

# **ST. LUKE'S**

***NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2025***



(Photo by D Kew)

## **Celebrating our Servers**

(See page 19)

**Calendar of Events and Services Page 15**



## Rector's Message

There are moments in life when words seem to fail – even for someone whose life has been about words – sermons and proclamations about the Gospel message; written words, spoken words, words of encouragement and words of challenge. But now words are not enough to convey all that I'm feeling as time marches on toward my leaving this amazing parish and all of you, my parishioners. You have been a great blessing to me and to my family. It has been an honour to serve as your rector and spiritual leader in this place.



We knew 16 and a half years ago when we started ministry at St. Luke's that it was a very special parish. We had heard rumours! We weren't totally prepared for the sheer volume of all the good works and activities in which the good people of St. Luke's were engaged. And I've watched it all only increase with new outreach and ministries - so well organized and carried out.

My goal has always been to lead a parish that not only preaches the good news of the Gospel, but actually lives the good news – walks the way of Jesus – and makes a difference in the wider community. All of you, with your gifts, your energy, your faith, your easy way of working together in companionship, has made this goal easy for me. We have all been fed together to do our work by our weekly gathering together in worship and experiencing the body of Christ in the eucharist, so that we can be the body of Christ in the rest of our week, with an outwardly-directed orientation. It has been noticed by the wider community of Burlington.

Besides Lent, Holy Week and Easter, there will be lots to do in these few months before I leave. My last Sunday will be the 11th of May, my last service will be the following Wednesday, the 14th and my last day in office will be the 15th. During this time, we will be working on our Mission Action Plan (MAP 2.0) which will help us dream about the future and how we will direct our attention to growing this parish, not only in terms of growing our membership numerically, but even more importantly growing ourselves in faith and grace.

Please read on in the pages that follow to see what has been happening and what will be happening. I hope you can be moved to perhaps join a new ministry or group so that you can live the good news of the Gospel more fully through St. Luke's.

I don't have the right words to express the depth of my gratitude for the blessing you have been to me and to the wider community. I am looking forward to knowing what else God has in mind for me in the future in retirement.

Blessings and peace to you.

Your brother in Christ,

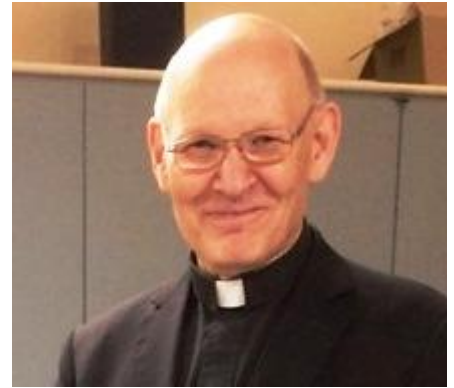
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stuart".

Canon Stuart Pike  
Rector

## From the Rev. Michael Coren

### A Belated Merry Christmas

I wasn't raised in a Christian family and as a child all I knew was that Father Christmas was munificent if judgmental, Oliver Cromwell once stole our puddings, and the nice people next door always came home uncharacteristically late on Christmas Eve. I'm now ambivalent about Cromwell, have lost touch with our church-going neighbours, but still think Santa is far too intolerant of the naughty. I also believe that God became incarnate as a baby 2000 years ago, preached a revolutionary doctrine of love, grace, forgiveness, and salvation, and that the Christmas story is authentic and transforming.



It may not have been in December, the calendar may be out by a couple of years, and some of the religious trappings could well be more medieval than ancient. What matters, however, isn't precisely *when* he was born but *that* he was born. The event is always disputed by the usual terribly clever or angry people but I've never found their arguments convincing. I've concerns – faith at its best should be a dialogue – but no serious doubts.

That Jesus lived isn't questioned by authentic scholars. You can deny his claims but not his existence. Historian Tacitus, governor Pliny, Jewish general and chronicler Josephus all refer to him. The latter had some of his words edited to make them appear more Christian but all three, and others, speak of the man who was causing such a fuss in 1<sup>st</sup>-century Galilee and Judea. Victorian scholars were convinced that as archeological, historical, and linguistic evidence unfolded the Christian story would evaporate. The opposite has happened. It must depress militant atheists that almost every pertinent fact we discover seems to help rather than hinder our case. I'll pray for them.

Jesus' earthly life ends with crucifixion, a judicial murder for slaves but never Roman citizens. Seneca wrote, "You must never mention crucifixion in polite company." The resurrection? Mark's Gospel was likely written between AD 64 and 72, just 30 years after it all happened, and there were already people willing to die for what they saw. People give their lives for the most hideous causes but do so because they believe. The early Christian martyrs were motivated not by stories but by what they actually witnessed. Perhaps all of them were absurdly credulous or just deranged. Yes, every single one!

Your beliefs are entirely up to you, thank God, but the traditional Christmas-time punching down on those of us who believe has become as stale as it is pointless. We don't live in a theocracy, Christians aren't a threat, and public discourse deserves better. Oh, and Merry Christmas.

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

I Thessalonians 5.18

St. Luke's is, above all things, a church, a community of people called out of the world to worship, witness, and serve. To me, the most distinctive aspect of this identity of ours is concerned with being a worshipping community.



For most Anglican churches, the core and heart of worship lives with the celebration of Holy Communion, or Holy Eucharist. Literally, our giving thanks, our setting aside and recalling in the Holy Spirit of the saving acts of God in Jesus.

In this sense, we Christians give thanks. We put things aside, and remember, and celebrate to God for all things, as the Apostle teaches us.. And we certainly give thanks, and recall, and rejoice before God for one another.

There is much that the church and her members do for the love of God. While it is our time, treasure, and talent that are visibly involved, it is all prompted and set ablaze by the grace of God, moving us to give of ourselves, for the sake of the Gospel and the life and ministry of his church.

And this is perhaps a long way to encourage us all to give thanks to God for one another, even as we carry on together with the ministry with which we've been entrusted as members of the Church.

Giving thanks to God for one another goes far beyond any personal thanks and recognition we might want to give. Important as those are, by giving thanks to God, we are more fully able to, even in our thanksgiving, point to Him who is the source and inspiration for anything we say and do as members of the church.

And I mean, to give thanks to God for one another, both in our personal prayers and especially in the worship of the church gathered. We give thanks to God for that what is noticeable and makes a difference in others. Also we give thanks for the humble, every-day character of our mutual love and faithful service.

We point to God in our joy, that we may acknowledge the source of all blessings, as we lift those in whom we see that source at work, in both the small and the great things.

With my prayers and thanksgiving for you all,

Your friend,

*Leonel*

Pastoral Associate, *St. Luke's Anglican Church*  
Burlington, Ontario 289 887 7522 (*Emergencies*)

## Warden's Newsletter Report

Our 190th year as a parish was a success thanks to the amazing people of St. Luke's. We saw many new members, a 190th anniversary celebration and special Parish Dinner, expanded outreach, worship, and parish life programs, many of which you can read about in this newsletter. The return of the Pancake Supper, Spring Garage Sale, first since COVID were also important milestones. There are challenges ahead for 2025 but St. Luke's people will work together to build on our successes.



- **Accessible Washroom Completion:** The Accessible Washroom in the church entry was completed, fully funded by a generous bequest to the building fund.
- **Church Avenue Development:** The Church Avenue Committee plans to develop the land into a park-like setting with the City's partnership, aiming to raise \$200,000 to \$300,000 through grants and sponsorships. St. Luke's retains full ownership and access to parking.
- **Heritage Committee Concerns:** The Heritage Committee is working with the City on designating St. Luke's as a heritage asset, with concerns about City control over changes to the property.
- **Attracting Young Families:** Efforts to attract young families include creating a child-friendly area, weekly Sunday schools, and hiring a part-time Sunday School co-ordinator. We are still looking for volunteers to work along side the co-ordinator.
- **Communications Committee:** This Committee has been formed to enhance communications within the parish and the community. Despite having much to offer, spreading the word has been challenging. We've added a new bulletin board for St. Luke's and the community, and our website will be updated. We plan to connect with community networks and social media. Expect significant improvements in 2025.
- **Mission Action Plan 2025:** We plan to update St. Luke's Mission Action Plan to chart a path for the future.
- **2025 Challenge:** With Stuart's well-deserved retirement coming mid May, our challenge will be to find and on-board his replacement and keep St. Luke's growing and thriving at the same time. We are sure we can depend on St. Luke's parishioners stepping up and meeting this challenge. We should all be relieved to know that the diocese has a tried and proven process for doing this based on years of experience and will support us.

Warden's Report continued .....

Here is a summary of the process to fill the rector position:

- The first step is a "leave-taking" phase, where we can celebrate with Stuart the many accomplishments of his 16-year ministry with us.
- An interim pastor is then appointed by the bishop to assume the rector's responsibilities until a new rector is appointed. This first transition of leadership will take advantage of our St. Luke's welcoming skills and certainly some adjustments and flexibility. Often this person will have training in working with congregations to prepare for identifying a successful incumbent.
- A parochial committee, which includes wardens and synod representatives, is formed to facilitate the transition. The committee works with the interim pastor to ensure a smooth transition. The committee is also responsible for informing the congregation about the interim process through regular communications.
- The diocese will provide experienced support to the parochial committee to establish a plan for self-study. The self-study process, led by the parochial committee and interim pastor, involves describing the parish's current state and discerning its future mission. This will be important input to identifying the skills and abilities we will be looking for in our next rector. Our plans for an update to our Mission Action Plan will be a particularly important part of this.
- The position of rector is then advertised, and interested clergy apply to the bishop. The parochial committee and bishop review potential candidates approved by the bishop. After interviews, visits, etc. the parochial committee recommends a preferred candidate to the bishop who makes the offer.
- The final task for the parochial committee is to ensure the new rector has everything needed for a smooth start.

I want to thank Rick Reycraft for his leadership on Executive. He drove many of the initiatives this year and we would not be where we are today without him. He has big shoes to fill and luckily there are four sets of Wardens' feet to fill them. He has left excellent plans to guide the year ahead and I know he will willingly share his wisdom and expertise as needed as we move forward.

Melanie Walker - Rector's Warden

*Letter From Bishop Susan Read to the Congregation January 26,  
2025 Announcing Reverend Stuart's Retirement*



**OFFICE OF THE BISHOP OF NIAGARA**  
**Anglican Church of Canada**

January 23, 2025

**TO THE PEOPLE OF ST. LUKE'S, BURLINGTON**  
**TO BE READ AT ALL SERVICES ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025**

I am writing to let you know that I have received and accepted The Reverend Canon Stuart Pike's request to retire. He will be concluding his role as rector of St. Luke's, Burlington, effective June 1, 2025.

Over the course of his priestly vocation, Stuart's ministry has been marked by an unwavering dedication to parish ministry. His ministry has been a blessing to countless people and many parishes in our diocese, as well as the Diocese of Quebec. As parishioners, you have been blessed to have seen his many administrative and spiritual gifts up close and have your faith nurtured through his ministry.

I know this news will bring with it a mix of emotions, and he will be greatly missed at St. Luke's. I trust you will find an opportunity to wish him well and express your thanks for his ministry. I expect that Stuart's last Sunday at the parish will be May 11, 2025. His last day in the office will be May 15, with the remainder of the month taken as vacation.

In the coming weeks, I will be in touch with your wardens to begin discernment about the process for your parish's future ordained leadership. For now, please know that I am holding you in prayer as you begin to make your way through this time of transition and listen for the Spirit's leading.

Sincerely,

*† Susan Niagara*

Bishop of Niagara

cc: The Reverend Canon Stuart Pike  
The Reverend Dr. Leonel Abaroa- Boloña  
The Reverend Michael Coren  
The Reverend Deacon Sheila Plant  
The Churchwardens  
The Venerable Jeff Ward, Archdeacon of Trafalgar  
The Reverend Cheryl Barker, Regional Dean of Trafalgar  
Diocesan Staff

*The Right Reverend Dr. Susan J. A. Bell*  
Cathedral Place, 252 James St. N., Hamilton, Ontario L8R 2L3  
Tel: 905-527-1316 Email: [bishop@niagaraanglican.ca](mailto:bishop@niagaraanglican.ca)



## *From the Deacon*

Over the last several years, I have read often the readings of Steven Charleston, a retired Episcopalian priest, but also a Choctaw elder and spiritual explorer. He explains that the Spirit speaks to him and every day he puts pen to paper thoughts and messages and then shares them with thousands of people.

His book, *The Spiritual Wheel*, is a collection of more than two hundred meditations that introduce us to the Spirit Wheel and the Four Directions that ground Native Spirituality: tradition, kinship, vision and balance. The Spirit Wheel is one of the names that Indigenous people give to the life we inhabit together.

Charleston says:

“I stand in the midst of the creation’s wheel and watch in wonder the quiet majesty of its turning. We are in the care of a love without limit or definition under the protection of a love that never looks away.”

I share with you two of the meditations of Charleston, both in the tradition of the Ancestors.



### “Let Evening Find Me”

It is a good day to live.

My ancestors were unafraid to make the spiritual journey

When the time came

Accepting it as a good day to die.

They saw every other day as a good day to live.

Let me embrace each dawn as a gift.

Let me walk the hours of the day unafraid

With grace and faith unbounded.

Let evening find me close to those I love

Warming my soul by the fires of their laughter.

Let me sleep believing tomorrow will be a blessing.



From the Deacon continued .....

**“Gift”**

I imagine many of us have small spiritual rituals  
We perform each day  
So often, in fact, that they become second nature.

One of mine occurs each morning,  
When I first open my eyes, I say quietly,  
“Thank you for giving me another day.”

This helps me never to take a single day for granted  
But to always acknowledge the mystery of life  
Both around me and within me.

Life is a gift.  
We may each recognize a different source for that gift  
But we all can be thankful  
For the simple joy of opening our eyes.

--Steven Charleston  
“The Spirit Wheel”

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**BIBLE STUDY**



The bible study participants meet on Zoom on Mondays at 1:00 PM under the leadership of Rev. Sheila Plant.

After reading a passage from our bibles a lively discussion follows, often in terms of deciphering the meaning behind or the message we are to take from the chapter. Usually there are questions to be answered regarding location, or the translation of the aspect of events taking place in a time with different customs and culture from our present day.

The group reviews the meaning behind these events.

Participating in bible study has broadened my sense of the stories in the bible and made studying the bible relate to my life in today’s terms.

Join us and you too will become familiar with the bible in a whole new way.

## The Many Gifts of Stuart



Stuart and His Biker Gang  
Christmas Market Greeter  
Joseph and the Technicolour Dream Coat  
Scotch and Cigar Event  
Louisa and Stuart at El Hogar  
Welcoming a New Server



## St. Luke's Christmas Market 2024



As we move forward into 2025, our Christmas Market is now in the rear view mirror.

Thanks to the many, many volunteers, it was a huge success. Bob Bruce and I were so grateful to every single person who stepped forward to donate their time and talents for this annual event.

### **Before the day:**

The Great Hall was transformed as volunteers worked to put up trees, banners, move furniture, haul tables....all in preparation for this annual event.

### **On the day:**

The Great Hall was full of wonderful treats, frozen food, knitted garments, ornaments, gingerbread churches, woodcraft....the list goes on. The parlour put antique stores to shame as we displayed many wonderful items for purchase. Everything was beautifully displayed and many people worked hard to label, research and price the various items we had. There was a run on our famous tourtières and lots of happy people went home with multiple pies.

The jewelry table dazzled with all sorts of accessories including handbags. The wrapping table was kept busy as they carefully wrapped items that had been purchased in the Parlour Treasure Room. Other items were also wrapped to ensure safe transportation home.

The 190th swags and calendars were hot items as were the Advent puzzles. The cloth bags flew off the table so that people could use them for their purchased items. The baked goods were a hot item as were the mincemeat tarts and items in the food emporium.

People browsed the woodcraft table and knitted items looking for that perfect gift.

The Christmas Ornament table was a hive of activity as people found gently used items to add to their décor at home. Lots of items here to make their own centrepiece or display.

The counting room upstairs was kept busy as they counted the money as it came in.

The kitchen was a busy place as copious amounts of coffee, tea, sandwiches and fruit were available for volunteers needing a break. A highly successful day!

### **And after the day:**

The Great Hall was returned to its original space after Epiphany as trees, decorations, banners and snowflakes came down.....ready for next year.

We look forward to Nov. 22, 2025 for our next market and plans are well underway as different groups start thinking about what they would like to do.

Bob and I would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who made the market a truly spectacular experience.

Sheila Plant

Bob Bruce

# Christmas Market 2024

A Great Time Was Had By All!!



## “On the Prayer List”

Daryl Wilson

*“Just a Little List, Rehearsed Each Week Out Loud With Such an Impact”*

August 20th, 2023, was a Sunday. At 6am I headed down my front steps for the Uber waiting at the end of the driveway for a business trip to Quebec City. Halfway down the steps I thought to myself “you are going to fall over”, “you can’t stand up for some reason”. I slumped down beside the car and sent the Uber away. An hour later I let Janice take me to the hospital and two hours after that, the doctor came and told me “You have leukemia”. The following Sunday, I found myself on a list I never thought I would join any time soon – “the prayer list”.

As my name, along with others has been mentioned these past 18 months, I have learned to appreciate this practice in a new way.

The “Prayer List”:

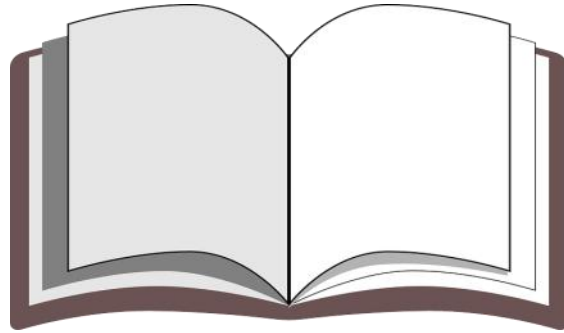
- Reminds us that God is touched with the feeling of our “infirmities”
- Encourages us that God not only “feels” but knows
- Enables the process of pastoral care by clergy and fellow parishioners
- Assures the sick they are not forgotten
- Gives impetus for others to check in over the long haul
- Comforts us that we are not alone in suffering
- Frames life for everyone as a constant mix of consolation and desolation
- Soothes the soul in drawing us all nearer to God
- Touches off prayer not just on Sunday morning but other times too

Interestingly I had been lately wondering if it was time to come off the list. Last Sunday Sheila asked me if she could take me off the list. I hesitated a little. I have appreciated being “on the list”. My journey with Leukemia is not over yet. I remain in weekly chemo treatment until Sept 2025. But the truth is, I have been in remission for over a year and the doctor tells me I am over the hump. It is time indeed to come off the list as I make ready for my post cancer new life later this year.

Sincere thanks to all of you and the pastoral team at St. Lukes, for your care, visits, food, kindness and prayers. This “list” is a powerful thing in our community.

Thanks be to God!

# *Life Passages*



## **November**

Gail Wright  
Sophie Hacala  
Shirley Greer

## **December**

Doug Woodward  
Richard Drummond  
Richard Truman  
Clay Hall

## **January**

Bill Ramage  
Kate Kemp  
Nancy Notrianni

*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.”*

## Calendar of Events and Service

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICES AND EVENTS</u>
March 2	8:15 and 10:00 am 3:00 pm	Transfiguration: Holy Eucharist Concert in the Church—Kokoco Singers (page 26)
March 4	5:00 to 7:00 pm	Pancake Supper (page 16)
March 5	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday: Ashes with Communion Ash Wednesday: Ashes with Eucharist
March 9	8:15 and 10:00 am	Lent 1: Holy Eucharist
March 13	11:30 am	Speaker's Lunch (Page 21)
March 14	7:00 pm	Taizé on-line only
March 16	8:15 and 10:00 am	Lent 2: Holy Eucharist Touitières Sales after the service (see page 20)
March 23	8:15 am 10:00 am	Lent 3: Holy Eucharist Lent 3: Celtic Eucharist
March 30	8:15 and 10:00 am	Lent 4: Mothering Sunday Holy Eucharist
April 6	8:15 and 10:00 am	Lent 5: Holy Eucharist
April 10	11:30 am	Speaker's Lunch (page 21)
April 11	7:00 pm	Taizé on-line only
April 13	8:15 and 10:00 am	Palm/Passion Sunday: Eucharist with Palms
April 14	10:00 am	Holy Monday: Eucharist
April 15	10:00 am	Holy Tuesday: Tenebrae
April 16	10:00 am	Holy Wednesday: Communion
April 17	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday: Eucharist & Washing of Hands
April 18	10:00 am	Good Friday: Solemn Symbols Service
April 19	7:00 pm	Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil
April 20	8:15 am	Easter Day: Holy Communion
April 20	10:00 am	Easter Day: Holy Eucharist
April 26	6:00 pm	Music at St, Luke's in Parish Hall (page 26)
April 27	8:15 and 10:00am	Easter 2: Holy Eucharist
May 4	8:15 and 10:00am	Easter 3: Holy Eucharist
May 8	11:30 am	Speaker's Lunch (page 21)
May 9	7:00 pm	Taizé on-line only
May 11	8:15 and 10:00am	Easter 4: Holy Eucharist
May 18	8:15 and 10:am	Easter 5: Holy Eucharist
May 25	8:15 am 10:00 am	Easter 6: Holy Eucharist Easter 6: Celtic Eucharist

For schedule of the Community Lunch and Social Hour see page 39 .

- Evening prayer twice a week is available on-line only.
- The Sunday 10:00 am is live-streamed on the church website under “Virtual Service” or on our YouTube channel .
- Sunday 10:00 am, Evening Prayer services, Taizé, and other on-line services can be played **at any time** after the time indicated. 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 video so that you can follow along.



## THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE

### ST. LUKE'S 2025 PANCAKE SUPPER

March 4th, 2025

St. Luke's Great Hall  
1382 Ontario Street

from 5:00 to 7:00pm

ADULTS: \$12.00    CHILDREN: \$6.00    (Children under 6 yrs. FREE)

FAMILIES: \$30.00 (parents and children under 21)

PANCAKES !

SAUSAGES !    BACON !

COFFEE/TEA !

POP !

DESSERT !





## Annual Vestry Sunday—February 9th, 2025



Good Food,  
Good Music,  
Good Presentations  
Lots of annual  
business completed



### **Changes Announced and Elected at Vestry (partial list)**

Rector's Warden—Melanie Walker

People's Warden—Mahira Samarasinghe

Deputy Rector's Warden— Ron Danielsen

Deputy People's Warden—Wendy Murray

Synod Delegates—Bob Bruce & Rosemary Armstrong

Parish Life Division Chair—Sandra Tiernay

Stewardship—Bob Osborne

Parish Council Members at Large—May Frank, Heather White, Jeremy Tatum

(No change to Outreach, Property, Worship, Pastoral Care, Youth Synod delegates, Youth Christian Education leadership)

# **WANTED**

**CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS  
BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ITEMS TO DONATE AT  
THE 2025 ST. LUKE'S WORLD FAMOUS  
HUGE COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE!**

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## **WRANGLE YOUR USED ITEMS**

**Electronics • Plants • Vintage • Jewelry • Books  
Furniture • Household Items • Toys • Clothing**

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## **MOSEY ON UP TO VOLUNTEER**

**To be Deputized contact Mark Edwards at  
STLUKESGARAGESALE@GMAIL.COM**

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## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**SATURDAY, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 8am to 1pm  
St Luke's Anglican Church Hall 1382 Ontario St  
Be there or we'll send out a search party!**

## Christmas Services



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## Servers' Sunday

David Micks Retires and Louisa Pike Installed as Head Server (Photos by D Kew)



## Parish Life Report



After months of drawing inward over the winter, taking time for rest and renewal, I always think of Spring as a time of re-emergence and welcome colour returning to the world. There will be many Parish Life activities on offer in the coming months, opportunities to get together socially, and / or to serve by volunteering in a good cause.

Please check out the reports from the various Parish Life group leaders contained within.

This is my last act as Parish Life Chair, since I am standing down from Parish Council after 10 years. It has been my pleasure getting to know so many of you in this way, It is also my pleasure to announce that my replacement as Parish Life Chair will be Sandra Tiernay, whom you will be hearing from in the near future!

Yours in Christ    Lesley Emery    Parish Life Chair

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## PIE MAKERS

The Pie Makers had another very successful year in 2024, thanks to your continued support. We are hard at work again, refilling our empty freezers. Our first sale of the year will be Sunday, March 16th following both services. There will be 2 other sales during the year, one in June and one in October, followed by the Christmas Market in November. We look forward to seeing you in 2025! Please watch for bulletin announcements and let your friends and family know.



Thank you.

Submitted by Sandra Tiernay

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## St. Luke's Quilter's Guild News

We are currently working on a baby quilt that will be completed by spring! It will be available for purchase, so stay tuned!

We have another 2 smaller quilt projects to work on this year!

Submitted by Melissa Kennedy



## “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 11:30 am 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 continues to offer a wide variety of speakers over the winter & spring period:  
February 13th – In recognition of Black Heritage Month, Richelle Papin will to share her experiences, challenges, memories and strengths about growing up as a person of colour in Burlington, Halton and Southern Ontario.

March 13th - Halton/Hamilton Source Water Protection Program

April 10th – Burlington Fire Department

May 8th – “What is Mental Health” with Melanie McGregor & Sandra Nolan Boshell

We pause for the summer months (June, July & August) to enjoy a break and look forward to seeing you in September.

We continue to be pleased at the growing interest and attendance at the lunches, in particular by non-parishioners. 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](mailto: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.

Submitted by Tim Tiernay

Speaker's Lunch continued .....



John Bullen from the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum talks about the AVRO Lancaster, during our Remembrance Day themed lunch. November 7th, 2024



Mark McNeil performs one of his own (humourous) songs about Hamilton history.

January 9th, 2025

## Knitters & Friends Living on the Edge by Mary Taslimi



Last newsletter piece missed a couple of very important details from the parish auction at St. Luke's 180th anniversary dinner: Mavis Brown's two items! Mavis contributed a beautiful hand-made bear, which raised \$140, and a cozy Winnie-the-Pooh embroidered blanket which raised \$100 (see photos).



Part of any knitting project is some consideration for the cast on (the beginning), the cast off (the end), and the edges (if the project is a scarf, shawl, blanket, or similar variation on a triangle or rectangle). Possibilities abound for each element.

For beginning, you can get a firm edge with a cable cast-on. You may need a stretchier cast-on if you're knitting a top-down sweater and will need to be able to get your head through the neck hole with which you're starting, or if you're knitting a toque and casting on at the brim. If you'll need to revisit your cast-on edge for some reason, such as picking up and knitting a border, your pattern will likely direct you to use a provisional cast-on—in which you use waste yarn to cast on, so that you can pull it out later and pick up the “live” stitches to begin working with them again. Lace often uses a knitted cast-on, which provides a slightly decorative edge. Backwards-loop cast-ons are often used mid-project when extra stitches must be added for some reason.

In the last newsletter, Mary Taslimi was struggling with a new method (a knit 2, purl 2, tubular cast on), of which even more experienced knitters in the group had not heard. After an assist from Lois Carey and multiple attempts, Mary finally cast on successfully (and tubularly!), and she is now making headway with the body of the scarf (see photo).



This particular pattern, the “Cottage Scarf” by Jared Flood, also has a worked-as-you-go icord edging. Edges are also a fascinating element of knitted pieces. Icord (short for “idiot cord”, for some reason?!) is just one option for those who wish to create a more polished look to a scarf, shawl, or blanket.

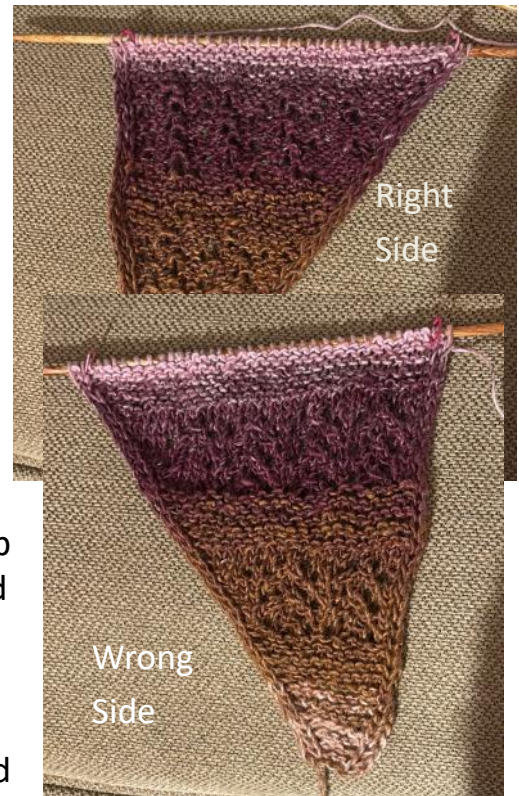
Knitters continued .....

Here's a link to an explanation on how to work an icord edge as you go:

<https://deviousknitter.com/tips-tricks-for-devious-knitters-how-to-knit-an-i-cord-edge-as-you-go-and-why-you-might-want-to/>

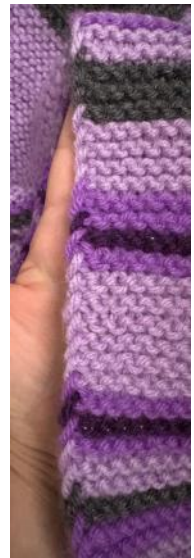
Simply slipping the first stitch of each row purl-wise with yarn in front also creates a tidy edge, although this does create a colour "jog" if you are making a striped item (see photo).

One of the most effective and elegant yet simple work-as-you-go edges is the KSK/SKS edge, in which you add a total of six stitches to your cast-on, and then for the first three and last three stitches of the right side of your work, Knit the first stitch, Slip the next stitch with yarn in front, take the yarn to the back and Knit the third stitch. Then when you turn to work your way back, for the first three and last three stitches, you will Slip the first, Knit the second, and Slip the third. This creates a pleasing effect on both the right and wrong sides of your piece. (see photos)



This link explains it well: <https://www.asatricosa.com/ksk/> Sometimes a pattern includes an edging. This may be knitted separately and sewn on or knitted as part of the project as you go, and may be as simple as a few stitches of garter stitch or moss stitch, or as complicated (not really!) as the written ruffles for the "Ozma shawl" (see photo), in which the ruffled effect is achieved with short rows (a topic for another newsletter...!).

There are many different ways to cast/bind off a project as well, from a simple cable cast-off to a picot bind-off (in which you cast on and then cast off some extra stitches as you go, to create a row of bumps or tips along the cast-off edge) to the famous Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy Bind-Off (which you can see demonstrated here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-GqitE8Qt8> ), ideal for top-up sweaters when you need a stretchy neck hole or for any item that needs to have some give. And...a tubular cast-off, which Mary is going to tackle once the body of the Cottage Scarf is complete...!



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.



Knitters and Friends continued .....



Thread Painting by Mavis Brown

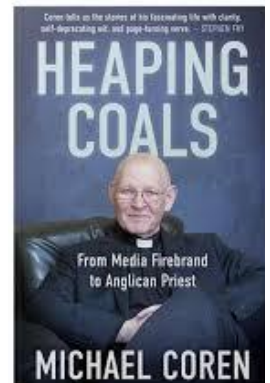


Journal Cover by Mavis Brown

## St. Luke's Library News

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

We have some missing books from the library that were not signed out. We are hoping these books will be returned to our library soon. This is a friendly reminder that if you would like to borrow a book from the library, please take the card from the back of the book and fill out the date, your name and telephone number. Please place the card in our box on the table, so that we may follow up on books that have been signed out for an extended period of time.



We purchased Michael Coren's most recent book/autobiography, "Heaping Coals" in the fall. Here's what we have to say...

If you haven't had the pleasure of reading this book, you're missing out! From the first chapter and throughout the book it shows his vulnerability, is very informative and of course, highlights his sense of humour. Especially enjoyable to us were the deeply personal stories and photos that offered a new understanding of the man behind the collar. You'll learn a lot about his career struggles, the importance of perspective and what it takes to become a priest. Get your tissues ready as Michael offers a peek into his personal relationships with his family members, colleagues and treasured friends. We'd like to thank Michael for the gift of this beautifully written book.

Available to borrow at the St. Luke's Library, or purchase online or directly from Michael himself (\$25.00)

## Music at St. Luke's

We're looking forward to our Music at St. Luke's Spring 2025 events!

On Sunday, March 2nd we're pleased to present another of our Recital Series events in the church at 3PM. We'll be welcoming Guelph-based Kokoro Singers as they provide an uplifting programme of beautiful songs including Exultate Deo by Giovanni de Palestrina, Ukrainian Alleluia by Craig Courtney, Faure's Cantique de Jean Racine, Beautiful City from Godspell, Eric Whitacre's Sing Gently, and more.



This event will be in the church, uncatered, and at a much lower cost at \$20 for adults, and free admission for youth under 17!

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!

This last event of our season will again be catered by our favourite culinary professionals, Millcroft Catering, who always provide us with delicious dinners!

Submitted by Steve Pike for Music at St. Luke's Committee

# Proposed Heritage Designation of St. Luke's Church and Cemetery

By Dorothy Kew



(Photo by D. Kew)

In February 2023 representatives from the City of Burlington, comprised of John O'Reilly, Heritage Planner for the City, and two consultants from ASI, an archaeological firm, met with Canon Stuart Pike, Rosemary and Bill Armstrong, Kathleen Szoke, Heather and Roger White, Bob Bruce and Eric Vaicius to discuss possible heritage designation for St. Luke's church and cemetery. The St. Luke's representatives expressed their concerns that designation would interfere with future plans for the church, particularly the building of the accessible wash-room in the narthex. Furthermore, they argued that St. Luke's church, though one of the oldest buildings in Burlington, has gone through numerous changes to the structure over the years. Heritage designation might tie our hands if and when repairs or changes to the structure were needed.

Ontario Heritage Foundation plaque honouring Rev. Thomas Greene. (photo by D. Kew)

St. Luke's is already listed as a historical site, by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, though it should be noted that the heritage plaque honours the first Rector, the Reverend Thomas Greene, who served the congregation from 1838 till his death in 1870, as well as the church.



St. Luke's Heritage Committee was formed to continue meeting with the City of Burlington regarding heritage designation. The Committee is comprised of Rick Reycraft, Chair, Helen Bittner, Bob and Nan Bruce, Rosemary Armstrong, Kathleen Szoke, and myself.

Heritage Designation continued .....

We had a few meetings with John O'Reilly, and recently a new Heritage Planner, Chloe Richer, as John has moved on to other things. Chloe has drafted a By-Law to designate the church and cemetery under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Before going into some detail as to how this will affect the church, I should explain the reasons for the City's move to designate St. Luke's. In 2024 the Ontario Heritage Act was amended concerning the status of non-designated properties which are listed on a municipal Heritage Register. In the past a property could be entered on a municipality's list of heritage buildings (i.e. a heritage register) without being designated under the terms of the Ontario Heritage Act. The recent change to the Act states that municipalities have until January 1, 2027 to either remove the property from the register, or else have it designated. Thus, a property which might have been protected from development by virtue of being listed on the register, would now be no longer protected.

The City of Burlington is looking at the natural and cultural heritage of the downtown area of Burlington as a special area with a distinct character and ways in which it can be protected from further development. The results of the study carried out by the Planning Department can be found at <https://burlingtonpublishing.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=74244>

The Draft By-Law for St. Luke's contains a Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, and description of Heritage Attributes. Along with an introduction and description of the property, the statement of cultural heritage value contains the design or physical value – St. Luke's is a "representative example of the Carpenter Gothic style" and is the earliest example of such in Downtown Burlington.

Historically, the church is associated with the Brant Kerr and Bates families. As well there is the association with the Reverend Thomas Greene and his wife, Katherine, who planted the row of acacia trees along Church Avenue. The church is a landmark in Downtown Burlington. The Draft By-Law lists several attributes of the church, including the stained-glass windows, the steeply-pitched gable roof, the wood paneling in the nave and chancel, and the mature row of trees along each side of Church Avenue.



(Photos by Wendy Murray)

Heritage Designation continued .....

The Heritage Committee has explained to the City’s heritage planners our concerns regarding designation – would it tie our hands if we had to make repairs to the church? Would designation prevent that? On receipt of the terms of the Draft By-Law, Rick made the following comment in an email to the members of the Heritage Committee:

“We made the point with her (i.e. Chloe) that we did not see the need for a Heritage designation that would require approvals for future changes as the heritage treasure we have today has resulted from careful stewardship of the parishioners over the years, carefully balancing the need to keep the church relevant with the heritage characteristics. We see involving a third party, who does not have this dual focus, endangers the long-term viability of the church on the property. In any event, it will ultimately be the politicians who make the final decision and the recommendation to designate is almost certain. July/August is likely the timing for the official designation and council should consider this shortly thereafter.”

The Committee has found that both Heritage Planners, John O’Reilly and Chloe Richler, have worked to get our input and incorporate it in their work but both are limited by the requirements of the Provincial legislation. We shall wait to see the final copy of the By-Law to designate St. Luke’s church and cemetery.

\*\*\*\*\*

### An Interesting St. Luke’s Connection

Remember the Bishop who gave the Sermon at the Trump Inauguration Prayer Service? Bishop Mariann Budde was a member of our El Hogar Service Team trip in April 2024.



St. Luke’s El Hogar team with Bishop Mariann Budde center right

## Kid's Corner Update

We are excited to share that weekly Sunday School started on February 2nd at the 10am service! Each week, we gather in the church for Children's Focus at the front and then go over to the Great Hall for Sunday School. We gather together for our own little worship service before exploring the Bible story through various activities such as crafts, games, videos, acting out the story of faith, and music.



On our first Sunday together, we encouraged the kids to activate their faith by helping out at coffee hour. We have parents pick up their charges after the worship service ends, something we will be doing regularly. Another priority will be establishing a steady rotation of volunteers to work with me every Sunday. I am so grateful to Wendy Murray, Janice Skafel, and Mahira Samarasinghe for faithfully taking care of our children on a monthly basis. I appreciate your expertise and the loving work you have done with our little ones. Thank you for your support, and know that you have laid the foundation upon which we are now building this important ministry. One of our long-term goals is to have the children come back to worship and actively take part in regular worship by reading scripture and taking the gifts to the altar. Please feel free to be in touch with me with any ideas, input, and especially if you could see yourself taking a Sunday.

In Christ,

Jackie Burnie: Church School Coordinator



## **EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS - Easter Sunday is APRIL 20<sup>th</sup>**

If you would like to remember a loved one(s) by donating to  
the Easter Flower Memorials

Please submit your wording (print clearly) & donation

**\*\*\*** to the **CHURCH OFFICE** marked **Altar Guild – Chris Hughes**  
**OR**

**\*\*\* MAIL TO:** Chris Hughes, 1245 Richmond Rd., Burlington, ON L7S 1K5

**PLEASE do not put them on the collection plate**

(cheques should be made payable to St. Luke's Altar Guild)

**DEADLINE for submissions: Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**

These flowers are used to decorate the church for Easter & most are delivered  
to our shut-ins following the Easter morning services.

For more information call Chris Hughes (905-632-9535)

\*\*\*\*\*

**ALSO, A REMINDER - We need your help to deliver Easter plants!**

Following our Easter Day services, plants are delivered to our parishioners  
in nursing homes or confined to their own homes.

The Altar Guild will be handing out the plants & delivery cards - in the church,  
following the last service on Easter Day -

plants can be delivered either that day or during the first part of the week.

A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be available in late March

This is an important ministry of outreach, and we receive many phone calls &  
notes of thanks from very appreciative parishioners. We hope you will consider  
helping!

## ST. LUKE'S WASHROOM PROJECT COMPLETE



The washroom is complete and operational. The contractors did an amazing job of matching the brick and wood paneling. Thanks to the vision of the MAP 1.0 committee for making this happen!

Submitted by Wendy Murray



## The Restoration of the Chisholm/Smith Plot in St. Luke's Cemetery

By Dorothy Kew



*Chisholm/Smith Plot, St. Luke's Cemetery before restoration, credit Michael Skafel*

I have been a member of the Halton-Peel Branch of Ontario Ancestors (The Ontario Genealogical Society) since 1980 and have held a number of positions on our Council. At present, I'm the Cemetery Coordinator for Halton-Peel Branch. The purpose of Ontario Ancestors is "To encourage, assist, and bring together all those interested in the pursuit of family history". With regard to cemeteries, it's our duty to find, record, publish and preserve Ontario's cemeteries, wherever they may be. In our efforts to bring together those interested in family history, the various branches of Ontario Ancestors have published cemetery recordings as well as other items of interest to genealogists such as church records, township histories, etc. From the income we receive from memberships, the sale of publications and donations to the branch, we are able to fund or donate to various projects that are of use to genealogists, and help to preserve these items for future generations. Halton-Peel Branch has donated to the digitization of newspapers in both regions, as well as the publication of a book by Heritage Mississauga.

In considering a project to which the Branch could donate for 2024, the Branch Council decided on donating towards the restoration of one of St. Luke's historic cemetery plots, that of the Chisholm/Smith plot. This is a very old plot with a rectangular wall around it, of varying height from a few inches to about three feet.

Chisholm/Smith Plot continued .....

The wall itself was deteriorating and for the sake of safety within the cemetery needed to be repaired. Phil Moore, Property Chair, working with Michael Skafel of the Cemetery Board, after reviewing five proposals selected a hybrid solution to remove the very low-lying sections and reduce the height of the remaining walls. The latter are anchored at their open ends with boulders, and fronted with low lying shrubs. This was by far the most economical proposal. The cost for this was quoted as \$8582. The Halton-Peel Branch Council were able to donate \$4,000.00 towards the restoration of the plot.

On Wednesday evening, January 22, 2025, Michael Skafel, Chair of St. Luke's Cemetery Board, and I attended the Parish Council Meeting. Michael briefly described the work that was done to repair the Chisholm/Smith plot and the cost. A portion of the wall was removed and the area was covered with new sod to provide sufficient cover over the hillside. Small shrubs were planted in front of the corner of the wall.



On behalf of the Halton-Peel Branch of Ontario Ancestors, I presented a cheque for \$4,000.00 to Canon Stuart Pike. It was received with loud applause by everyone present.



*Credit Ros Reycraft*

It is our pleasure to have helped to preserve one of the historic graves in St. Luke's Cemetery, especially as the church celebrates its 190th anniversary.

## Stewardship Team Report

This year Stewardship undertook a survey of Time and Talent throughout the Parish. Parishioners contributed 21,899 hours of themselves in support of all of the various activities/groups/committees that run during the year.

In terms of Treasure, when we add revenue from Events together with Givings, we finished the year a few points short of 100% of Budget. Thank you for your faithful support in 2024.



Submitted by Don Bettger

\*\*\*\*\*

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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.

It was a busy fall and winter season and this spring is promising that more great things will happen at St. Luke's as we look for ways to make a difference in our community and beyond.

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

### **ADVOCACY PRESENTATIONS**

Our St. Luke's Advocacy Team continues to present ideas and issues with the participation of talented presenters who share their experiences.

Our most current presentation of 2025, was on February 1st when Pastor Dan Phannhour of the Mission to Seafarers in Southern Ontario was our speaker. He helped us to appreciate and understand the complex needs of the seafarers / crew members who work on large vessels in our Great Lakes. This mission is part of the Anglican Diocese of Niagara. You can view this fascinating and inspiring presentation by contacting Janice Skafel. This is a project that we have worked with a lot in years past and we feel we could certainly do more for in the future. Please stay tuned.



The next presentation will be in April on a date to be confirmed soon. Our speaker will be Rane Lee who has developed a business utilizing unused and older fabrics to create new purposes for use by others. Please check our usual information sources such as This Week at St. Luke's, our weekly bulletins or via email with Janice Skafel to learn more.

We are currently organizing ongoing projects for 2025 and have an exciting arrangement with Judi Scetta of the Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen, for September 20th. Do mark your calendar and watch for more information soon.

Your suggestions and ideas are always encouraged. Should you be interested in joining our team we'd be happy to welcome you.

Submitted by Carrie Raybould on behalf of the team: Ros Reycraft, Jackie Maver, Janice Skafel and Dave Beck.

## Concert for Children in Need

The Great Hall was decorated for Christmas and everyone was in the Festive spirit to welcome The Harlequin Singers in December as part of St Luke's 190<sup>th</sup> celebration.



We are happy that they will be back again to join us for a spring concert. They provide enthusiasm and talent in their concerts and so we hope you can join us in the spring. Date to be determined – probably in May.

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## SEW ON FIRE MINISTRIES



In January the Ministry of Outreach commenced a drive to collect used winter clothing to be delivered to a local Burlington charity, Sew On Fire Ministries. The clothing will then be distributed to First Nations communities in northern Canada, as well as to other places where there is a need for such items, including the City of Hamilton.

Notices in the Weekly Bulletin requested parishioners to donate any used winter coats and other items such as scarves, gloves, and hats, which they no longer required. The response to this campaign was very robust. Several bags of used winter clothing were delivered to the Sew On Fire facilities, including a large quantity of items which were collected

by our Office Administrator, Elaine Black, who posted a request for donations at her apartment building. The generosity and thoughtfulness of everyone who has responded to this campaign is warmly appreciated!

Submitted by David Beck and Elsie Haywood

## "AGING WELL CLINIC" HAS STARTED AT ST. LUKE'S



The Burlington Family Health Team (BFHT) is a primary care organization that provides access to interdisciplinary healthcare in Burlington. This team of healthcare professionals provide assessment, treatment, education and health promotion services that focus on early identification and intervention, illness/disease prevention, health promotion as well as support for self-management of chronic health conditions.

The Aging Well clinic offers this health screening for people 55+ in Burlington to help identify risk factors that develop as we age and could contribute to various health conditions.

We are pleased that this clinic has now collaborated with St. Luke's to have the screening and assessment clinic in our church. It will take place every 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoon of the month. It covers various aspects of aging well, understanding common health challenges faced by seniors, and exploring resources available in our community to support healthy aging. Best of all, the clinic is of no cost to the community.

You will need to make an appointment for your 1/2 hour assessment at [www.burlingtonfht.com](http://www.burlingtonfht.com) or call (289) 962-1064. Remember, the Burlington clinic is supported by funding from the Government of Ontario. Any questions? Call Janice Skafel at 905-617-1941 or Heather White at 905-467-2922

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## BURLINGTON UBUNTU GRANDWOMEN

This dedicated chapter of the Stephen Lewis Grandmothers to Grandmothers Foundation, continues to thrive as voices of support, education and advocacy for grandmothers and families in Africa living with HIV/AIDS.



Their monthly meetings are held at Burlington Baptist Church. Details about meetings and programmes are available on their website, [www.thebug.com](http://www.thebug.com) or by contacting Linda Refuse at [lrefuse10@gmail.com](mailto:lrefuse10@gmail.com)

Programmes and exciting fundraising events are currently being developed for this new year.

## **DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON COMMUNITY LUNCH**

The Community Lunch is hosted by St. Luke's, and we partner with three other churches. Join us for a tasty meal and conversation. We are open on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month 11:00-1:30, October to May. All meals are free with a free will offering basket available if guests wish to contribute towards the cost of the food. Guests are mainly seniors from Burlington and include members of our congregation, our partner churches, and our community. Coffee and tea are served from 11:00-12:00, and lunch starts at 12:00.

Our spring lunches are on the following dates:

February 5, 19

March 5, 19

April 2, 16, 30

May 7, 21

There will be special lunches for Valentine's, Spring, and the May 21 lunch.

Below is a picture of our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary lunch in April 2024.



Heather White, Community Lunch Coordinator

[dheatherwhite@gmail.com](mailto: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*

## EL HOGAR SERVICE TEAM

There's no service team going to El Hogar this spring but we remain in close contact with the schools and will continue with our fundraising efforts to support their life-changing programmes.

We will be doing our chocolate covered fondant Easter eggs. The cost of butter & chocolate has gone up incredibly this year so unfortunately we will have to raise our prices a little bit so we can actually make a profit to send to El Hogar. The cost of one 4+ ounce egg will be \$8 or you can purchase



5 for \$35 for a savings of \$1 per egg. At the time of newsletter submission we are unsure if we will be offering the Honduran coffee or not but will give an update in the weekly bulletins.

Your continued support helps these children achieve amazing things and helps them secure a better future for themselves and 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](http://www.elhogarcanada.ca)

## CHURCH MINDERS



The Minders have been back in business after the completion of the washroom in the Narthex. We thank them so much for their patience & their willingness to welcome people who wish to visit the church for a quiet time of prayer and 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.



## *PWRDF has chosen a new name - ALONGSIDE HOPE*

### **Rocket stove transforms homes and health**

Rose Mueni, 59, lives in rural Kenya. The mother of nine works hard to feed her family and like so many of her neighbours, she cooks meals over an open fire in her kitchen hut. But thanks to a new project with the Anglican Development Services Eastern (ADSE), funded by PWRDF, Mueni is now breathing easier with the addition of a rocket stove.

The traditional method of cooking inside, over an open fire, creates environmental challenges for the community. The excessive smoke produced by open fires posed a significant health threat to Mueni's family, particularly to the women and children who spend more time in the kitchen than men.

The rocket stove has been a game-changer for Mueni. Constructed by Winfred Kariuki, a trained Community-Owned Resource Person (CORPs), the rocket stove is built with locally sourced materials and is designed to be energy-efficient, environmentally friendly and less damaging to the health of people using it.

In a rocket stove, wood is fed into a small chamber, so even small pieces of wood or twigs work. The fuel chamber leads to a horizontal "burn tunnel" that sucks the heat and emissions from the fire. These emissions, such as soot or creosote are combusted in the burn tunnel, releasing even more heat, but not smoke, improving indoor air quality.

"The Rocket stove has been a blessing to my family", says Mueni. "It saves firewood, produces less smoke, and has improved our health. I am thankful to Winfred and the programme for making this possible."

One of the most significant advantages of the rocket stove is its reduced firewood consumption because it is built to burn wood more efficiently. This lessens, the physical burden on the person cooking and leads to cost savings for the family.

By reducing firewood usage, the household also contributes to preserving trees in the location, aligning with bigger goals to combat deforestation and mitigate climate change. "Look at how cleanly the fire burns now, with no smoke!" says Mueni. "We are so grateful to the Primates World Relief and Development fund and ADSE for making this project possible."

To support PWRDF and this project please make cheques payable to St. Luke's Church and on the memo line write PWRDF Stoves. Thank you.

Jackie Maver 905 681-6097 [hew.maver@sympatico.ca](mailto:hew.maver@sympatico.ca)

## Walk to the Lighthouse—SEPTEMBER 21st, 2025

Keep the above date for the walk this year in your calendars.

Last year the goal was to raise \$75,000.00 for the hospital. We surpassed the goal, raising \$102,406.04. The St. Lukes team raised \$14,110.00.

Watch this space for more information.

Submitted by Jackie Maver. 905 681-6097 [hew.maver@sympatico.ca](mailto:hew.maver@sympatico.ca)



Part of the St. Luke's team



### TruEarth PRODUCTS

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](http://tru-earth.sjv.io/StLukesAnglicanChurch) or [ecoc.sjv.io/StLukesChurch](http://ecoc.sjv.io/StLukesChurch)

Be sure to try these Canadian made products & especially the Platinum Laundry Strips!

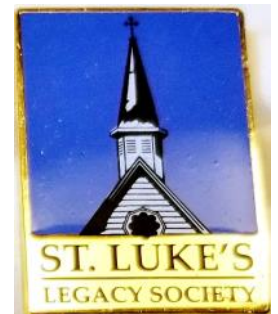
Contact Rosemary Armstrong ([rosemarymarmstrong@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarymarmstrong@gmail.com)) for more information

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## Legacy Society

"The Legacy Society is our compact with St. Luke's to ensure that we are doing our part to secure and enhance it's future."

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



Submitted by Don Bettger

## Editor's Sense of Humour

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



"Hear that? People in heaven have ever-laughing life."

An impoverished old man applied for membership in a wealthy church. The pastor tried to put him off with all kinds of evasive remarks. The old man became aware that he was not welcome there and finally told the pastor that he would pray about it. After several days he returned. "Well," asked the pastor, "Did the Lord give you a message?" "Yes Sir, He did" was the old man's answer. "He told me it wasn't any use. He said, "I've been trying to get in that same church myself for ten years and they won't let me in either."



A married couple were arguing who is making the coffee, the wife said that in the Bible it says that men should make the coffee and the husband asked her where it said that. The wife opened the Bible and said: "Right here in HEBREWS!"

A woman approached the minister after the sermon, and thanked him for his discourse. "I found it so helpful," she said. The minister replied: "I hope it will not prove as helpful as the last sermon you heard me preach." "Why, what do you mean?" asked the astonished woman. "Well," said the minister, "that sermon lasted you three months."



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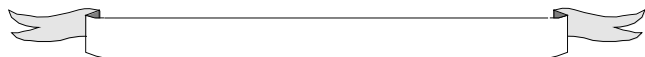
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**Newsletter Editor's Notes:** In an effort to reduce paper usage and save postage expenses we also post this newsletter **in colour** online at [www.stlukesburlington.ca](http://www.stlukesburlington.ca). If you prefer to read the online version,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

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

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