his family are for our support in bringing them to a new and safe life in Canada. Well done, Alalem family. We wish you continued blessings.



Stuart Pike

Pastoral Associate's Report

“Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.” (Gospel of Luke 1.1-4)



Thus begins Saint Luke, our patron saint, the book of the gospel named after him, addressed to one Theophilus -from the Greek, “lover of God” and, perhaps, even a code word for any believer seeking to learn about “where it all started”. And, while much has been said about his vocation as a historian and chronicler of the foundational events of our religion, perhaps not as much as been printed about Luke the theologian, the thinker and poet of the mystery of Christ.

The intertwining of these two items, Luke’s concern for history, and his passion for the theology and poetry of the Christian faith, are perhaps most evident in the first two verses of his gospel: “many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word”.

Notice how Luke speaks about the ‘word’ -the same term which another gospel, that of John, uses in its first chapter, or Prologue, to allude to the Incarnation, the coming of God, who becomes fully human, temporal -while also God, and eternal. Such is, indeed, a mystery, a part of our experience which defies any regular account or explanation, and one that sits at the core of both our Christian faith, and of the feast of Christmas.

And, as a mystery, the incarnation, the inhabiting of God in this our human condition, defies our habit for explanations, reasons, and persuasion—but calls our humanity, our whole selves, to make home for God who is born nowhere else.

At the same time, the gospel, the message of that same truth and joy of the Incarnation, is there to bring this mystery to each our experience, and that of the whole church.

We hear and read about those “who from the beginning were eyewitnesses” so that, through their experience of that Word eternal made human and temporal, we might also find Jesus being born—even today, that we may with them also be servants of that Word—that we may rejoice in the life it gives, and also bring it to others.

I wish you all a blessed feast of Christmas.

Your friend, *Leonel*

Pastoral Associate, *St. Luke's Anglican Church*

Burlington, Ontario 289 887 7522 (*Emergencies*)

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

It has been a busy and exciting Fall for our music programme, with several guest musicians, and new choir anthems as well as old favourites! We've also introduced many new hymns from Sing a New Creation, our new hymnal supplement: both new tunes as well as new words to familiar tunes. There will be many more of all of these to come! There are photos below from two of our Celtic services, featuring Rob Laurie on the guitar, Darwin Allen and Dorothy Haartman on violins, and the choir singing two of their anthems, one of which was a triumphal debut which included our two violinists (October 27)!



We will once again be joined at Christmas (and Remembrance) by our resident trumpeter, Graham Young, as well as a flutist, Bev Wilson, for our Carol Service on December 15. Bev has performed regularly at Burlington Baptist and St. Christopher's. She will accompany the choir on two anthems, and will also join me on the prelude. We look forward to having her join us for the first time! And Darwin and Dorothy will return to us in the new year – stay tuned!

It is my hope that our musical offerings have and will continue to inspire all of you and enrich your worship experience. Enjoy the photos! We look forward to a joyous and blessed Christmas season.



Music Director continued.....



Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Goodine.

Installation of Vergers

On our Patronal Feast Day, we had the pleasure of installing Bob Bruce as a new verger at St. Luke's. We actually have three new vergers but Tim Tiernay and Mark Edwards were unable to attend.

Tim will be installed at an 8:15 service in the coming weeks. Mark will also be installed at a later date.

We also had the opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to Ross Gosling who has stepped down from his role as an 8:15 Verger as well as our Wedding Verger. His warm welcome and big smile will be missed by many. Thank you Ross for your years of service to this important ministry.

Congratulations to Bob Bruce as he becomes a member of the St. Luke's Guild of Vergers!

Submitted by Sheila Plant & Ritchard Taylor



Warden's Report for The Winter Newsletter



There are many happenings to report at this time, both updates on what is in progress and activities in the planning stage. As our 190th year draws to a close, we have seen many wonderful celebrations thanks to the 190th committee and there are more scheduled through December. We have the stewardship of ensuring our community thrives for the next 190 years, a daunting challenge given today's society.

Part of the challenge is making our church more accessible for both young and old, attracting young families, increasing our community impact, and providing inspiring spiritual rejuvenation, along with a welcoming Parish Life home.

The accessible washroom, after many years of planning, is nearing completion. It was fully supported in the 2024 Vestry meeting as a necessary project despite the use of the limited space in the vestibule (narthex). The deteriorated walkways from Ontario St. to the front door of the church have been replaced and provide much safer passage for both parishioners and neighbours passing through. We have created special spaces for both young families and for people with mobility issues in the church. We are looking for a solution to sound system gaps at the back of the church (and a way to fund whatever change is needed)

Our positive impact on the community here and around the world is already very significant with the many outreach activities like the Food for Life weekly food bank, the Community Lunches, refugee support, Red Box, Migrant Farm Workers, Advocacy presentations. We have had some success attracting volunteers from the community to these outreach activities and some have become parishioners. Looking forward, we want to promote volunteer opportunities to the community more to both expand our outreach and our parish population.

One new area that is part of the Mission Action Plan approved a number of years ago is the development of Church Avenue for the benefit of both the parish and the community and this project is progressing. A detailed overview of the project is presented later in this newsletter. The principles for this project are that funding will come from grants and outside interested groups and individuals. The church's stake in the project is this very valuable piece of property that we will continue to own and have all authority over what is done there. The other principle is that our current parking benefits will be guaranteed over the long term and be at least as beneficial as the current. We are planning more information sessions for the parish on this.

Warden's Report continued.....

There are many examples of the welcoming Parish Life and inspiring spiritual rejuvenation St. Luke's currently provides. We can be very proud of our church community but at the same time we need to continue to challenge ourselves to improve, expand, and draw in more active participants from both within the parish and the broader community.

Rick Reycraft Rector's Warden

St. Luke's Building Our Future



Hazardous sidewalks are being replaced to improve safety and accessibility. Look hard to see the washroom addition on the left side of the building.



Cemetery Retaining Wall Repair

ST. LUKE'S UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Our washroom is finally happening!



There was a lot of planning, permits and hoops to jump through, but construction is now happening.

**Celebration of Life for Jim Glass on Sept. 14th included a Jays/Cardinals Baseball Game
(Jays Won !!)**



From the Deacon

The Face of the Verger and the Ministry of Welcome

In addition to my role as Parish Deacon at St. Luke's, Burlington, I am also a member of the Church of England Guild of Vergers (CEGV). I have the opportunity to be a verger at weddings that are held at St. Luke's. It seemed only appropriate that after installing new vergers this fall that we look at what the verger is all about.

So, many may ask the question "What is a Verger?"

The verger's roots lie deep in history and can be traced back through the medieval Church to the New Testament and beyond. The verger today is someone who is committed to serving the Lord through practical ministry in the church. Generally, they have primarily ceremonial duties as well as other responsibilities. The Verger serves through a very special, indeed unique, and time-honoured lay ministry.

The ancient office of verger has its beginnings in the earliest days of the Christian Church. The vergers today often retain many of the duties their predecessors held. In the fourth and fifth centuries they came under the heading of "inferior officers of the church". Two of the forerunners were that of housekeeper and door keeper. Terms like sexton, bedel, parish constable, sacristan have all contributed tasks to the duties carried out by the modern-day verger.

Psalm 84 is known as the Verger's Psalm. Verses 1 and 10 "O how lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, God of Hosts..." "I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of the unrighteousness." The verger holds one of the oldest established offices within the church. Vergers were found in temples of the Old Testament days as well as in the great churches and cathedrals of medieval times just as they are in the many different worship centres today.

The verger gets his title from the virge—also known as the rod, staff, mace, wand which he or she carries in procession before a dignitary of a cathedral or parish church. The verger literally made a way through the standing congregation of the medieval church. Some examples of early virges still survive—from the wedding of Mary Tudor in 1554 still in use at Winchester Cathedral or the coronation of Elizabeth I in 1559 at Carlisle Cathedral.

In August of 2024 I had the privilege to attend the CEGV's Training Conference and Retreat held at the beautiful Elim Conference Centre nestled in the Malvern Hills in England. The theme of this year's conference was The Ministry of Welcome. This ministry is something that many parishes have strived to attain in their parishes. The verger is often the first person that newcomers see when they come into our churches; thus the ministry of welcome often rests on the verger's shoulders.



Deacon's Report continued

What are the constituents of a Ministry of Welcome? We make it clear that all are indeed welcome. The welcoming atmosphere may be created by a warm, well-lit church with important information about the parish or upcoming service on display and easily accessible. If no vergers are present, then most churches will have a team of greeters. An agreed strategy for welcoming visitors is helpful—sometimes different approaches can confuse newcomers or visitors. For example, if a visitor arrives while a service is in progress then the verger has the responsibility to give a welcome and to inform the visitor of the options—join in with the activity, or sit at the rear for a while to observe and then join in. To force visitors to participate may be the best way to turn them off or away with no hope of return. It is a real turn off to say, “there is a service in progress” and offer no explanation of options. Likewise to force them to participate is not good either. They may wish to observe until they feel more comfortable.

The Ministry of Welcome can be quite complex. It involves boundaries and it also makes us look at ways to make our churches safe for all. The Inclusive Church Network in the UK tells us that there are barriers in society that keep people out and we all need to attend to this.

In an inclusive church, there are sights, speech and service to welcome people in. Signs that people might look for....are there ear defenders for those who have trouble with noise? Are there fidget toys for those who finding sitting still an issue? Is there an opportunity or safe place for those who need to do something while listening to liturgy: for example, knitting etc.? Do they know where the washroom is? These are all things to look at and to provide the invitation to break down barriers. Do we welcome new people to sing, or say the liturgy? This might be a challenge as we see so many people where English may not be their first language. We need to allow people to see themselves in how we talk to God. Are we gender inclusive? Do we refer to those in our pews as our “siblings”?

In our service, we must concentrate on the inclusion of welcome because everyone has something to offer. Can we invite people to do one of the readings in their own language? Does it matter what colour their shoes are? After all, Jesus wore sandals! We need to encourage them to be part of the service as they are.

There are so many questions around the Ministry of Welcome. However this ministry needs to be proactive and intentional so that “no one is left standing” Welcome and hospitality should mirror Jesus' way with us. Rowan Williams once said, “Christ is not a dead friend but a living stranger.”

Welcome to God, the stranger.

Sheila

In the Spirit of Welcome.....

As we near the end of this season of creation, we take stock of what we have done in the care of our land. In his latest book, "The Spirit Wheel" Steven Charleston, an Indigenous Elder and former Bishop of the Choctaw tribe speaks to our kinship with creation. In his introduction, he encourages to read his words in the context of our own faith, but with a curiosity, an openness, to hear what Native America has to say, to teach, to share. He invites us to enter the deep earth of our ancient longing and reach for the highest branches of our collective hope.



No Strangers

There are no strangers.

In the house of the Spirit, there are no empty chairs.

All who seek shelter are welcomed.

All who are hungry are fed.

No one is turned away, no one is questioned.

No one is made to wait.

Love is offered freely to any, to every, to all.

Diversity abounds in this household

A tribe of many clans.

Every language spoken, even family at home.

If we are not here

None of us have arrived.

--Steven Charleston

"The Spirit Wheel." submitted by Sheila Plant

The Red Box Project

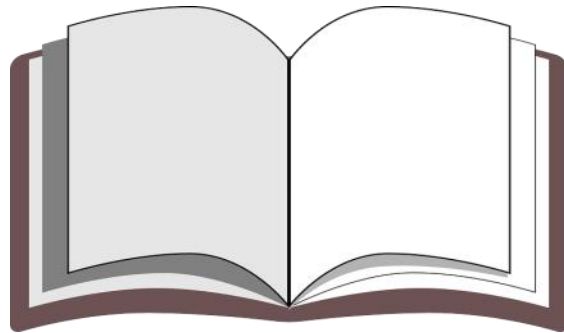
Although the Red Box Project was meant to be a community accessed event, we find that it is being

used by many of the women (young and old) who come to us on Tuesdays. We are glad to be able to help them out and I feel sure that other women in our neighbourhood may be using it as well. Thank you to the ladies in our parish who regularly keep our supplies topped up. I want to say a special thank you to Val Fester who has taken it upon herself every Tuesday morning to check the box, and then prepare supplies for distribution. She is invaluable!



Submitted by Sheila Plant

Life Passages



August

Colleen Kasoian

Albert Schmid

Robert & Marjorie Dougherty

Marjorie Bryant

Elizabeth Towndrow

September

James Glass

George James

Lawrence Cutner

October

Ivy Porter

Lynn St. John

Gerald Boswell

Susan Fleming

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.

“We can’t know why the lily has so brief a time to bloom in the warmth of sunlight kissed upon its face before it folds into its fragrance and bids the world good night to rest its beauty in a gentler place.”

Food for Life



During the last few months, we have seen some fluid numbers on a Tuesday morning. Our numbers during the summer were quite high and have tapered off somewhat since September. This can be seen as a positive sign as our friends have become more stable and are not struggling with food insecurity. However, the people that come consistently week after week are able to receive a wide range of food products.

A very special thank you to the staff and students at Ecole Renaissance for their donations of non perishable items. They ran a Harvest food drive and chose, once again, our Food for Life program. We are so grateful for their on-going support.

In October we ran a Harvest food drive within our parish. We were overwhelmed with the support we received from our St. Luke's family. Donations of Red Box products, non perishable items and financial contributions abounded and our shelves are now full once more!

We continue to receive produce, meat and baked goods and our friends usually go away each Tuesday morning with a good variety of food from all of the food groups.

We are still following some health regulations and guidelines which I think some of our friends find frustrating, but we need to keep everyone safe. We have had several conversations about respect (both of each other and of the volunteers), manners, etc. It seems to be working.

Food for Life issued special tags to all who take part in the program. These tags have a special number on it and they are asked to show it to us when they come for food. We then record the numbers and I send them off to the main office so that they can track who is coming. We never turn anyone away, so if they have not registered and do not have a tag, they still get food.

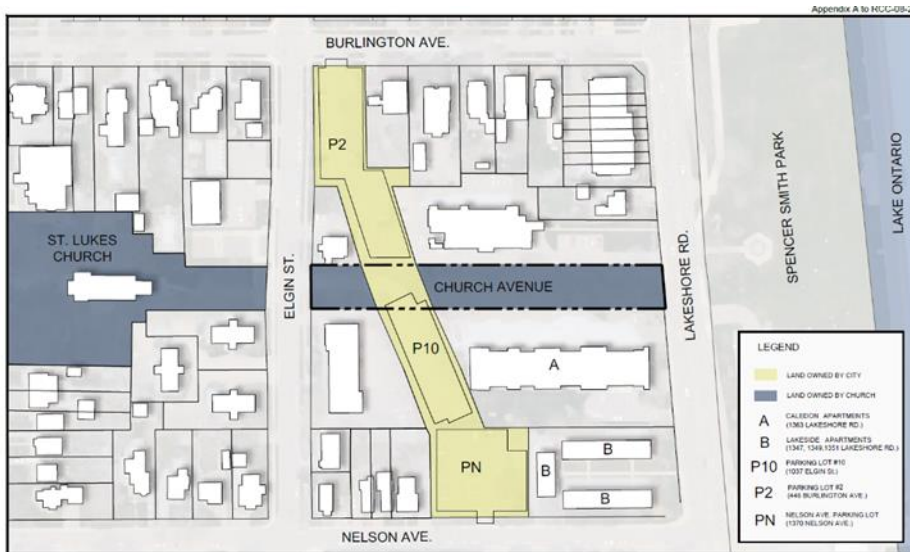
We are grateful to Cam Jackson, who, through his contacts has been able to supply us with a good variety of sweets, bread, prepared food and rolls.

Submitted by Sheila Plant

Church Avenue Project

We are working to create a community accessible greenspace that will contribute to the quality of life in Burlington for many generations to come and are looking for partners who may want to participate in bringing this dream to reality.

Imagine a multi-million dollar privately owned property in Downtown Burlington, centrally located between the AGB, Joseph Brant Museum, Spencer Smith Park as well as all the amenities of the downtown area, to be developed as a park and shared with all residents and visitors to our city. At a time of growing densification in the downtown area, this property has much needed green space that, if developed carefully and thoughtfully, will support the mental health and wellbeing of our community, and contribute to the allure for visitors.



Our property that we refer to as Church Avenue extends from Elgin Street to Lakeshore Road and encompasses over half an acre. This land along with the property that the church is on was gifted in 1833 to the Church by Elizabeth Kerr, Chief Joseph Brant's daughter. The church was built in 1834 on the part of the property between Ontario Street and Elgin Street and continues to house a vibrant Anglican Parish. St. Luke's is the spiritual centre for over 600 households and this year we are celebrating 190 years of continuous ministry and

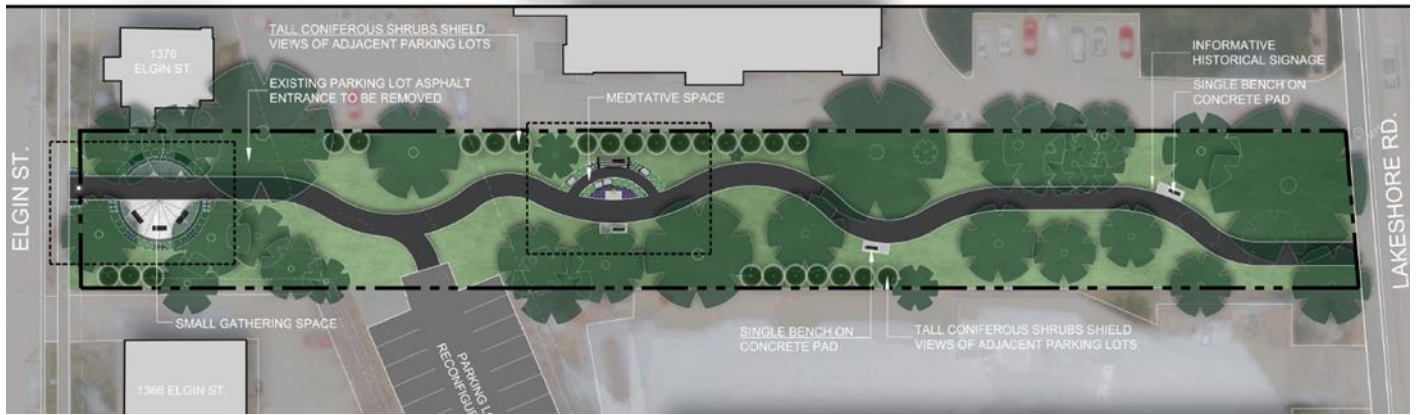
outreach in Burlington. From our front doorway, you can view the waterfront through a strip of land that forms a 'window to the lake' or you can stand on Lakeshore Road, look along that strip to see the church framed by stately trees. In the 1800's, you would have used a plank walkway to walk from Lakeshore Road through the avenue of trees to the church doors.



Today this strip of property is no longer needed to access the church, and, given the mandate of our faith to serve others, we feel compelled to develop this land for the benefit of our community.

We hope to develop Church Avenue into an inviting avenue to and from the lake, a place of reflection, contemplation, celebration and comfort, a place to sit, stand, walk and play together while adding to the walkability of the downtown area.

Once the basic infrastructure is in place, many cultural and historic displays can be imagined. It is our desire to share this spiritual place with the community while retaining full ownership.

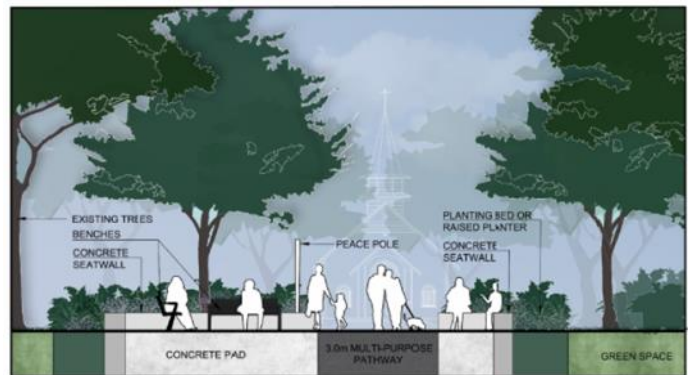


Our vision includes a wide pathway from Elgin Street to Lakeshore Road, several seating areas and gardens, a peace pole and basically a lovely, lush place for gathering, walking, meditating, and enjoying the outdoors.

We have had extensive collaborative discussions with our city councillor, and the mayor, and with various City Department staff.

We are clear that this Church Avenue Park is a multi year project and will grow and develop over time. We will need other partners, sponsors, and grants to make it happen. We are putting on the table this very valuable land plus our volunteer energy. We need to develop other partners and sources of funds for this project as it cannot take away from the other outreach projects of the church. We operate a weekly food bank, a biweekly free community lunch, host concerts for children in need, sponsor refuge families, help support indigenous water projects in the north, a school for poor children in Honduras, various seniors' events, and many more. A successful project a number of years ago was the construction of St. Luke's Close,

a 52 unit geared-to-income seniors' apartment complex across from the performing arts center. Members of St. Luke's Church form the Board of Directors and oversee the operation of the Close.



In summary, we believe we have a unique opportunity at this time for the citizens of Burlington and we are actively looking for interested groups, organizations, individuals, and levels of government who would like to work with us to bring this dream to a reality.

Submitted by the Chrch Avenue Committee

Calendar of Events and Service

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICES AND EVENTS</u>
Nov 30th	9:00 am to 1:00 pm	St. Luke's Christmas Market
Dec 1st	8:15	Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	Advent Carol Service
Dec 7th	7:30 pm	Harlequin Singers Concert—Parish Hall
Dec 8th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Advent 2 Holy Eucharist
Dec 13th	7:00 pm	Taizé (online only)
Dec 15th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Holy Eucharist & Sunday School at 10:00am
Dec 22nd	8:15 and 10:00 am	Advent 4 Holy Eucharist
	3:00 pm	SOLO Concert in the Church
Dec 24th	4:00 pm	Family Christmas Eve
	6:00 pm	A Christmas Drama with Eucharist
	8:00 pm	Christmas Eve Eucharist
	10:00 pm	Christmas Eve Communion
Dec 25th	10:00 pm	Christmas Day Eucharist
Dec 29th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Christmas 1 Holy Eucharist
Jan 5th	8:15 am	Christmas 2 Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	Epiphany Carols and Eucharist
Jan 9th	11:30 am	Speakers Lunch (see page 35)
Jan 10th	7:00 pm	Taizé (on-line only)
Jan 12th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Baptism of Christ Holy Eucharist
Jan 19th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Epiphany 2 Holy Eucharist
Jan 26th	8:15 am	Epiphany 3 Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	Celtic Eucharist
Feb 2nd	8:15 and 10:00 am	Presentation of Jesus Holy Eucharist
Feb 9th	8:15 am	Epiphany 5 Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist (Vestry !)
Feb 13th	11:30 am	Speakers Lunch (see page 35)
Feb 14th	7:00 pm	Taizé (on-line only)
Feb 16th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Epiphany 6 Holy Eucharist
Feb 23rd	8:15 am	Epiphany 7 Holy Eucharist
	10:00 am	Celtic Eucharist

For schedule of the Community Lunch and Social Hour see page .

- Evening prayer twice a week is available online only.
- The Sunday 10:00 am is live-streamed on the church YouTube channel.
- Sunday 10:00 am, Evening Prayer services, Taizé, and other online services can be played **at any time** after the time indicated. Go to 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 video so that you can follow along.

Remembrance Day Service



The tradition of sewing poppies expands this “carpet of flowers” each year including Stuart “tying one on”.

Another growing tradition has been giving each parishioner a red carnation to place in remembrance of a specific person connected to the parish who is or has served their country.



Children’s Corner Appreciated



Parish Life



The leaves are in full and glorious colour as I'm writing this, and Parish Life Fall Events are in full swing! This year, many of our Parish Life activities have included the element of celebration for St. Luke's 190th Anniversary. One such event was the Parish Life Dinner held recently for a sell-out crowd. Many thanks to Lorraine Berrington and team, to Helen and her Anniversary team. and to all group leaders and volunteers that participated in each and every anniversary event to help make our 190th such a success!

And we're not done yet! Next we will be looking forward to our Christmas Market on November 30th, and there will be inserts included here I'm sure for both upcoming Music at St. Luke's and Speakers Lunch events, as well as other Parish Life activities.

Although it technically transpires in the late Fall, the Christmas Market is definitely our kick off event for winter, and as usual we have hope of another great event this year. Many thanks to the leadership team and all the many contributors and volunteers who help to make this happen each year!

In the new year, we look forward to an active winter, with groups and activities offering something for everyone. One of my personal favourites, the Pancake Supper, is held every February, courtesy of the men of the parish. If you are new to St. Luke's, I encourage you to check out any groups that appeal to your interest. Participation is a great way to get to know us, to let us get to know you, and to make new friends.

Merry Christmas, Everyone, and a Very Happy 2025!

Lesley Emery Parish Life Chair

The Harlequin Singers are coming back to us to perform a Christmas concert on Saturday, December 7th as part of the 190th Anniversary celebrations at St Luke's.



The concert will take place in the Great Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Music is at its finest with this group of singers. They have been singing in our community for 5 decades and have delighted audiences with their talent and enthusiasm.

Tickets are \$20 (and \$10 for children). They are available at Coffee Hour, or by calling 905-639-0345

We are offering rides to anyone who cannot get to the concert. Please call 905-332-0837 if you would like this service.



ST. LUKE'S 190th
Brings you:

The
**HARLEQUIN
SINGERS**

Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 7, 2024
7:30 p.m.

St. Luke's Parish Hall

1382 Ontario St., Burlington ON, L7S 1G1

Tickets \$20

Available by calling Sandra (905)639-0345

PRESENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF:



Knitters & Friends Create Cozy Crafts for Winter by Mary Taslimi

Knitters & Friends continue to meet and work on various projects, some personal and some for donation. It is always a joy to spend time with other crafters and see what everyone is working on. Sometimes only two or three people show up but the mood is always warm and welcoming and we are there to visit with—and sometimes help!—each other.

Marion Binns had a request to create a “curling rock hat” - a toque in the shape and colours of a curling rock, including the distinctive handle on top. Everyone tried to help Marion figure out how to make that handle behave as a curling rock handle should.... Sometimes knitting just doesn't want to do as it's asked!



Lois Carey has been adding the finishing touches to a knitted gnome. We had thoughts to offer on how to make his beard a bit easier to create. The gnome's hat has also provided some challenges. Sometimes, knitting turns into tinkering (undoing—“tink” is “knit” spelled backwards!) or out-and-out “frogging” (because you have to rip-it, rip-it, rip it all out). Lois continues to mastermind the hat and we look forward to seeing her ultimate solution.



Mary Taslimi has been attempting a new cast-on for a scarf for her college kid. No one had tried this before so it was new to all of us: a knit 2, purl 2, tubular cast-on, that gives an edge with a seamless look. Lois took on the challenge of figuring it out and discovered an excellent tutorial on YouTube, in case any reader is interested: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyteyq_nPug Mary is still struggling with this one, as the next step in the pattern looks different after using this cast-on (the instructions for the cast-on in the pattern are different from the video). Sometimes getting something right means you must try, try again...!

Knitters and Friends continued

Despite these trials, we have some eye candy from Lois (see photos). She completed a lovely baby's cardigan, and also discovered that some yarn she bought at a thrift shop was self-patterning and made a very handsome scarf.



Mary got a little less knitting done this quarter, as apart from the failed cast-on attempts, she took a couple of sessions to attend to the needles in the closet supplies. Many of the straights had been taped together. With Barbara Adamson's contribution of Goo Gone, Mary made sure the (tape) goo was gone from the needles and instead held the pairs together with hair elastics from the dollar store.

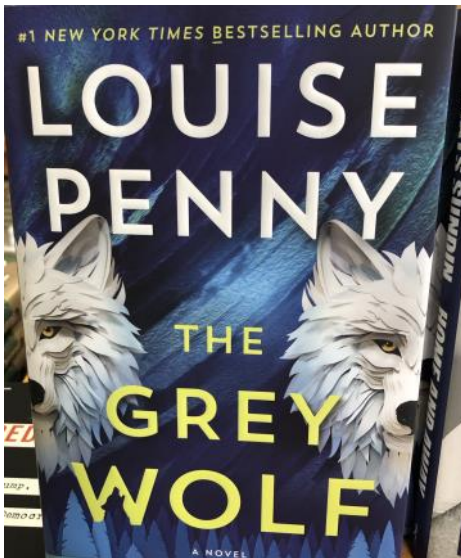
Knitters & Friends welcomes all friendly knitters and all friendly fibre-workers who crochet or work with yarn, thread, embroidery silk etc. Come for the crafting, stay for the company! Anyone wishing to join who does not have yarn or needles/hooks is welcome to browse the closet in Room 201 during meeting hours (10am - noon, Tuesdays) and select from donated yarns, tools and patterns.

St. Luke's Library News

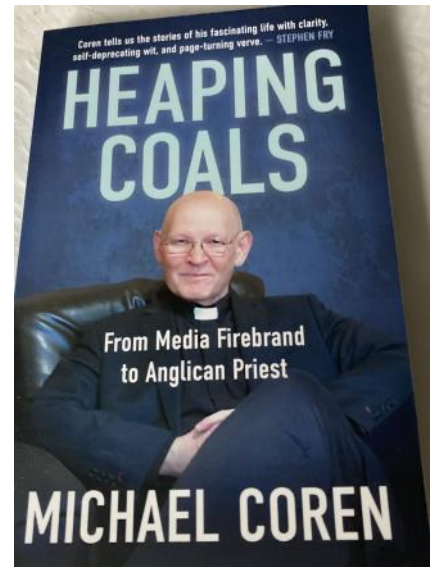
The goal of the library is to enhance the spiritual life of its readers.

We will be having a number of new books available for your winter reading enjoyment! We will have Michael Coren's latest book "Heaping Coals: from a media firebrand to Anglican priest", "Reconciling History: a story of Canada" by Jody Wilson-Raybould and "The Grey Wolf" by Louise Penny, to name a few!

We will continue to have book displays during coffee hours. Remember the library is open Monday through Thursday, if you would like to return your book and browse for another one.



Submitted by Melissa Kennedy



190TH ANNIVERSARY UPDATE.



What an amazing year of celebrations so far for our 190th anniversary. We have welcomed our community and parish to celebrate a great milestone. As Stuart said on our patronal feast, when we were first established the world looked so different from today; yet some important things have stayed the same, we are still a vibrant parish walking in Christ's footsteps.

Our parish dinner was a wonderful evening and so well-organized by the committee, lead by Lorraine Berrington and Colina Magee. Thank you for all of their commitment to the event that brought us together to celebrate this milestone.

There is still an opportunity to join in as we finish out the year with:

The Harlequin Singers on Saturday, December 7th at 7:30pm in the Church Hall, 1382 Ontario St., Burlington, ON

Tickets are \$20 (\$10 for children) and are available by contacting 905 639-0345.

Also, look for our **190 SWAG** at coffee hour and the upcoming Christmas Market which includes our pewter Christmas Ornament, St. Luke's stained glass window note cards—pack of 5, a variety pack of Holy Family Nativity cards, and St. Luke's pens. They all make great gifts.

Pictures from our 190th Parish Dinner



Stuart, Tom Bell, (the Bishop's husband), Bishop Susan & Sheila



Leonel, Beth & Michael



← In a poll of attendees, Ruth Milne was a St. Luke's parishioner for the longest period of time.

Parish Dinner 2024 continued



Carole & Brian Langlotz



Mahira Samarasinghe & Shenara Sirisena



Wonderful entertainment by Paul Pizzolante & George Kairys



Friends of St. Luke Day

Each Year we host a hymn sing and afternoon tea for parishioners who have difficulty attending church. Here are some pictures of our guests and volunteers



Music at St. Luke's

We're looking forward to our Music at St. Luke's events coming up in the New Year. On January 18th we're pleased to host Chris McKhool and another artist from Sultan's of String as they present a special Screening of their Cannes World Film Festival winning Doc, "Sultans of String: The Refuge Project – Visual Album"

This 90 minute screening will be followed by a Q&A with producer/bandleader and Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal recipient Chris McKhool.

On April 26th we'll be welcoming back Jim Heaslip and his 12/4 Swing Orchestra featuring Tony Sciara, as they present another show with music from Frank Sinatra, Bobby Darin, Dean Martin and more! They were such a big hit last season that we're sure to enjoy another fabulous evening!

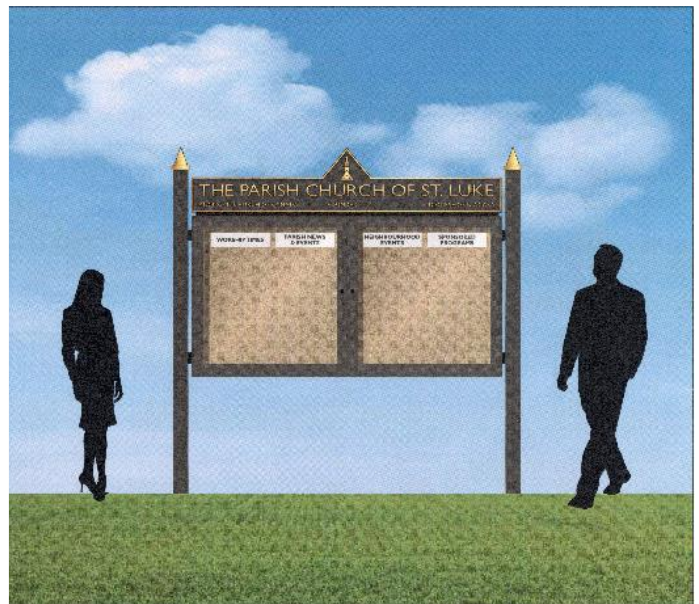
Dinners will again be catered by our favourite culinary professionals, Millcroft Catering who never disappoint!



Submitted by Steve Pike

New Parish Notice Board

You may have noticed the footings that have been installed outside the parish office next to the sidewalk. These are for an outdoor, non-illuminated, waterproof notice board that will allow us to advertise our services, special events, outreach programs, and community events. The notice board is scheduled to be installed by the end of November.



St Luke's Sunday School

We have an awesome group of young children attending our Sunday School so far this fall. We have started having just one Sunday per month with the hope of expanding it to every Sunday eventually. In September, we welcomed Sarah Bird from the Diocese who helped us vision for the future. She inspired the congregation and she inspired the kids on that Sunday.



In October, we celebrated together St. Luke's 190th anniversary. In the Children's Focus, Canon Stuart told us about St. Luke and we continued the conversation following in the class.



We toured the Archive room and looked at old photos of what the first church looked like before the years of renovations. We talked about how the church has survived for 190 years and what we have to do to keep it going for another 190 years and beyond. They gave good answers like making sure “we fix the roof and the holes in the walls” and also that we follow the scriptures and love Jesus and let people know that God loves them. As part of that lesson, we built a St. Luke's Family Tree, tracing our hands and mounting them on the tree. We particularly loved how the adults at coffee hour were really

engaged in being part of this.



Our next Sunday School will be November 17 and then December 15. Hope to see you there.

Submitted by Janice Skafel

St. Luke's Sundae Sunday

We invited all kids—big & small, young & old in the neighbourhood to join us after the 10am service for an ice cream sundae. We had a great time together!



Our 108 year old Olive Mould joined us with friends especially for the ice cream. Our Sunday School participants enjoyed the tasty treat too.



Rosemary, Bruce & Lesley ready to serve.



St Luke's Close by Bob Bruce



I love a parade! Can you imagine this one? It took place back on October 22, 1989.

The whole congregation, accompanied by the Teen Tour Band and lead by the Honourable Lincoln Alexander (Lieutenant Governor of Ontario), the Most Rev. John Bothwell (Archbishop of Niagara and Metropolitan of Ontario), the Rev. Canon Ralph Spence (Rector of St Luke's) as well as Civic and Provincial Officials, marched down the street from the front of the church to 1421 Elgin Street in front of a new building where they celebrated the grand opening of St. Luke's Close. (It is across the street from today's Burlington Performing Arts Centre)

St. Luke's Close is a nonprofit seniors apartment corporation which was created through the dedicated efforts of a committee composed of members of the St. Luke's congregation during the period when Canon Ralph Spence was Rector of St Luke's.

The late Bill Milne, a former Director, sent me this history of "The Close" when I became a member of the Board of Directors.

The Origins of St Luke's Close

"Canon D. Ralph Spence was Rector of St Luke's Church from 1982 until 1997. In 1982 Rev. Ralph's mother died and Ralph was concerned about finding some location with care for his father. One of the wardens at that time was Warren Smith and he suggested that the church should build a seniors' residence. St. Luke's Close is the culmination of a dream of Warren Smith and other St. Luke's parishioners who saw the need for affordable self-contained accommodation for a senior's residence in the Burlington area. The residence would offer companionship and social contact in addition to comfortable housing for many elderly people presently living lonely lives.

St. Luke's Close continued

A group of parishioners was formed to consider this idea. In addition to Ralph Spence and Warren Smith some members of the original committee were Bill Robertson, who with his real estate experience was asked to chair the committee; Jean Round, for her organizational skills; and Pat Hunt as treasurer.

Church property was considered but there was no place that was suitable. The church originally hoped to build a complex with about 150 units and an extended care unit. This meant that it was necessary to look at other properties and there were not sufficient funds in the parish to acquire such a property and erect a building. It was realized then that other funds had to be raised and that possibly provincial grants would be available.

The committee was then formed as a nonprofit organization separate from the church. This was known as St. Luke's Close of Burlington Inc. (The Close). Discussions with the Bishop of Niagara, John Bothwell, were held to establish that the property to be held by the Close was not Church property. Although the group that was formed is corporately separate from the church, the board members are members of the church and the Rector is always on the board. The Close reports annually to the Parish Corporation of the church who are considered members of the Close corporation.

A group that Bill Robertson was familiar with called Interfaith Fellowship, a consulting group from Toronto who had much expertise in the building of affordable housing was contacted. The Moneta family and their company Sherwood Property Management became involved as they had worked with the Interfaith Fellowship and their congregation had also built similar properties. The Halton Housing Authority was also contacted and became involved. On Wednesday, July 9, 1986 a joint meeting of the City of Burlington Public Works and the Administration and Finance committees met to consider five proposals including two seniors' developments, two townhouse projects, and an apartment building on the .77 acre property being sold by the city.

Approval of the proposal by St. Luke's Close Inc was granted for a 37-unit seniors' apartments on the North West corner of Elgin St. and Braithwaite Lane. The price of the .77 acre land (owned by the city and formerly an arena until 1945 then a police station) was agreed at \$185,000 with the waiver of some capital contributions to the city. This approval was because of the interest and recognition of Council for the need of this type of accommodation.

There was a condition in the original agreement with the city that air conditioners would not be allowed in the windows of the units on Braithwaite and it was decided by the committee not to air condition the building. Then in May 1990 the city approved that window conditioners could be allowed in spite of protests from the residents on Braithwaite.

St. Luke's Close continued

In August 1986 the province decided to fund 100% of the nonprofit housing program to acquire the land and construct the building at an estimated cost of \$2.5 million. Originally the apartments in the building would not include kitchens. There was to be a common kitchen and dining room available for the residents. Subsequently, it was decided to include kitchens in the apartments.

The project would provide rent geared to income for seniors. There was a question of whether the rent geared to income space units would only be for Burlington residents or residents of other areas as well.

The proposed senior citizen complex was given final site plan approval by Burlington City Council in December, 1987, with an extension of the closing date to April 30, 1988, to confirm financing.

On January 29, 1988, St. Luke's Close received official notification from Ontario Housing minister, Shiva Chaviva Hosek, that the Burlington project had been allocated 51 units and the ministry would assist in building in 1988. This was previously approved in August 1987. 40% of the units must be provided to Halton Housing Authority on a rent geared to income basis. The ministry approval meant the province would provide total financing to St. Luke's Close of Burlington Inc. for the entire cost of land at \$185,000 and construction of the project in the amount of \$2.5 million. The mortgage for the project was guaranteed by the provincial government.

The construction of the three-story brick building with 51 apartments, lounge and dining room was started in August 1988. Once the approval of the building was confirmed there were close to 300 names on the waiting list for the 51 units.

Completion of the building was in the fall of 1989. The official opening was on October 22 of that year.

Additional funds of approximately \$200,000 were required to provide funding not covered by the province. St. Luke's Craft Group provided funds for two sofas for the lounge and some kitchen equipment. Men of Saint Luke's, under the guidance of George Globe, built the basement storage lockers for the residents. There was a Federal Government New Horizons program grant forthcoming to purchase outdoor furniture, barbeque, TV and VCR for the lounge. Subsequently a new Samick piano was obtained through a new Horizon's grant."

- Bill Milne, March 1, 2021 (with thanks to Rt. Rev. D. Ralph Spence)

St. Luke's Close continued

This September St. Luke's Close celebrated the end of its \$2.5 million mortgage and we will continue to serve the residents of Halton with 35 geared-to-income affordable apartments and 16 market value ones. Bob Bruce, President; Dave Beck, Treasurer; Kathleen Szoke, Secretary; and Directors Canon Stuart Pike; Rev. Sheila Plant; and Bill Armstrong form the Board of Directors and Stan Moneta of Sherwood Management is the manager.

Each Sunday during our regular worship services we pray for "the residents, staff, and management of St Luke's Close".

The Close continues to be a part of our parish's outreach to our community and the Board has confirmed its commitment to continue offering affordable housing at The Close and possibly beyond once it clarifies its contractual arrangement with Halton County as it is now mortgage free.

Recently the Board, with the help of St. Luke's Outreach Committee, has begun a series of receptions for the residents to encourage social interaction. Our Christmas Party is scheduled for Monday, December 9, and our church choir members will provide the entertainment.

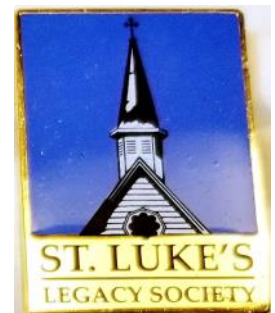
For any further information about this residence and how it operates please feel free to contact any of the current Board of Directors.

Bob Bruce, President

Legacy Society

The Legacy Society is our way of collectively coming together in a meaningful and concerted commitment to give St. Luke's a future rich in its ability to minister and fulfill its mission."

If you would like to find out more about the Legacy Society and Legacy giving please contact Don Bettger at donandgini7@gmail.com



Submitted by Don Bettger

Walk to the Lighthouse

St. Luke's had over 20 walkers in this fundraiser for mental health facilities at Joseph Brant., plus several people on the organizing team. A total of \$101,000 was raised compared to a target of \$75,000. The St. Luke's team raised \$14,000 and were the second highest team. The strong community support demonstrated by this event has resulted in a start of construction. As with all St. Luke's events, a good time was had by all.



Time and Talent Sunday—Sept 22nd

Here are some of the many displays of our groups in the Parish Hall



“Speaker’s Lunch”

The goal of the Speaker’s Lunch group is to provide opportunities for St. Luke’s parishioners, guests and others in the wider community to meet in a social setting and to listen to presentations by informed speakers about contemporary issues affecting our community and the world beyond.



The group meets at 11:30am on the second Thursday of each month for social time, followed by a “Bring Your Own Lunch” & a talk by the speaker of the month. Refreshments, including Sherry are provided - all for a freewill donation of \$5.

All are welcome - please call Doug Flett (905-637-7009) or Tim Tiernay (905-639-0345) for more information. Your dedicated committee is hopeful that we continue to arrange a diverse and interesting list of topics and speakers.

Speaker’s Lunch again offered a good variety of speakers over the fall period;

September 12th – The History of Kilbride (& surrounding area)

October 10th – “Meet me at the Brant Inn”. The wonderful, colourful history of the Brant Inn

November 7th (Remembrance Day theme) – The AVRO Lancaster used in WWII

Luncheons in the winter months will also prove to provide a diverse list of speakers and content;

January 9th – “Hamilton for Beginners” by “Flashbacks” writer, Mark McNeil

February 13th – Chatham Black Allstar Baseball Team

March 13th – Halton/Hamilton Source Water Protection Program

We have been pleased at the growing interest and attendance at the lunches. Please continue to spread the word as to the fun, fellowship and interesting subjects at our meetings. If you have any questions, suggestions as to subjects or speakers for future meetings, please contact;

Tim Tiernay (phone: 905-639-0345; email: tim.tiernay@bell.net).

Also, we are looking for new members to join our Committee. It is not much work and your help and ideas would be welcomed.

Lastly, if you have not provided your email address or text number in the past, please do as we will then be able to alert you to upcoming meetings and any changes.

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of these lunches in the future.

Speakers Lunch continued



Helen Calloway speaks on the history of Kilbride & surrounding area September 12th, 2024



Kate Almeida on "Meet me at the Brant Inn" – October 10th, 2024



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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.

It takes a wonderful group effort to accomplish all that we want to do in Outreach.

Since September, the pace has picked up but so has the satisfaction that we are trying to achieve what we believe we are being called to do.



We are always looking for help in many areas. Please contact any member of Outreach for information about how you can be involved.

ADVOCACY BREAKFAST NEWS

The St. Luke's Advocacy Team has been continuing in their mission to provide ongoing opportunities to share Social Justice information.

The latest presentation was with Sarah Warry, Chair of the Board of Directors for The Bridge, an amazing organization providing support for individuals, returning to their communities following incarceration.

The Advocacy Team is presently investigating a number of opportunities for the coming new year and will be sharing this information as soon as possible through the regular St. Luke's bulletin and other usual formats.

Suggestions of ideas and areas of interest are always welcome. We look forward to seeing you all in 2025!

For further information do contact one of us.

Submitted by Carrie Raybould on behalf of the Advocacy Team, Ros Reycraft, Janice Skafel, Jackie Maver and Dave Beck

MIGRANT WORKERS MINISTRY

WINTER CLOTHING IS NEEDED..... ..by more than 400 migrant farm workers who continue to work during the winter months in greenhouses and other agricultural operations in Niagara Region. If you have any gently used winter jackets - any size, men's or women's - that you no longer require, please bring them to the Parish Hall during regular office hours and place them in the rubber tote marked "Migrant Farm Workers Project" (underneath the coat racks outside the office door).



Donations of woolen hats, scarves, and winter gloves would also be welcomed. We will transport these items to St. Alban's Anglican Church in Beamsville. "Muchas gracias" to anyone who can assist with this request.

Dave Beck, Ministry of Outreach: (905) 632-0489

BURLINGTON UBUNTU GRANDWOMEN

Our local chapter of the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign has been busy and active in sharing awareness of the needs of African Grandmothers and their current endeavours, as well as raising useful funds on their behalf.



The following are upcoming events for the winter period:

- December 2nd at Burlington City Hall (outside) at 5PM

Annual "Orange the World Vigil" to end violence against women and girls. This is a UN initiative shared every year.

- March 29, 2025 Ubuntu to host Grandmothers Gathering further info to follow

The following is offered as a message to us all, with thanks to Marilyn Ortwein, a long time member of Ubuntu. It is taken from the website www.thebug.ca

" A grandmother is a tree with her arms as outstretched branches providing shelter for saplings and new growth and her roots run deep into the core of her community. Together we are a forest that sustains the world."

For further information please contact Carrie Raybould at 905-681-2816 or Linda Rafuse at lrefuse10@gmail.com

DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON COMMUNITY LUNCH

Not only was the food delicious at our Halloween-themed Community Lunch but so much fun was had by all.



The December lunches are on Dec. 4 and 18. Doors open at 11:00 for a social time and lunch is served at noon. The lunch is open to all and is free. Come for good food and conversation. No reservation is needed. The lunch is offered on the first, third, and fifth Wednesdays from October until May.

There will not be a November 20 as it is canceled due to set-up for Christmas Market.

Heather White, Community Lunch Coordinator

dheatherwhite@gmail.com

905-632-1025

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” Matthew 25:35

AFTERNOON TEA AT ST. LUKE'S CLOSE

On October 24 the Board of Directors of St. Luke's Close hosted an afternoon tea social event in the Common Room at St. Luke's Close. Residents enjoyed a selection of sandwiches and pastries with their tea, and had an opportunity to talk with our clergy and current and former members of the Board in casual surroundings.



In addition, Canon Stuart Pike and the Property Manager for the Close, Stan Moneta, expressed their appreciation for the dedicated and careful services which the recently retired superintendent, Irene (and her husband Gary) had provided to the residents over many years, by maintaining a safe, clean, and comfortable environment.

We also welcomed the new on-site superintendent, Raylene Collins (and her husband David) to their new home and position at St. Luke's Close. We wish them well as they assume their new responsibilities and become part of the wider St. Luke's community.



Submitted by David Beck



Stuart, Sheila & Debra Roberts

Stan Moneta, Sherwood Park Property Management, with 2 residents of St. Luke's Close & tenant representatives



David Collins, Raylene Collins on-site Superintendent & Stan Moneta, Sherwood Property Management

Leonel, Sheila enjoying chatting with 2 of the Close residents



TruEarth PRODUCTS

Tru Earth Exciting Update from Outreach Mishamikoweesh Water Project...St. Luke's Outreach project that benefits PWRDF's Mishamikoweesh Water Partnership in Northern Ontario & Manitoba now has many more eco-friendly products from which to choose. You can now order from Eco-Collective as well as Tru-Earth!



St. Luke's earns a 20% commission on each order from either site to support this project. It's easy to order using one of the following links: tru-earth.sjv.io/StLukesAnglicanChurch or ecoc.sjv.io/StLukesChurch

Be sure to try the Platinum Laundry Strips!

Contact Rosemary Armstrong (rosemarymarmstrong@gmail.com) for more information

ST. MATTHEW'S CHRISTMAS FAMILIES— has a new name!



HOLIDAY HOPE—Helping Families & Seniors Thrive this Season

Once again this year, we are grateful that Veronica Richards-Miller has agreed to head up this amazing annual effort which ensures that families & seniors in need can experience the joy of Christmas.

Please watch the bulletin for updates from Veronica as to when you can sign up in the Parish Hall to donate what is needed & when it has to be brought to the church for distribution.

Thank you for your generosity & thank you to Veronica for leading us once again!

CHURCH MINDERS

With the construction of the washroom in the Narthex, Church Minding has been suspended for a couple of months. Once the washroom is completed, the Minders will be delighted to get back to welcoming people who wish to visit the church for a quiet time of prayer & meditation or to explore our beautiful facility.

If you are interested in this unique volunteer opportunity to share your love of St. Luke's please contact Avril Drake.



EL HOGAR SERVICE TEAM

We had lots of interest in our planned trip to Honduras in 2025 but unfortunately in the end we didn't have enough firm commitments so we have cancelled that trip & will plan to go in 2026. We are disappointed as are our hosts in Honduras.

Our fundraising to support these amazing children however is continuing. We anticipate that by the time this newsletter reaches you, sales of our Christmas products will be just about finished & that you will be enjoying our gingerbread, chocolate bark & Honduran coffee either yourself or by your fortunate family & friends who received them as gifts. Thank you so much for your amazing support!

There has been a lot of exciting news at El Hogar especially around El Hogar's STEAM Education Journey and Global Opportunities project.

STEAM programmes (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) are an important part of education worldwide. In September, grade 12 students Angie & Henry were part of the team representing Honduras that competed in the first Global Team Challenge, an Olympics-style international Robotics competition in Greece that was a transformative opportunity for everyone involved.



It not only highlights their **exceptional talent and hard work** but also **breaks down barriers**, showing that **potential and determination can transcend economic and social limitations**. This experience empowers them to **dream bigger**, serves as an **inspiration** to their peers, and reinforces the belief that **with the right support and opportunities, they can achieve greatness on an international stage**.

Your continued support helps these children achieve amazing things & helps them secure a better future for themselves & their families. **¡Muchisimas Gracias!**

For more information please contact Ros. & Rick Reycraft 905 635-3976
rosreycraft@hotmail.com or Janice Skafel 905 332-0837 janice.skafel@outlook.com.

Also, check out the website. www.elhogarcanada.ca

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL—A new initiative for the Ministry of Outreach!

"Only when the last prisoner of conscience has been freed, when the last torture chamber has been

closed, when the United Nations Declaration of Hu-

man Rights is a reality for the world's people, will our work be done." -- **Peter Benenson [1921-2005] -- Founder of Amnesty International¹**



As announced in the fall newsletter, the members of Outreach have decided to look into another opportunity to make a difference to our communities—locally, nationally & internationally. We will start by inviting a representative from Amnesty International to join us for an Advocacy Breakfast to see where our efforts might be directed.

Please watch for updates in the bulletin.

May Frank

PRDF has chosen a new name - ALONGSIDE HOPE

After almost two years of listening together and planning, PWRDF has chosen a new name, **Alongside Hope**. It was approved, along with its French equivalent, **Auprès de l'espoir**, at a Special Members meeting held Tuesday, October 15, 4 p.m. ET, in accordance with our corporate bylaws. In 2022, we selected a Task Team of staff, board members and volunteers from across Canada. This team gathered several times on Zoom with the goal of identifying a compelling name – a name that better reflects our work, and one that would sustain our work into the future. In these and other discussions with stakeholders and staff, one dominant theme emerged: **partnership**.

The issue of changing PWRDF's name to one that is easier to say and less confusing has been ever-present for many years. In 2022, the PWRDF Board approved a budget and the creation of a Task Team to identify a new name for PWRDF that would honour its history as the Anglican Church of Canada's agency for international development and humanitarian response, but would also carry it into the future.

In 1958, a mining disaster in **Springhill**, N.S. compelled Anglicans across the country to donate money to support the affected families. One year later, The Primate's World Relief Fund was established at General Synod, to create an agency that would respond to emergencies on behalf of Anglicans in Canada. In 1969, the D was added for Development. In the last fiscal year, PWRDF worked with more than **70 partners in 32 countries**, and was recently named to the **2024 Charity Intelligence Top 100 Charities List**. The voting membership comprises Board members, Diocesan Representatives and PWRDF's Youth Council.

The Task Team was made up of 12 key volunteers from across the country, including members of the Board, Youth Council and PWRDF staffers. Cyan Solutions, a marketing and creative agency in Ottawa, led conversations with the Task Team, other volunteers and staff to inspire reflections and gain valuable insights. In all of these discussions, one clear and hopeful theme emerged: partnership.

We partner with funding agencies including Global Affairs Canada, businesses and a growing number of private and family foundations.

We partner with the Anglican Church of Canada, Anglican dioceses, spiritual ministries and ecclesiastical provinces, through their bishops and their PWRDF Representatives, who support our programs and invite us to spread the good news of PWRDF at synods and other meetings.

We partner with parish representatives, clergy and countless volunteers in the pews across the country, who share our stories and engage others in our work.

We partner with our generous donors, without whose support none of our partners' work would be possible.

This theme of partnership or accompaniment is woven throughout the Bible, but the task team was drawn to the story of the road to Emmaus. Days after Jesus died, the disciples were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus, still grieving their loss. As Luke writes, the resurrected Jesus came alongside them, but they did not know it was him. Jesus travelled with them and then accepted their hospitality to dine with them. In the breaking of bread, their eyes were opened and they recognized him. When we walk alongside one another, Jesus accompanies us. We are strengthened and comforted and recognize Jesus when we share in his feast.

To donate to PWRDF please make a cheque payable to St Luke's church and on the memo line put Gaza Hospital or e-transfer to St .Lukes office. Submitted by Jackie Maver 905 681-6097 or hew.maver@sympatico.ca Thank you.

Also check the annual World of Gifts for gift ideas.



Our Church Directory has been Online for a few months now!

But are you in it?

If we have your correct email information you can view our church directory online or via the FREE mobile app today.

Pictures make it so much easier to identify & remember whom you met & sat next to in church last week. Your photo will make it easier for them too.

We are continuing to add parishioners & we don't want to miss you.



Wendy & Ros have been working on the directory.

Who is who?



Is this Wendy?

Is this Ros?



To view the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "**Instant Church Directory**" to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

Need help or have questions?

Contact:

Wendy Murray 905 330-4258 wmurray4@cogeco.ca

Ros Reycraft 905 635-3976 rosreycraft@hotmail.com



Our Church Directory is powered by [Instant Church Directory](https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com). 45

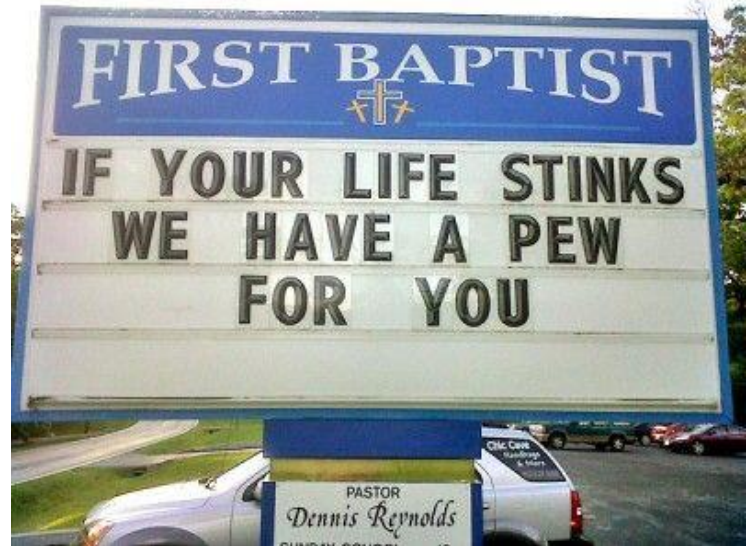
Editor's Sense of Humour

Your Reward (or Punishment) for Reading to the End

The pastor is walking down the street one day when he notices a small boy trying to use the doorbell on a house across the street. However, the boy is very small and the doorbell is too high for him to reach.

After watching the boy's efforts for some time the pastor walks across the street up to the little fellow and rings the doorbell.

Kneeling down next to the child, the pastor smiles and asks, "And now what, my little man?" To which the boy replies, "Run!"



A little girl asked her mother, "Where did people come from?"

Her mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children and that's how all mankind was made."

A couple of days later she asked her father the same question.

The father answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys, which the human race evolved from."

The confused little girl returned to her mother and said, "Mommy, how is it possible that you told me that we were created by God, and Daddy said we came from monkeys?"

The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."



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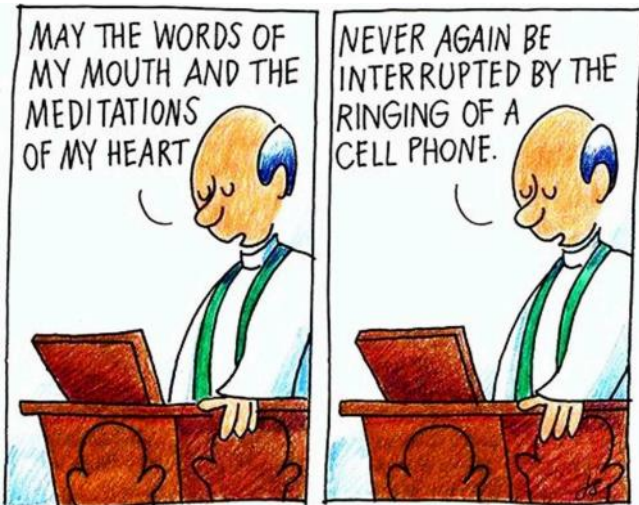
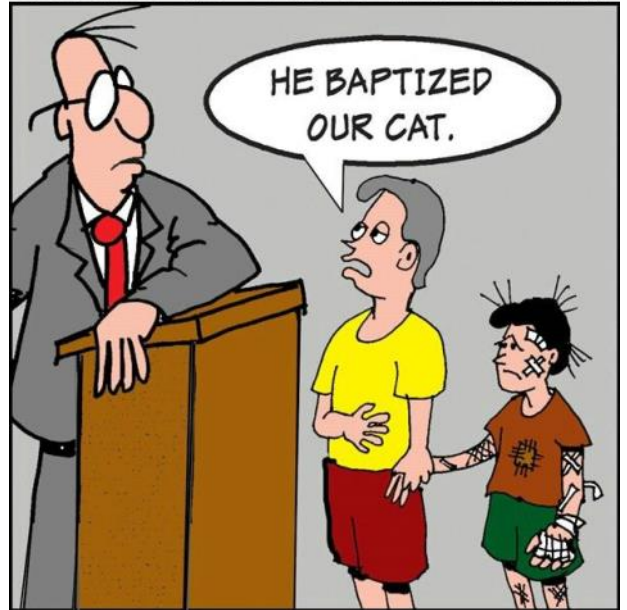
**"If you blow out all the candles,
do you get your prayers
answered?"**

Editor's Sense of Humour

Your Reward (or Punishment) for Reading to the End



CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news.

The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program.

The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

A burglar broke into a home and was looking around. He heard a soft voice say, "Jesus is watching you". Thinking it was just his imagination, he continued his search. Again the voice said "Jesus is watching you". He turned his flashlight around and saw a parrot in a cage. He asked the parrot if he was the one talking and the parrot said, "yes." He asked the parrot what his name was and the parrot said, "Moses." The burglar asked, "what kind of people would name a parrot Moses?" The parrot said, "the same kind of people who would name their German Shepherd Jesus".



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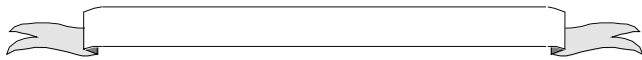
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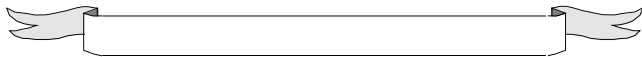
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If you would like to submit an article or photograph for this publication, please e-mail newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca

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