



News and Views

St. James Caledon

... growing in faith

Volume 4, Issue 2

Pentecost/2010

A Note from Wendy

How have you enjoyed the time of the “Sabbath Rest?” I hope and pray that sometime in this past several months you have had time to truly rest in the presence of the Lord, and, that through his power working in you, Sabbath keeping becomes a regular part of your weekly routine. There is a reason that God requires us to remember the Sabbath and to keep it Holy. He knows what we need.

According to the church calendar, from now (May 23rd) until the beginning of Advent (Nov. 28th) we enter into the church season of Pentecost. The day of Pentecost itself is considered to be the birthday of the church, because this is the day that the promised Holy Spirit came upon all followers of Jesus, enabling us to come together as the “Body of Christ” or his church.

The liturgical colour for this season is green. As green represents growth, this season of Pentecost is intended as a time for us to concentrate on the teachings of Jesus so that we may grow more and more into his likeness and glory.

¹⁸And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (1Cor:3:18)

Planning is underway for the fall/winter season.

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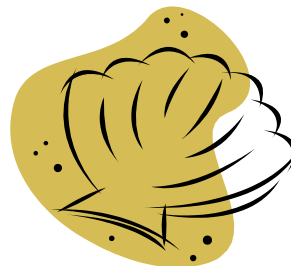
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If you have any ideas, questions, insights, or wishes concerning what you might like to have happening here at St. James, please speak with the wardens or me.

The summer months approach. I plan to be away from the 6th of July to August 1st. Together with all of my family, Norbert and I will be spending the last 2 weeks of July at Cape Cod.

Please, all of you, take very good care of yourselves and one another during the summer months! Please continue to pray for one another and for St. James. May God bless you and keep you always.

Faithfully in Christ
Wendy+





WHEN TROUBLE COMES ...

It seems that since last fall many of our parish family and extended family have experienced health-related crises. It can be bewildering and frightening and even those of us not directly affected ask "where is God in this situation?" Rev. Wendy Moore presents us with her thoughts on trouble, prayer and relief from fear.

Does fear follow immediately upon the heels of it? The answer, most often, is yes, because we are fearful of outcomes and fearful of the unknown.

PUT YOUR HAND IN THE HAND OF GOD...DO NOT BE AFRAID

We wonder where God could be in the midst of our troubles and why he brought it upon us. The reality is that he is right beside us in our troubles and he has not brought anything upon us. We are his beloved, whom he cherishes. The problem, I believe is that we live in a world in which sin, in all its manifestations, shapes and sizes, still exists; it has not yet been fully overcome. The problem with sin is that the innocent suffer.

So how do we cope with the sin of the world and its impact on those we love?

In the midst of our turmoil, the answer is to put your hand in the hand of God. Psalm 23 says "Even though I walk through the valley of the

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shadow of death, I shall not be afraid, because You are close beside me." (NLT)

LIVE IN COMMUNION WITH GOD

St. Paul says "pray continuously." He is not suggesting that we spend our whole day and night on our knees in prayer; he is encouraging us to live our lives in ongoing communion with God, to pray with God, to surrender to God and to let God lead.

"As we surrender to God and follow God's lead in our lives, we are healed. We may or may not be physically cured, but we are healed in the sense that our lives are in God's hands and we know it. Whatever our physical condition, we are at peace. Physical cures in response to prayer obviously happen, but not for everyone. But all of us with time, prayer and surrender to God will be truly healed."⁽¹⁾

TRUST AND FAITH

To trust God when everything seems to be going wrong is true faith. It may seem easier to be a person of faith when all is well, but harder to do when life has been thrown into chaos. It is harder still to ask the questions, "what is God doing through this sadness and Lord what do you want me to do with this turmoil?" Remember what Jesus said to so many whom he healed, "your faith has made you well." Faith is the hand that puts itself into the hand of God.

PRAYER

How do we pray for someone who is sick? We cannot pretend to understand all that is going on within the mind, body, and spirit of our loved one. We can most certainly understand that somehow, somewhere something has gone wrong, and so we ask God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit to bring healing and wellness. If that doesn't happen on our terms, have our prayers failed, has God ignored us? **No and never!** Perhaps it is simply that it is naive of us to

assume that we really know what divine healing and wellness look like when they come in all their fullness and glory. I like the idea of praying *with* God, handing all our cares, worries and fears over to him and letting him sort it all out. This is very much like praying through the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said to his disciples, “don’t worry about what to say, the Holy Spirit will lead you”.

There are many prayers for healing, in our prayer books, in special books on healing, on the internet. I found the following healing prayer intriguing in that it is a prayer of community, God, the one who is sick and the community of people who have come around to love and support the one who is ill. This prayer may be prayed either in the first, second or third person.

BLESSING PRAYER FOR HEALING

Dear Lord,
 May I desire to be healed.
 May what is wounded in my life be restored to good health.
 May I be receptive to the ways in which healing needs to happen.
 May I take good care of myself.
 May I extend compassion to all that hurts within my body, mind and spirit.
 May I be patient with the time it takes to heal.
 May I be aware of the wonders of my body, mind and spirit and their amazing capacity to heal.
 May the skills of all those who are caring for me be used to the best of their ability in returning me to good health.
 May I be open to receive from those who extend kindness, care, and compassion to me.
 May I rest peacefully under the sheltering wings of your divine love, trusting in your gracious presence.
 May I keep hope in my heart. ⁽²⁾
 Lord God, May I place my hand securely in yours.
 Thank you, Lord Jesus, that you are here beside me.

Faithfully in Christ,
 Rev. Wendy +

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Bibliography:

- ⁽¹⁾ Brooke, Avery. *Healing in the Landscape of Prayer*. Cowley Publications, Boston. 1989
⁽²⁾Rupp, Joyce. *Out of the Ordinary*. Ave Marie Press, Notre Dame, In, 2000

Outdoor Service & Parish Picnic

Please join us on June 13 at 11 am, for an open air worship service, followed by an old fashioned church picnic at Glen Haffy Conservation Area.

Sign up sheets will be in the Gathering Space – note that you will need a pass from Rev. Wendy to get into the conservation area without paying.

Our worship service will begin at 11 am.

Please bring lunch for yourself and/or family, some cookies or other goodies to share, a drink and of course a lawn chair. The conservation area is located about 10 minutes north of Caledon East, on the east side of Airport Road (between Charleston Sideroad and #9).

Ed. Note:

Growing up at St. James as I did I have very fond memories of annual picnics held at Glen Haffy. It didn’t matter that we all lived in or near the country, heading to the conservation area made it very special. Walter Naylor was Sunday School superintendent, and his level of organization for the races would put VANOC to shame. While the kids arranged themselves according to age and gender, the Mom’s fussed with sandwiches and the infamous orange aide; the grand folks chatted in the shade (my Nana always with her knitting at hand) and the Dads didhmmmm...I’m not sure what the Dads did!

The highlight was enjoying the little tubs of ice cream, vanilla with a chocolate swirl, eaten slowly with a wooden spoon. The picnic meant summer was right around the corner, with all those delicious do-nothing days ahead.

Well, we can’t promise you a do-nothing

summer – but we can promise good old fashioned fun at the picnic. Let's make some new traditions! – *Diane*

Wish List Beginnings

A few things we'd love to have that are not in the budget.....

Fire Place for the Alan White Room
\$200 for electric; \$4-5000 for gas

Exterior Light Fixture for the
main entrance: \$200 +

Interior Light Fixture for the Narthex
\$200 +

Water softener: \$3000

Reverse Osmosis system
Kitchen: \$1300

Gardening Update

The early spring gave the gardeners amongst us a boost! It also gave a boost to the weeds!

At a preliminary planning meeting in the late winter the as yet unnamed gardening group met to reflect on what works in the garden, how to make it better, how to make the workload manageable, and fun! Lots of good ideas came forth and several work sessions have taken place. The gardens were tidied, a few boundaries rearranged and some perennials divided and relocated. The gals (and any guys so inclined) are planning to meet every Wednesday to tackle whatever needs to be done. In this way, if there is a small turnout, at least the prominent beds will be maintained.

Those who came out had fun, and shared in a light supper. If you'd like to help but work

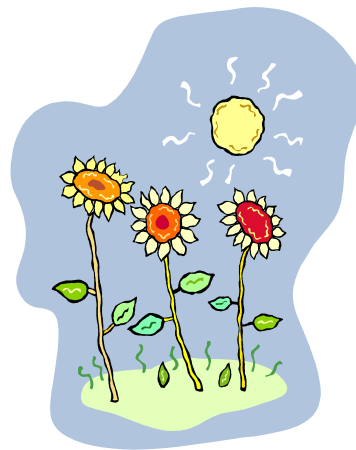
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during the day, consider joining us for supper and you can carry on with some work afterwards. Garden days will be announced in the bulletin.

If you're not a green thumb, you can still help!

- Make a memorial gift to the garden, instead of to Altar flowers. Your gift will still be acknowledged in church and will be acknowledged for income tax purposes.
- Make a gift of something on our wish list. Ruth Sowrey has a comprehensive list in the office; a few of the items include: a heavy duty wheelbarrow and Canadian native shrubs such as serviceberry.
- Take time to enjoy the gardens, and pass along your appreciation. We won't mind if you pick a bloom as a reminder that 'it all started in a garden.'

Growing in faith (and in the compost),
Your Wednesday Weeders



God made rainy days so gardeners could get the housework done. ~Author Unknown

I think that if ever a mortal heard the voice of God it would be in a garden at the cool of the day.

~F. Frankfort Moore, *A Garden of Peace*

Special Vestry Meeting

June 6, following the 11 o'clock service

Please plan to attend this special meeting of the parish to be held after Church. The topic is the roof of the Church and what we are going to do about it.

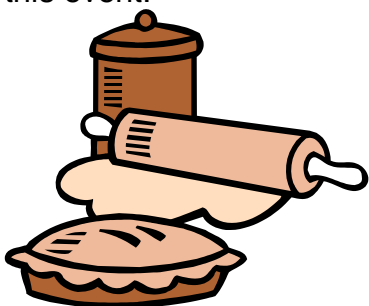
The existing galvanized sheeting was installed many years ago, and was supposed to last for decades. It was obtained at a bargain price – as we soon found out, as the black paint did not adhere to the galvanized finish. Although it is not leaking into the church, it is very ugly and it looks like we don't care about our beautiful church. The belfry is another area of great concern, the roof on it is rotten and leaking, and requires immediate attention.

A roof committee was struck after the annual Vestry in February to look at all the options, both in terms of the work to do, and the way of paying for it. Please come and hear the options and help us make a sound decision.

Fall Fundraising Event

A harvest festival / bazaar is in the planning stage. We'll offer collectables, vintage jewelry, nature crafts and décor items, and a bake table full to the point of collapse with pumpkin pies, muffins, butter tarts and more. Date to be announced.

We're still collecting your gently used jewelry for this event.



Milestones:

Baptism:

We welcomed Cleo Elliott into our church family on Easter Sunday.

Editor's Corner

From the Internet

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child. The winner was a four-year-old child, whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy just said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry.'

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Teacher Debbie Moon's first graders were discussing a picture of a family. One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of her students suggested that he was adopted. A little girl said, 'I know all about adoption, I was adopted.' 'What does it mean to be adopted?' asked another child. 'It means,' said the girl, 'that you grew in your mommy's heart instead of her tummy!'

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On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League base ball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was. 'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered with a smile. 'Really,' I said. 'I have to say you don't look very discouraged.' 'Discouraged?' the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face... 'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet.'

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Whenever I'm disappointed with my spot in life, I stop and think about little Jamie Scott. Jamie was trying out for a part in the school play. His mother told me that he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen. On the day the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement. 'Guess what, Mom,' he shouted, and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me....'I've been chosen to clap and cheer.'

At the Wedding

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "*Why is the bride dressed in white?*"

"Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life."

The child thought about this for a moment, then said "*So why is the groom wearing black?*"

Late for Bible Class

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "*Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!*"

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "*Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!*"

The Sermon

A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "*Mommy, if we give her the money now, will she let us go?*"

News and Views

News and Views is a newsletter for the people of **ST. JAMES** Caledon. It is published four times per year - Advent, Lent, Pentecost and Fall.

For submissions in the newsletter:

Any member of the Parish of St. James Caledon may submit an article for the newsletter. To do so, email newsletter@stjamescaledoneast.ca or leave your articles in writing or on a CD in the newsletter box at the church office.

Articles are considered, based on space availability and relevance.

Thank you for your submission.
Donna Davies, Editor

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