

# **ST. LUKE'S**

***NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2025***



Photo by Daryl  
Wilson

**Wishing Stuart, Katherine, Louise a Fond  
Farewell as Stuart Retires  
2009 to 2025**

**Calendar of Events and Services Page 19**



## Rector's ( Last) Message

Easter Season 2025



Last things. Those are the two words which sum up what my experience has been over the past few months. This article will come out after I have completed my last day on the job which is the 15th of May. Since I last wrote I've attended my last board meeting of St. Luke's Close. The last of several other meetings including the last vestry, the last Executive meeting and the last Parish Council. Today, I performed my last baptism, which was actually five baptisms in the same service. The last of them all was my own great nephew, Eli.

The day after tomorrow I will fly to Boston to attend my last retreat as a rector and there, I will pray in thanksgiving for 37 years of ministry and for some direction going forward. I'll pray five times per day with the brothers of SSJE – where I am an associate.

There are some things that I know will continue. I will continue to do spiritual direction for Theology students and for Vocational Deacons in the diocese of Niagara. I will continue to be the Coordinator for Contemplative Outreach Central Ontario and I will also continue to be the chaplain for the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 60, here in Burlington. There might be a volunteer position opening up to be advisory to one of the missions of our diocese.

Katherine and I will be doing some travelling this summer and fall. All of July and into August, we will be touring with our caravan to see Newfoundland as well as Nova Scotia and Eastern Quebec. On September 1st we will fly to Sicily. We will stay the month touring Sicily and then take a further week in Padua and doing day-trips to Venice and Verona. We will return after the first week in October and will settle down into a new routine.

Katherine and Louisa and I all feel so blessed to have been part of St. Luke's for most of 17 years and we will miss you all, but we will be full of happy memories of all of the important ministries that we have been part of all this time, and most especially of all of you, our amazing and faithful parishioners. I have every confidence that this parish will continue to go from strength to strength and that our growth as a parish in the last few years will continue going forward. I am grateful for Canon Drew MacDonald who will be interim during the search process and I look forward to hearing who will be chosen for your new rector. I will always keep you in my prayers and especially while the search process is progressing.

Blessings and peace to you.

Your brother in Christ,

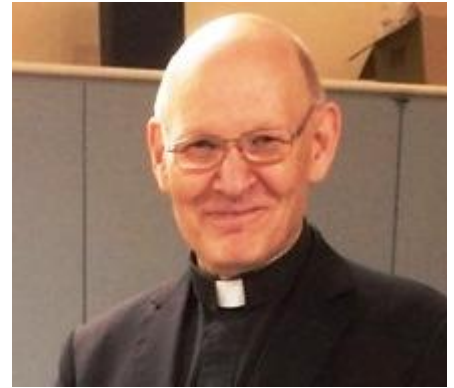
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stuart".

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Canon Stuart Pike

## From the Rev. Michael Coren

I have met many good priests, attended many good churches, even served at several of them. But in the years since I was a student at Trinity College and served as an intern at St. Luke's, to the time when I was asked to come on board here as a half-time priest, one man has shaped me, formed me, helped me, inspired me, supported me. I suppose I can say things about Stuart Pike now that I wouldn't have while he was still at the church, largely out of embarrassment. I'm British, and embarrassment is in the blood!



Actually, I simply hadn't found my place in the Diocese of Niagara and, in all honesty, wondered if I had a future as a priest in the area. I knew I had something to offer but I couldn't find a church that welcomed whatever gifts I had – granted, they're few in number. Stuart said he'd love to have me, proving that there's no accounting for taste, and we've worked together for some years now. When I say that we've worked together, it's really been a case of me learning how to be a priest from the man. Also, how to be a better Christian.

How to follow the great radical of history, the rebel who sang the world a new and perfect song, the revolutionary who told us that all was possible if we forgave and empathized, understood and loved. Yeshua, Jesus, the Christ. Helped me to remember and commemorate Jesus' death and resurrection, the great paschal sacrifice for all humanity. Helped me in more ways than I can count and say.

Stuart is leaving St. Luke's but St. Luke's can never leave him – his influence on all of us is permanent, and that's a wonderful thing. I thank God for my time with Stuart, and I thank Stuart for making God more real for me.

Blessings *Michael*

## Sowing and Tending



As we ready for the retirement of Canon Stuart Pike from his many years of faithful ministry, I vividly recall my arriving in this church to work and serve with you all.

Almost six years ago, a rather green priest, I was sent by the Bishop to St. Luke's—and that was already a few years into Canon Pike's time of service to this congregation.

Since my arrival, I was blessed with the support and care of many members of S. Luke's - none the least, its rector- and have been fortunate to work, and learn, with you all.

These days, I am part of that same church family. A tad older, not much wiser, but very much blessed, and nourished by the many things I have learned at St. Luke's.

Such is quite a brief recall of what these years have been like. Yet, some recalling is necessary, even as we bid Stuart farewell.

We all have our own Stuart stories to treasure, and the memories for sharing.

My own memories, they have to do, yes, with staff meetings, diocesan events, or the minutiae of preparing our liturgical services.

Yet, my best Stuart memories have had to do with being brought along into the ministry with this parish, even being entrusted with tasks and projects dear and necessary to the congregation.

During this time, there is one particular gift in Stuart's ministry which I have come to admire, even as I see how much it benefits the whole church: his care and concern for promoting and nourishing healthy, hands-on lay ministry, that vital expression of the church as the true priesthood of all believers.

Indeed, St. Luke's has a long history of such leaders, growing through the ranks of the congregation, serving in ever more vital tasks and ministries.

But it is a different experience altogether, or so it has been for me, seeing such fruits being patiently sown and tended to, long before they bloom in successful, faithful forms of lay ministry.

And, even from my own perspective, limited by the relatively little time I've been around St. Luke's, I do believe, that this concern for lay ministry ranks among Stuart's most valuable contributions to this church of St. Luke's. Or so it seems for someone like me, who would very much like to imitate those patterns and values of shared leadership in my own ministry and vocation.

*Leonel*

Leonel Abaroa-Bolona (The Rev'd Dr.)

Priest-in-charge, The Church of the Ascension, Hamilton, Ontario 289 887 7522 (Emergencies)

## Warden's Newsletter Report

It is hard to believe that we are well into spring! Spring is a time of growth, renewal and new beginnings. St. Luke's is about to embark on a transition that holds similar promises to spring.



In May we say good bye to Stuart, Katherine and Louisa who have served our parish faithfully for over 16 years. We extend our thanks and gratitude to Stuart for leading our church with wisdom, compassion, empathy and humour. We will miss his voice, creativity and willingness to do what needs to be done. Most of all we will miss his deep faith and his ability to see the good in everyone. He truly follows the blessing of seeing the face of Jesus in everyone he meets. We will miss not only Stuart but also his family. Katherine has been a support to many parishioners over the years who value the time she has spent visiting in person or by phone. She has role modeled inclusivity at coffee hour by always looking for the person who may be new or alone and approaching them with a friendly smile and engaging questions. Louisa has grown up in her time with us. She arrived to us still in elementary school and is leaving us with university behind her and a promising career. She has served faithfully along side her father as part of the serving team. While we are sad to see them go, we are grateful for our time together and wish them all the very best in this next chapter of their journey. It is a retirement that has been earned and is well deserved.

While transitions are always a little uneasy, we are in very good hands. On Palm Sunday it was announced that Reverend Canon Dr. Drew MacDonald will be our Interim Priest-in-Charge on a half-time basis beginning June 1st. Drew will be with us 20 hours per week until November 15th. We look forward to his ideas and the perspective he will bring to St. Luke's. He is excited about this role and is looking forward to being connected to our community of faith.

The Parochial committee met for the first time in March. Our membership has been finalized (Wendy Murray, Mahira Samarasinghe, Ron Danielsen, Rick Reycraft, Helen Bittner, Bob Bruce, Sheila Plant and Melanie Walker). The first order of business was planning Stuart's farewell. It will be Saturday, May 10, 2025, from 2-4pm in the Parish Hall. Next, we will meet with Emily Hill who is the parish development missioner through the Diocese. She will help guide us through the steps of the process. We will be preparing a parish profile and seeking input from our parish on the vision and direction of our church. More details will follow as this process unfolds.

The Communication Committee is finalizing design options for the website, We are excited that the re-build will be more user friendly and have more information on programs that take place at St Luke's.

Plans continue to progress for the Church Avenue project. There was a meeting held in March to obtain community input. It was well attended with lots of discussion. There have been on-going meetings and communication with the city. The committee meets monthly and is currently working on an operating agreement with the city.

Warden's Report continued .....

Parking on race days was a problem brought forward by several parishioners. There was understandable frustration when some parishioners were unable to find parking the day of the Chili Half Marathon. We are continuing to discuss the need for signage in the parking lot with the city. While this is getting resolved, Wendy is identifying race days ahead of time so they can be announced the Sunday before. The Vergers will put out the St. Luke's parking sign at the entrance of the parking lot to deter non parishioners from parking in spots on race day. We are hoping this will help address the problem.

This month we looked more closely at policies and procedures pertaining to Sunday School. To ensure the safety of our children and to respect parents' wishes, we are asking that no pictures or videos be taken during the Children's Chat. The video for live streaming the service is now angled upwards during the talk so that children are not captured on camera. A volunteer code of conduct will be signed and kept on file for all Sunday School volunteers. We are so pleased with how Sunday School is evolving and want to support and ensure its success.

While there is a lot of change to embrace, there is comfort in knowing that we have solid ministries, faithful volunteers and parishioners who are committed to ensuring the continued growth of our parish. It is an exciting time to be at St. Luke's.

Melanie Walker

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### **Stuart's Retirement Celebration**

The Celebration Event is the afternoon of Saturday May 10th starting at 2:00 to 4:00pm in the Parish Hall. This is after this newsletter deadline but we hope to update the online version with pictures by May 23rd. See [www.stlukesburlington.ca](http://www.stlukesburlington.ca) under News and Updates after May 23rd to see pictures of the event



## Stuart's Retirement

Our rector is retiring effective June 1st with his last Sunday service May 11th and a special drop in Farewell May 10th from 2:00 to 4:00pm in the Parish Hall for everyone. Sixteen plus years of Stuart's leadership and spiritual inspiration have left us with a growing and very active church we are all proud of. He is the latest in a long line of strong leadership this parish has been blessed with. As part of saying goodbye, Daryl Wilson has crafted these photos taken Palm Sunday, both to present to Stuart and to retain in the Parish.





## *From the Deacon's Bench*

“The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves

and rest awhile. For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure time even to eat.” (Mark 6:30-31)

It has been a very stressful and unsettling time in this world over the last few months and in a lot of cases, our patience and understanding have been tested to the limit. It seems appropriate that I share this reflection with you again. I hope it offers you a time of contemplation and the chance to actually “tune out”.

In our highly stressed, busy society it is important that we maintain this picture of Jesus in our minds. He knew when it was time to withdraw to seek a new spiritual landscape and to correct his perspective. There were many occasions where he needed to turn his back on harsh reality and seek rest. Flight might have been prudent, but he chose prayerful withdrawal for replenishment and re-creation. Time and time again, he withdrew from his teaching, his healing and his preaching. He left behind those who wanted to share a meal with him, those who wanted to touch him and those who just wanted to put their hand on the hem of his robes.

Most of us are tightly scheduled burdened with all manner of obligations so that the idea of walking away, simply withdrawing from the demands of the alleged “real” world seems almost impossible. Jesus shows us a rhythm of going out and coming back, of departure and return almost like the regular life-giving rhythm of breathing.

Did Jesus shirk his responsibilities? Was he chastised for dereliction of duty? In his gospel, Mark tells of how at sundown, all who were sick or were possessed with demons were brought to his door. He cured many of the sick, and then in the morning while it was still dark, he got up, went to a deserted place and there he prayed. The disciples then have to hunt him down and tell him everyone is looking for him. Instead of returning to the town, he tells his disciples “Let us move on to a neighbouring town.” We might well ask what gave Jesus the right to walk away from all those people who needed him. He did not do this out of indifference or being hard hearted, but he did it out of the need to renew, refresh and re-direct himself.

For us to go away by ourselves to rest and escape the “everyday” is not an exercise in selfishness. It is however, a practice of self care that is highly beneficial for our well being.





From the Deacon continued .....

How many times do we protest; I don't have time; I'm too busy; I've got a deadline to meet. These should not be used as excuses to prevent self-healing because they will always be there. They are a part of our life. Whether we go away for a short time, or long time everything will still be there waiting for us when we come back.

Just like Jesus, our need to refresh and renew is always placed squarely in the midst of life's demands and "real life" will be waiting our return. Our retreat away is a limited time of engagement from the world's concerns to make possible a deeper engagement with God and our own best self.

A retreat is time away from our workaday surroundings. We might picture an ancient monastery or place of great natural beauty. We are more attentive to prayerfulness when the environment is filled with reminders to that lead us to prayerfulness. Silence, art, music and worship by a religious community are all things we look for in a retreat. Worship within a religious community can be so nourishing, that prayer soaks into the walls of the chapel and floats in the air. But this type of retreat is not for everyone. We need to learn how to pray, how to be silent and how to let the power of God be absorbed into our very being.

So, just as Jesus did, we need to remove ourselves from everything that surrounds us, walk away, find a quiet place for an hour, a day, a week, or however long we need, to refresh, recreate and nourish our souls. When we come back, everything is still there; we just see it in a different light. The spreadsheet you were working on suddenly falls into place or timetabling our children's sports schedule suddenly becomes more manageable. Nothing changed while you were away, but when you return you are more able to face each new challenge, as well as the old ones with a renewed spirit.

The next time everything is getting you down and you say, "I'm running away!" then do it. You don't have to go far, but the journey back will bring new meaning and a renewed energy to you.

"Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest awhile."

Sheila

## Hello and Goodbye!

On Palm Sunday, April 13, the Servers Guild installed Ray Payne as our new head server. He replaces Louisa Pike who steps down officially on May 11.

We are so grateful to Louisa for her years of commitment to this vital ministry. Over the last few months, as head server, she has shared her knowledge and experience in guiding some of our newer servers. Louisa, we wish you all the best and we thank you for years of service. It seemed appropriate, that her Dad, Canon Stuart, gave her a special blessing.

As head server, Ray will continue to work with the servers on Sunday mornings as he takes over the role of guide, mentor and teacher.

If you are interested in being part of this vital ministry, please contact Ray or Sheila.



Photos by Dorothy Kew



# Our Traditional Easter Garden

## A Special Thanks to the Altar Guild and Flower Donors



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### Ruth and Naomi

Our Ruth and Naomi group continues to meet regularly on the second Sunday of the month after our 10 am service.

We enjoy lively discussions, treats and the requisite glass of wine.

At our gathering on April 13, which was Palm Sunday, we welcomed Stuart to our gathering. As it turns out, this would be his last meeting with us and we were so grateful to have him in our midst.

When I first approached Stuart about beginning this group, I had his total support. It was interesting that my dear friend, who is a deacon at St. Andrew's, Grimsby (Stuart's previous parish) started the same group a year previous. It was she who encouraged me to speak to Stuart about it.

Thank you Stuart for your unwavering support of this vital ministry.

Since our inception, Stuart has joined us whenever he can especially at our Christmas and June potlucks. He will be deeply missed.

We end our year on June 14 with our traditional potluck luncheon and will resume again in September.

On behalf of all the ladies in our Ruth and Naomi group we wish Stuart all the best and all of God's blessings as he, Katherine and Louisa embark on a new journey...wherever that may take them.



## **WANTED— CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS**

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ITEMS TO DONATE AT THE 2025 ST. LUKE'S WORLD FAMOUS HUGE COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE on May 31st!

You're invited to start putting donations aside. Please note we do not have any storage space at the church.

It's that time of year again where people are itching to get out into the garden. If you are doing any transplanting, or splitting, please consider donating extra plants to our garage sale. If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Plant at [sheilaplant134@gmail.com](mailto:sheilaplant134@gmail.com)



### WRANGLE YOUR USED ITEMS

Electronics: Record Players, Radios, Speakers, Amplifiers, Music Equipment, Flat Screen TVs & Monitors, Cameras, Portable, Printers, Laptops, Video Games & Consoles, Accessories.

Small Appliances: Kitchen Gadgets, Toasters, Coffee Makers, Crock Pots, Sandwich Makers, Mixers.

Sporting Goods: Exercise & Sports Equipment, Adult & Children's Bicycles, Children's play equipment.

Adult & Children's Clothing: Skirts, Sweaters, Dresses, Blouses, Pants, Handbags, Jackets, Blazers, Suits, Shoes, Hats, Sportswear, Scarves, Shorts, Golf Shirts.

Furniture & Home Décor: Indoor & Outdoor Tables & Chairs, Lamps, Dressers, Knick Knacks, Baskets, Wreaths, Artwork, Rugs.

Toys: Building Blocks, Board Games, Puzzles, Laundered Stuffedies, Dolls, Action Figures, Balls, Children's Sports Equipment.

Linens: Drapery, Blankets, Sheets, Towels, Bathroom/Kitchen Rugs, Throw Pillows, Duvets.

Kitchenware: Pots, Pans, Dishes, Cups/Mugs, Glassware, Tea Pots/Sets, Cutlery, Mixing Bowls, Carafes, Bakeware, Roasting Pans, Children's Kitchenware too!

Luggage: Roller Boards, Carry-ons, Backpacks, Duffle Bags, Toiletry Bags, Travel Size Toiletry Containers.

Books, Music & Collectables: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Business, Travel, Art, Christmas, Children's, Baseball & Hockey Cards, Stamps, Coins, Vinyl Records

Jewellery: Handmade, Unique, Modern, and Vintage Jewellery.

Hardware: Hand Tools, Lawn & Garden, Drills, Saws, Nail Guns, & Compressors.

Plants: Hostas, Ferns, Ornamental Grasses, Perennials, Annuals.

### MOSEY ON UP TO VOLUNTEER

To be Deputized contact Mark Edwards at [STLUKESGARAGESALE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STLUKESGARAGESALE@GMAIL.COM)

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SATURDAY, May 31st, 2025 8am to 1pm St Luke's Anglican Church Hall 1382 Ontario St





## **FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR**

It has been a busy and exciting Winter/Spring for our music programme, with several guest musicians, and new choir anthems as well as old favourites! We've also continued to add many of our new hymns from Sing a New Creation to our repertoire of known tunes from Common Praise.

We were once again joined at Easter by our resident trumpeter, Graham Young, and by Bev Wilson, our new flutist, on March 2 (Transfiguration). We also welcomed a brand new guest instrumentalist for Good Friday: Susan Naccache, a cellist, who has performed regularly as part of several orchestras, and who teaches through the RCM. She accompanied the choir on a brand new anthem, and joined me on the prelude and hymns. Thank you to all of our talented musical guests: you were all lovely to work with, and you added so much to our services! Thank you also to Rob Laurie, whose guitar and singing talents continue to enrich our services, including, recently, accompanying the Sunday School in a tune introduced by Jackie Burnie!

In memorium

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to a retired tenor from our choir (who also sang with me when I was music director at a church north of Toronto): Hal Brooks. A retired Mountie with an incredible voice and a quick wit, we will miss him terribly. But we sent him on his way with a grand bit of music, and, as his daughter Calah said, we are sure he is in heaven conducting and joining in the heavenly chorus!

I have included some photos below of our musical guests, of our visit to St. Luke's Close to sing Carols, and of Hal (July 2024 and funeral display).

In conclusion

Stuart, the choir and I wish you all the very best for your retirement; we have been enriched by your ministry and by your melodious tenor voice! God bless you and Katherine and Louisa.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Goodine

Music Director continued .....





Music Director continued .....



# **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](mailto: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!**



Please Print this and Pass on to Friends and Neighbours, Post on  
Bulletin Boards

# **SATURDAY May 31ST**

## **THE ST. LUKES**

### **WORLD FAMOUS HUGE COMMUNITY**

#### **GARAGE SALE is BACK for 2025!**

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## **WRANGLE GREAT DEALS**

**Plants • Vintage • Jewelry • Books**  
**Furniture • Tools • Toys • Clothing**  
**Household Items • Baking & More!**

**BBQ LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS SERVED BY OUR RANCH HANDS**

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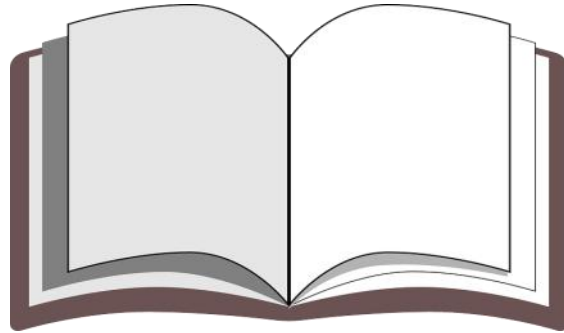
## **MOSEY ON DOWN**

**8am to 1pm SATURDAY, May 31st**

**St Luke's Church Hall 1382 Ontario St, Burlington**

Contact [stlukesgaragesale@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesgaragesale@gmail.com) for more info

# *Life Passages*



## *February*

Marion White  
Ray Bush

## *March*

Norma Morley  
Edith Walsh  
Bernard Scrivener  
Abigail Maguire  
Marie Stevens  
Susan Hutchinson

## *April*

Carol Maver  
Kirk Bell  
Hal Brooks

*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>
May 25	11:30	Coffee Hour El Hogar Sunday Presentation Page 40
May 31	8:00 am to 1:00 pm	Garage Sale - Pages 12, 16, 17
June 1	8:15 and 10:00 am	Ascension Sunday—Rev. Drew MacDonald’s first Sunday
June 8	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost Tourtière Sales after both Services Page 25
June 13	7:00 pm	Taizé online only
	7:00 pm	Concert for Children in Need Pages 20, 38
June 15	8:15 and 10:00 am	Trinity Sunday
June 22	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost III
June 29	8:15 and 10:00 am	Canada Day Sunday
July 6	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost IV Holy Eucharist
July 13	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost V Holy Eucharist
July 20	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost VI Holy Eucharist
July 27	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost VII Holy Eucharist
Aug 3	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost VIII Holy Eucharist
Aug 10	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost IX Holy Eucharist
Aug 17	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost X Holy Eucharist
Aug 24	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost XI Holy Eucharist
Aug 27	2:00 pm	Friends of St. Luke’s Day Page 22
Aug 31	8:15 and 10:00 am	Labour Day Sunday

For Schedule of the Community Lunch and Social Hour See Page 39 .

- The Sunday 10:00 am is live-streamed on the church website under “Virtual Service” or on our YouTube channel .
- Sunday 10:00 am, 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.





A Night of  
The  
**HARLEQUIN  
SINGERS**  
Audience Choice  
Award Winners

**Friday, June 13, 7 p.m.**

**St. Luke's Parish Hall**

1382 Ontario St.,  
Burlington ON, L7S 1G1

**Tickets \$20**

**Available by calling (905)518-5787**

**Please bring a non-perishable food item  
for the St. Luke's Food Bank**



## St. Luke's Happenings



Men's Faith and Fellowship meet every Saturday morning for scripture study and fellowship.

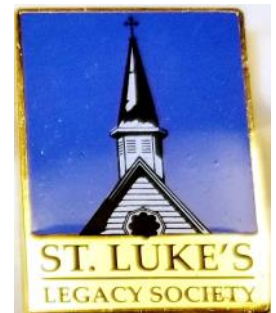
Special Thanks to Michael Skafel and his team for the Spring Cleanup of the Church grounds.



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## 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."



## Friends of St. Luke's - August 27th - Please Save the Date!

The Friends of St. Luke's Afternoon Hymn-Sing & Social Tea is an event we hold each year to show our appreciation for our most elderly parishioners for their many years of service here at St. Luke's; to show them they are not forgotten, even though they may no longer be able to attend regular services. We invite them to come for a short service and afternoon tea, which will be held this year on Wednesday, August 27th.



Norma Morely at Friends of St. Luke's 2024

Volunteers are always needed to help make this event a success for those attending, so please do by mark it on your calendars & keep it free if you are able. We will begin canvassing for volunteers in June.

Thank you so much!

Lesley Emery

Wendy Murray

Co-ordinators - Friends of St. Luke's

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### St. Luke's Library News

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

A number of new books will be on display in the library for your summer reading pleasure! The library is open during office hours to borrow and return books!



As our shelves are quite full, we are unable to accept donations at this time. The Mission Thrift Store on Fairview St. accepts any used books.

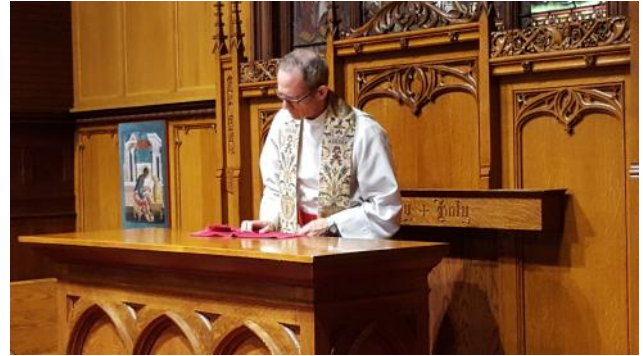
On that note, we will continue to collect soft covered bibles for prison ministry and there is a labeled box in the library for drop off!

Melissa Kennedy, Chair



## Easter Week at St. Luke's

Thankyou to the Worship Team who made Easter Week so meaningful to us all!



Palm Sunday Blessing

Maunday Thursday Altar Stripping

Good Friday

Good Friday Cellist and Choir

Easter Vigil Baptism

Easter Day Parade





## Music at St. Luke's

As I write this, we have just finished the last show of our season with the 12/4 Swing Orchestra once again providing a fabulous finale to another wonderful season.

In January, Sultans of String gave a viewing of their Cannes Film Festival award-winning documentary, *The Refuge Project*, an awe-inspiring documentary that speaks to the challenges facing the world's displaced peoples – their stories, their songs, their persistence and their humanity. This was followed by a Q&A session with Sultans of Strings leader, Chris McKhool and another of the artists from the film.



In early March we had the second of our Sunday afternoon recital series when we welcomed Guelph-based singing group, Kokoro in the church, as they presented a beautiful selection of choral pieces from around the world and some Canadian compositions.

Then, of course, we finished off the season with the 12/4 Swing Orchestra, a nine-piece band led by Jim Heaslip and with Tony Sciara's amazing voice taking on hits from Frank Sinatra, Bobby Darin, Dean Martin and more. We all knew when Tony opened with "Mack the Knife" that we were in for a fabulous evening of music and dancing. This band has become a perennial favourite at St. Luke's and we're hoping to have them again next year to close off our season once again.





Music at St. Luke's continued .....

We also presented our MC, Tim Tiernay, with a plaque to commemorate his thirteen years of exceptional service as Master of Ceremonies with Music at St. Luke's as he steps down to allow another to take up the mantle of this important role. We have been so lucky to have had Tim in this role and it is with deep gratitude that we made our plaque presentation to him.



Now that this season is over, your Music at St. Luke's committee will be meeting to plan and book the artists for our next season which will start in October. We have a few irons in the fire already but we are always open to suggestions from you. Obviously, we're also looking for someone to take the important MC role as well as

new committee members. Please get in touch with Steve Pike or any committee member if you have any suggestions or wish to join our committee. They really are an exceptional group of dedicated people.

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### **TOURTIERE SALE IN JUNE!**

The pie makers will be selling tourtières after the 8:15 and 10am services on Sunday June 8th. Watch for notices in the bulletin closer to the date.

This is the last sale before the fall so stock up now! We will be taking a break for the summer and our next sale will not be until October.

Don't forget to let your friends and family know!



Submitted by Sandra Tiernay

## “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 free-will 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 continued to offer a wide variety of speakers over the spring period;  
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, when we welcome back Reverend Michael Coren.

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.

St. Luke’s Speaker’s Lunch Committee meets to discuss future speakers (Tim Tiernay, Gord Barker, Dave Wyatt, Doug Flett, Dave Beck, Dave Swallow, Fred Ofosu).

Submitted by Tim Tiernay

Speaker's Lunch continued .....



Richelle Papin from the Halton Black History Association speaks about her experience growing up in Burlington as a person of colour (Feb. 20th, 2025)



Bob Edmondson tells us about his work as Chair of the Halton/Hamilton Source Water Protection Committee (March 13th, 2025)



Kim Csanyi of the Burlington Fire Department, shares statistics about the causes of residential fires and how to prevent them (April 10th, 2025)



Speakers Lunch Planning Committee



## Knitters & Friends remember Norma Morley

by Mary Taslimi

Our Epiphany-born knitter, Norma Morley, died aged 102 in March 2025. We will all remember her with great fondness.

Norma was known for showing up with her walker, having walked from home to the church hall to join in the crafting and conversation. When our group was in its infancy, Norma turned 90, and Mary Taslimi first started saying, “Everyone wants to be 90 like Norma!” because of Norma’s indomitable spirit. In one year recently, Norma flew to the west coast of Canada to visit one of her children, and to the east coast to visit another.



We knew her family was deeply devoted to her, as she told us her kids always wanted her to let them know when she was going out from home—and when she returned. They knew how passionate she was about knitting: she said they told her they were going to put knitting needles and yarn in her coffin!

When our group had to meet online during the pandemic, Norma joined right in. Despite her age, she adapted to technology apparently without issues, using Zoom and email with aplomb.

Norma told us she had taught herself to knit—a fact which astonished her mother, who asked her who had made all the beautiful knitted baby clothes when Norma had her first child. She knitted right into 2025, despite occasionally feeling her left hand go a bit numb. She worked on dish cloths, baby blankets and baby clothes, and prayer shawls, and St. Luke’s friends often gave her yarn to create with. As fellow knitter Lois Carey said, “Although I didn’t know Norma that well, she struck me as a gentle soul with a tenacious spirit. She certainly set an example for us all in that no matter your age one could still contribute to society.”

Knitters & Friends welcomes crafters of all levels from beginner to expert, who 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.



# Saying Goodbye: Farewell Interview with Canon Stuart

By Dorothy Kew



Right  
Side

Recently I sat down with Stuart and discussed with him his upcoming retirement. Asked how he felt as his time to leave St. Luke's drew near, Stuart replied that he had a mix of feelings – trepidation on leaving, not just for himself, but for Katherine and Louisa – St. Luke's is a “dream parish” – but most of all, a feeling of gratefulness, for the parish and the people. And, even though they would continue to live in Burlington, they wouldn't be able to come back to St. Luke's. It's the Anglican thing – that a rector leaves his parish and does not come back. The parish has to learn to move on with a new incumbent.

Stuart and his twin brother, Steve, were born in Paris, France, while their father was with the RCAF at Allied Headquarters. Because of his father's career the family moved frequently, (staying from one to three years) – three tours at Bagotville, also Dorval, Montreal and three years in England, also Quebec City and Winnipeg. Stuart said he learned to be resilient. He and Steve both joined the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), Stuart as a pilot, but this was for only a year and a half.

I asked Stuart when he first thought about becoming a priest. He told me that at eighteen, while at CEGEP (the Quebec equivalent of post-secondary

Farewell Interview continued .....

college), he was searching for something, but he didn't know what. Both he and Steve went to the Anglican church. On one occasion he had returned to the church looking for something he left behind, and felt a need to pray. He felt that God had touched him. He completed his Bachelor's degree in psychology at Queen's University, did his short stint in the military, and then went on to Huron College, University of Western Ontario, for his Master of Divinity.

His first parish as an ordained deacon was in Gaspé, Diocese of Quebec. It was very rural and Stuart found himself as the deacon in charge of a three-point parish. There were two other parishes altogether comprising ten churches in the area which were eventually all brought together to form one parish with Stuart, now ordained as a priest, as the rector. It was there that he met Katherine, whose family would come there for summer holidays. Stuart and Katherine were married in Toronto and Stuart brought his new bride back to Gaspé where Louisa was born. After ten years in Gaspé, they moved to St. Andrew's, Grimsby where Stuart was rector for another ten years. Then, in 2008, he came to St. Luke's, where he has been for almost seventeen years. As he put it, thirty-seven years of ministry and only three parishes, though he made up for it with ten churches in Gaspé -- twenty church wardens, and ten vestry meetings a year! Along with his work as rector in Gaspé, Stuart was also involved in the national committees of the Church.

Stuart learned about the vacancy at St. Luke's from Bishop Michael and discussed the idea of moving with Katherine. They had been at St. Andrew's for ten years, and St. Luke's was considered a "plum parish". So now, after seventeen years, he felt it was time to move once more.

I asked Stuart what was it he would miss the most and his answer was immediate: "The people". St. Luke's is a wonderful parish with people who give so much of themselves to so many causes, not just locally but afar, as in Honduras. It's a parish that has a lot happening, and he's going to miss all that. I mentioned the plans for Church Avenue and Stuart indicated that maybe, when it was finished, he could sneak back wearing a mask and dark glasses to see it.

This brought up the question of whether he could come back at some point to perform a ceremony of some sort but this is a no-no in the Anglican Communion as I mentioned above. Perhaps in ten years' time he might be invited back to a Bicentennial celebration of the parish.

Farewell Interview continued .....

Finally, I asked Stuart what were his plans for his retirement. His immediate plans are a camping trip with their new trailer to go all the way to Newfoundland. On the way back there's a family wedding in Nova Scotia and the family will also be burying Katherine's father's ashes in Percé, where Stuart and Katherine also have plots, so Stuart will not be one of the rectors buried in St. Luke's churchyard. They will also be going to Sicily in September.

My last question to Stuart was a bit cheeky – I asked him if he had any input into who might be a good choice for the new rector and he assured me he had no say and no sway in such a decision. That would not be the thing to do!

All St. Luke's parishioners are going to miss Stuart, Katherine and Louisa. We wish them God's speed in their new ventures.

### Stuart Over the Years



Welcome 2009



St. Luke's Holy Rollers

Parish Hall  
Mortgage Burning



Godspell Star

## Sunday School Newsletter Update

### **Celebrating Three Months of Growth and Community Support**



Dear Congregation,

I am filled with gratitude as I share the wonderful updates from our Sunday School program over the past three months. Your unwavering support and involvement have been instrumental in the success of our new venture, and we are truly blessed to have such a dedicated and loving church family.

Firstly, I am thrilled to announce that we now have a core group of committed teacher volunteers. Their dedication and passion for nurturing the spiritual growth of our children have created a warm and inviting environment. We also have a steadfast group of young attendees, with our numbers sometimes reaching up to eight children on a Sunday. This consistent attendance speaks volumes about the joy and enrichment our Sunday School is bringing to these young souls.

A special thanks goes out to Bob Bruce, who generously revamped the former youth room to create a new and vibrant Sunday School space. His hard work and vision have provided us with a wonderful area where our children can learn and grow in their faith.

Our program has also received incredible support from the St. Luke's family. Rob from the choir has graced us with his musical talents, playing guitar during our family Sunday worship. This integration of music and worship has been a huge success, bringing an element of joy and communal spirit to our gatherings.

One of our most important educational goals in Sunday School is to teach the liturgy of the church and the various roles people play in both worship and service. Our family service was a beautiful demonstration of these principles, as well as an opportunity for intergenerational worship. We were blessed by the contributions of Kenneth, Seraya, Sienna, and Nia, who participated in readings, the Prayers of the People, and distributing flowers on Mothering Sunday. Their involvement added a heartfelt touch to our celebration, and I extend my deepest thanks to them for their beautiful contributions.

We are also delighted with our new curriculum, Sparks. This uniquely Anglican resource is reflective of our tradition and has been a great addition to our teaching materials. Watching the Baptism of our children via livestream has been a spiritual highlight, and I am profoundly grateful for the way in which all of you nurture our little ones, leading them to such holy moments.

Every Sunday, we begin our time together in our new special room for worship and then move to the larger room for a video, interactive activity, and craft-making session. Melanie Walker's creative genius has been a blessing, as she designs and fashions crafts that are not only beautiful but also useful at home. Her efforts have greatly enhanced our Sunday School experience, and we are so thankful for her creativity and dedication.



Sunday School Update continued .....

As we bring our Sunday sessions to a close, we ensure that if the church service runs longer, the children remain engaged with an abundance of games and other creative activities from the Sparks curriculum. This ensures a seamless and joyful experience for both the children and their parents and care partners.

Going forward, we want to grow our Sunday School. All efforts will be put into that initiative in the Fall now that we have laid the foundation. Moving forward, all volunteers will sign a "Code of Conduct" which will be kept on file. The safety of our children is our highest priority. For this reason, we will no longer take pictures or video of children during the Children's Chat. The camera for the live stream will be angled upward which will allow those watching from home to hear the talk while protecting the identity of the children participating. Please contact Jackie or one of the Wardens for further information.

In conclusion, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you for making our Sunday School program a joyous family celebration of faith and love. Your support, dedication, and involvement have been the pillars of this venture, and I look forward to the continued growth and success of our Sunday School.

With gratitude and blessings,

In Christ, Jackie Burnie: Church School Coordinator

\*\*\*\*\*

## Children's Focus



There is a Children's Chat at the start of the 10:00am service every Sunday. The children gather at the front before going off to Sunday School.

For the "Doubting Thomas" gospel reading chat, Stuart is demonstrating the need to have faith even when something does not seem logical. Here he pokes pencils through a bag of water held over his head and miraculously does not get wet! (Alas, failure could have been a viral Tik Tok video but faith prevailed.)



## A Unique Opportunity!!!

We have opportunity to help St. Luke's and the children of El Hogar, a great charity providing education and hope for the future to disadvantaged children in Honduras. At the same time, we get some valuable benefits for ourselves. See [www.elhogarcanada.ca](http://www.elhogarcanada.ca) for more on this worthy cause.



Do you have jewelry or other valuable items that may be damaged or no longer wanted? Perhaps a ring missing its stone, a broken necklace, sterling silver cutlery or coins? With the price of gold and silver these days, donating these items can result in a substantial gift to El Hogar and the Church, plus a valuable tax receipt to you. You can even decide to keep some of the appraised value yourself.

We have a volunteer who can get top dollar for these items. A recent participant will be getting a tax receipt for \$690 for donating a few unwanted items! Your items will be appraised before you decide and you will be contacted to ask what you want to do. The default is a 50/50 split of donations between St. Luke's and El Hogar but you can choose. You can also choose to donate a portion of the value and keep the balance.

For more information contact Rick Reycraft at [newsletter@stlukesbutlington.ca](mailto:newsletter@stlukesbutlington.ca) or 905 635 3976.

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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's hard to believe that summer is nearly upon us. A time when we tend to slow our activities down a bit. With our Outreach group though the busyness continues.

We will miss Stuart's guidance & inspiration but will continue to work as he would have us do.

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



### **ST. LUKE'S ADVOCACY GROUP'S REFLECTION**

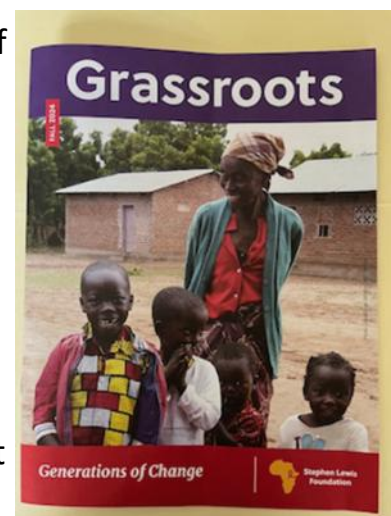
***“What Can One Person Do?” “Friends of Ubuntu” “We will not rest until they can rest”***

In 2010, Canon Sharyn Hall, our former Vicar, introduced a concept to the Outreach Committee, encouraging us to explore ways to understand, support, and educate ourselves on issues of social justice—locally, nationally, and globally. A small group of parishioners began meeting regularly to consider potential directions. Drawing on her awareness of United Nations initiatives, Canon Sharyn proposed that we align our efforts with the UN Millennium Goals. These eight goals included eradicating poverty, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, achieving universal primary education, ensuring environmental sustainability, fostering global partnerships for development, and combating HIV/AIDS.

This marked the beginning of St. Luke's Advocacy Program. The group decided to host a Saturday morning breakfast event featuring guest speakers. The inaugural event was held on February 20, 2010, in the Parlour. Guests enjoyed a full 'Canadian' breakfast prepared by the team and welcomed the first speaker, Elisabeth Rennie, a Burlington resident and member of the Burlington Baptist Church. Elisabeth was also the inaugural Chairperson of the Burlington Chapter of the Stephen Lewis Foundation's (SLF) Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign. The chapter, named UBUNTU—an African word that reflects the shared essence of humanity ('your humanity is joined with mine') —was introduced as part of this meaningful conversation.



The Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen are part of a global network of chapters across Canada, the UK, and Australia, supporting community-based partnerships throughout Sub-Saharan Africa. In many African communities, grandmothers have had to take on the responsibility of raising their grandchildren, often orphaned by the HIV/AIDS crisis. Since 2006, the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign has worked alongside the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF) to provide leadership for locally driven opportunities in employment, education, and advocacy. At the first Grandmothers gathering in Africa, a powerful commitment was made: “We will not rest until they can rest.”



Ubuntu members meet from September to June at Burlington Baptist Church, where they focus on advocacy for African grandmothers, organize fundraising initiatives, collaborate with other local chapters, and educate themselves about the challenges faced by those less fortunate. Since 2003, the Campaign has raised over \$27 million and has supported community-based projects in 15 African countries.

In Burlington, the Ubuntu Grandwomen are an active and cherished part of the community. They host fundraisers, partner with neighbouring chapters, and engage in public events. One highlight is the annual Vigil at City Hall each December, which aligns with the UN’s ORANGE THE WORLD campaign—an international effort to end violence against women and children.



Elizabeth Rennie, during her presentation years ago, posed the question, “What can one person do?”—a sentiment deeply rooted in the meaning of UBUNTU, which celebrates our shared humanity. Over time, St. Luke’s parishioners have embraced the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, offering support by showcasing Ubuntu Friendship Pins at their Christmas market. This ongoing partnership has earned St. Luke’s the affectionate title of “Friends of Ubuntu.”

On September 20th, our associations will come full circle as we welcome Judi Scetta as our guest speaker, commemorating 15 years since our Advocacy Ministry began with Elizabeth Rennie’s impactful presentation. We are deeply grateful for the friendships and collaborative efforts that have driven our commitment to supporting those in need.

Over the past fifteen years, we have had the honour of inviting parishioners, community members, and others to join us for breakfast—first in person and, since the challenges of COVID, through virtual technologies. With over 70 topics presented by guest speakers, our sessions have drawn insights from diverse sources spanning local, national, and international areas, including:

- **St. Luke’s clergy and parishioners:** Featuring a variety of interests, programmes, and guests from neighbouring churches.

• **Local community members:** Representing a range of services and charities, such as Carpenter House, Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital, local school issues, Food For Life, and the Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen.

• **Diocesan representatives:** Highlighting initiatives like Alongside Hope (PWRDF), Refugee Sponsorship, and Global Partnerships.

• **Halton Region staff:** Featuring groups such as the Youth Health Team, Poverty Free Halton, Halton Children's Aid, Elderly Services Committee, Environmental Health Services, and Halton Fresh Food Box.

• **Medical and charitable organizations:** Including Save the Mothers International, Free the Children, Sleeping Children Around the World, Habitat for Humanity, Indigenous Communities and Experiences, Doctors Without Borders, El Hogar (Honduras), Council of the North, Gender Equality Issues, and Canadian Nurses for Africa.

After each event, a donation is made to the speaker in support of the organization they represent.

As a parish, we are deeply grateful for the numerous opportunities we have shared through our Advocacy Ministry. We have always valued the steadfast support and guidance of our Rector, the Rev. Canon Stuart Pike, in all our endeavors. Together, as a team and community, we congratulate him on his retirement and extend our heartfelt wishes to him and his family as they embark on this exciting new chapter of their lives.

Looking ahead, we are filled with hope and anticipation for the future of St. Luke's Outreach Ministry. We remain committed to embracing new opportunities that enable us to share our talents, interests, and concerns as active citizens of Burlington.

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

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### **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

## Concert for Children in Need

On Friday, June 13 at 7 p.m. we will once again look forward to hearing The Harlequin Singers on their spring concert in our Great Hall. They love performing in our hall as it is also their rehearsal hall.

Do you remember the little survey we did at their last concert, where we gave our ideas and preferences to what we would like to hear as an audience? They have put some of those ideas into this next concert which is called Audience Choice Award Winners. We will hear Oscar winning music from The Sound of Music, Phantom of the Opera and Les Misérables. This traditional concert is annually organized by Outreach and continues to support children in need.

We have supported many programs in the past 30 years and this year will support

- a) the Refugee Fund which will assist our next Syrian family who are refugees in Lebanon.
- b) Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF) who respond to the urgent needs of many of their partners who have been affected by cuts to international aid, trying to keep as many vital programs as possible.

Tickets are \$20 and can be obtained by calling 905-518-5787 or beginning on May 11 after Coffee Hour each Sunday. See poster elsewhere in this newsletter.



Please watch this space to know how you can join the St. Luke's team.

Contact Jackie Maver 905 681-6097 hew.maver@sympatico.ca



## DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Community Lunch is open on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month 11:30-1:30, September to May. No reservation is needed. Coffee and tea are served from 11:00-12:00, and lunch starts at 12:00. The lunch is supported by donations and aims to provide a social, delicious, nutritious and free meal to all ages and incomes.

Our May dates are 7 and 21. Our lunches pause for the summer and resume in September. Our fall dates are:

September 17

October 1, 15, 29

November 8, 19

December 3, 17

The lunch is hosted and led by St. Luke's with financial and volunteer support from our three partner churches (Burlington Baptist, Knox Presbyterian, and St. John's Catholic churches) and community members. We receive food donations from Burlington Food Share and local grocery stores. Many guests donate towards the cost of their lunch, while others appreciate a free hot meal. Guests are mainly seniors from Burlington and include members of our congregation, our partner churches, and our community.

If you would like to volunteer with or donate to the lunch please contact Heather White (information below).

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*



The Buskers entertained in 2024 & will again to celebrate 11 years of Community Lunches, Spring & Easter.

## **EL HOGAR SERVICE TEAM**

Many, many thanks to everyone who bought our chocolate covered fondant Easter eggs & our Honduran coffee! Your continued support is so appreciated by your St. Luke's team & the children & directors of El Hogar in Honduras.

We will be hosting an El Hogar Sunday presentation on Sunday, May 25th after the service in the Parish Hall, complete with Denise Vargas, El Hogar's Executive Director & our own Erika Skafel, Communications and International Relations Director. joining us via Zoom. Please come to learn more about El Hogar's vision & as well as its successes while you enjoy Honduran coffee & treats.

We are planning a trip to El Hogar in 2026 & are hoping that you will join us. We are gathering information about people's available so we can plan a firm date.

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 busy keeping the church open for those who would like a time of quiet meditation or to visit our beautiful church & understand its part in the history & future of Burlington. The Minders will be keeping the church open on Thursdays during the summer when many visitors come including children involved in some day camps. 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.

## ST. LUKE'S CLOSE

On April 22 the Board of Directors of St. Luke's Close hosted an informal afternoon tea event in the Residents' Lounge at St. Luke's Close, a not-for-profit seniors low-rise apartment building located on Elgin Street in downtown Burlington. It was a very enjoyable opportunity for a number of residents and the Board Members to spend some time together while snacking on healthy vegetables and delicious pastries, together with various cold beverages.

Mr. Stan Moneta of Sherwood Park Property Management provided an overview of the sections of the updated Fire Safety Plan dealing with how residents should respond to a fire in their suite or in other parts of the building, including making the decision to leave the building or to remain in their individual suite, depending upon the circumstances in any real-life situation. In this regard, it should be noted that the Executive of St. Luke's Church has agreed that the Great Hall in the Parish Hall may be used to shelter residents of the Close temporarily in situations where the St. Luke's Close premises have to be evacuated for any reason.

Following Mr. Moneta's presentation, Bob Bruce, Chair of the Board, asked all present to join him in expressing our appreciation for the time and attention to the business and other needs of the Close which have been given by our Rector, Canon Stuart Pike, over the past sixteen and a half years that he has served as Rector of St. Luke's Church. (Under the corporate documents which created St. Luke's Close, the Rector of St. Luke's Church is designated as a member of the Board of Directors.) Stuart was presented with a plaque in recognition of his devoted service to the Close, as well as a boxed gift item that he will be able to enjoy in the less busy days that hopefully lie ahead, following his retirement in May.

A barbeque event at the Close is being planned for a date in July.  
Bob Bruce, Chair of Board of Directors, and Dave Beck, Treasurer



Bob Bruce, Chair of the Board of Directors, presenting a plaque and a boxed gift to Stuart in recognition of his dedicated service to St. Luke's Close during his tenure as Rector.

Mr. Stan Moneta, Sherwood Park Property Management, providing an overview of the updated Fire Safety Plan to residents of the Close.

Canon Stuart Pike making the first cut into the retirement cake. (It was delicious!)



## ALONGSIDE HOPE (formerly PWRDF)

Alongside Hope has launched a new **Resilience Fund** in response to the devastating cuts to international aid by the U.S. and other governments. The fund will provide support for many of our partners and programs that have lost funding from other sources.



**Alongside Hope**

Anglicans and partners working for change  
in Canada and around the world

One such partner is Church World Service, who supports people living at the Nyarugushu Refugee Camp in Tanzania. The fund will support 10 refugee families who had already left the camp to be resettled in the United States, but were turned back when the U.S. suspended its resettlement program. In addition to meeting the immediate needs of these families, the funds will provide psychosocial support for additional refugees who were planning for resettlement to the US, and whose dreams of a new life have now been shattered. Little Trinity Church in Toronto has already raised \$12,000 towards this program.

**The day after Alongside Hope presented a launch webinar, an Alongside Hope donor shared some exciting news with Carolyn Cummins, Director of Fundraising and Supporter Relations. The donor has offered to anonymously match all donations made to the Resilience Fund by June 30, 2025, up to \$250,000.**

“I couldn’t believe the timing of the call,” says Cummins, who was about to introduce the fund at the House of Bishops at their meeting in Niagara. “It was very exciting to be able to tell them about our donor’s incredible generosity.”

While a quarter of a million dollars is a larger gift than most supporters can make, the donor was quick to point out that every gift is important, regardless of size. “If we all give what we can, Jesus multiplies it like the loaves and fishes.”

To donate to this worthwhile initiative please make cheques payable to St. Luke’s Church and on the memo line write Alongside Hope Resilience Fund or e-transfer to the office for Alongside Hope. Thank you for your support.

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

## Editor's Sense of Humour

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



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."



One beautiful Sunday morning, the pastor announced to his congregation: "My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a \$100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a \$50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a \$10 sermon that lasts a full hour. "Now, we'll take the collection and see which one you have chosen."



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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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