

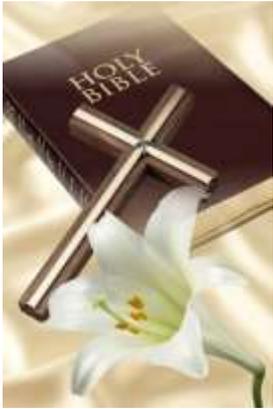
News & Views



St. James Church



In the Heart of the Village



Parson to Person Lent 2013

Did you know that you can turn any piece of paper into a post-it note?

At Staples and other stationery stores, you can buy Scotch's re-stickable glue sticks. You slather the paste on the back of any piece of paper, even a poster, and let it dry. Voila— stick it to the wall anywhere: easily removable, no fuss, no mess left behind. Re-stick it elsewhere.

Fridge magnets come on and off easily also. We make art collections on any ferrous metal surface, and change them at will.

Would that sin were so easily removable from our lives! Lent gives us a chance to work on this problem. Several folk have confided in me lately that they don't feel like "miserable sinners." We are pretty 'good,' especially compared to some of the monsters we see on the news. Why keep Lent? What are we supposed to be doing? We keep the rules fairly well, *almost* perfectly!

Some Christian folks believe that the definition of a sin is breaking rules. If too many rules are broken, we go to hell; if few rules are broken, we go to heaven. To many other Christians, sin is any

force that keeps us from the Abundant Life which God wants to give us. A sin is not just a rule, but anything that comes between us and a healthy relationship with the living God. The mundane is the worst enemy of the excellent.

Is God some bean counter who says, "Well, Billy has 12 golden beans today and only 6 black ones, so I guess I won't send him towards hell today!" God is not an abusive parent, punishing His children who break His arbitrary rules. His will is that we "turn from our wickedness and live." By "live" God means that we find "Life-that-is-joyful-in-the-midst-of-any-circumstance" – God means us to find His Abundant Life.

God has indeed given us an "owner's manual" of rules which show us how to love God and our fellow humans with all our hearts, but it is not keeping rules that gives us salvation or keeps us in Eternal Life. Salvation has always been by covenant. We yoke ourselves to Jesus by presenting our hearts to Him; the yoke is easy because Jesus adds his strength to ours. As an old friend of mine used to say, "There is nothing that Jesus and I cannot accomplish together!"

What is Lent for? Do we try to change a bad habit, or even make a list of divine rules which we regularly break, and try to amend our lives? Not a bad endeavour, but not the whole story. If Salvation is by Covenant with Jesus (and therefore with the Father

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and the Holy Spirit) surely our Lenten goal is to take that covenant more and more to heart.

We overcome sin, not by using our own will power to overcome temptation, but by relying on the power of Jesus to support us in finding a spiritually satisfying way of life. Prayer is not begging God to give us some gift or empowerment which He is loath to give; prayer is joining our will to His will and desiring that "Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven" in all circumstances.

This Lent, let us so pray, study and act that we may:

1. Feel the power of creation.
2. Invite Jesus into new corners of our hearts (where we have grudgingly kept him out).
3. Feel the power of the Spirit in new ways.

May God bless your life in new ways this Lent.

Your friend and Interim,
Bill Craven

EDITOR'S NOTE

By Donna Davies

We have many things for which to be thankful at St. James and many people whom we should thank for all they do around the church. I'm not going to try to mention everyone at this time, but there are a few that I want to mention with a special thank you.

- ✓ Heather Wittier for all of the cookies, etc. she baked and supplied to St. James over the Christmas Season – Thank You!
- ✓ Joanne Redhead for all of her hard work in planning, arranging and coordinating the Sabbath Rest Service for us each month – Thank You!
- ✓ The Musicians and the Choir who make the Sabbath Rest Service so special - Thank You!
- ✓ The Guys Who Cook for our Sabbath Rest Breakfast – Thank You!
- ✓ Joe, Ruth, Diana, Neil, Wardens – all those who make our building perk along – Thank You!
- ✓ Dee for our fabulous kitchen, and all those willing hands who prepare Coffee Hour each week – Thank You!
- ✓ Deacons, Servers, Sidespeople, Greeters, and Chancel Guild – we couldn't function without you each week – Thank you!



"Doing life. Doing good."

Two Months into the Program

By Donna Davies

Yes, Lifetree Café will have been running for two months by the time this newsletter is published! The first Lifetree Café in Canada was launched on January 9 with a wonderful response, especially from our St. James people, for which we are eternally thankful. And to really set this launch off in the right direction, we had a visit from the editor of the *Caledon Citizen*. He wrote a full-page article on the event and also printed our press release on the Schindler's Youngest Survivor episode. We had a number of calls as a result of this.

The good news is that we are steadily increasing our attendance each week and that we are having more people from outside the church. This is not to say that we don't still need the support of our St. James friends, for we surely do.

Also, we get news of the future subjects well in advance, and the upcoming episodes are very interesting. This gives us a chance to do some good advertising. Check us out on the *In the Hills* calendar on line and we will appear in their Spring issue under 'What's On.' Also, SNAP was at our January 30 meeting so look for us in the March issue and in their calendar as well. Lifetree also appears in the on-line calendar of both the *Caledon Citizen* and the *Caledon Enterprise*. We did a postal drop of a brochure at the beginning of the year and posters advertising the episodes appear throughout the community each week. We are very pleased with our coverage so far.

Some of the upcoming episodes may be of special interest to teenagers and young adults - such as "Hell: Does it really exist" on February 27, "Making Life's Toughest Decisions" on March 6 and "How to Spot a Liar" on April 24.

The not so good news is that we are missing a few people from our Lifetree team for various reasons – sickness, vacations, etc. And our numbers weren't that many to start with. We don't want to 'burn out' the people involved so we are making a strong plea for more bodies to help us with the set-up, greeting people, etc. And we are only asking for your commitment for a little over one hour for one Wednesday a month.

Also in the 'good news' category, we have been able to set up our Lifetree Café venue and purchase our initial supplies using the generous grants and donations already received. And we have received many 'in kind' gifts as well. We are thankful for this help. On the 'not so good news' side we now need more funds; we are planning some exciting fund-raisers and appealing for more assistance so we can operate within our budget and keep this interesting program going on a viable basis.

Keep your eye on the bulletins, the posters and the media for news of what's on each week and please come to visit Lifetree Café as often as you can.

WELCOME REVEREND BILL

By Carl Kinzinger

On January 6 we welcomed an old friend, Reverend Bill Craven, back for another term as our Interim Priest in Charge. Many of you will remember Bill from his stay with us in 2003, but for those who may be new to the parish, here are a few facts about Rev. Craven.

50 years ago on May 23, 1963, Bill was ordained by Bishop Luxton at St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Ontario, where he remained as Assistant Curate for a year. Thereafter he was in charge of four parishes in the Diocese of Huron, ending his full time ministry at St. Luke's, Broughdale, London, Ontario.

After retirement in 2002, Bill moved with his life partner Elizabeth to Brampton to be nearer their kids and grandkids. He was soon called out of retirement by Area Bishop Ann and went back to work right here as our Interim. From here he became Interim at St. Joseph of Nazareth in Brampton and, finally, Bill was appointed Priest in Charge for the parish of

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Trinity, Campbell's Cross, our former sister parish. Bill spent eight happy years in harness with Trinity and started his second retirement on December 31, 2012. I am sure Trinity folk miss him already. But, as luck would have it, along came Bishop Phil, and Bill is once again in the pulpit here at St. James.

Bill is happily married to Elizabeth - 50 years in fact as of June 8; they have four children (two guys, two gals) and nine grandchildren. Interestingly, three of Bill and Elizabeth's children are in the education game – two high school teachers and one vice-principal, while their other son is a senior technical support person in the computer industry.

Bill is more than willing to sit down with anyone who would like a visit, needs advice or requires a wedding or baptism or whatever ... (just call the church and Ruth will pass the information on to him).

As indicated earlier Bill will soon celebrate 50 years of ordination, and we are blessed to host a special celebratory service with him and his family on May 26. There will be a number of guests, both clergy and laity and after the service a light lunch will be served. I think we can do him proud.

We look forward to many happy weeks with Bill during our Parish search for a new Incumbent.

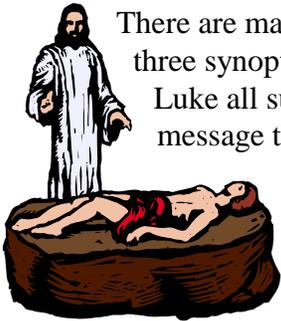
Exploration Into Healing

By Helen Swinden

The Back to Basics Study Group has been exploring Jesus' ministry of healing. For the past few months we have read the accounts in Mark, Matthew, Luke and John. Each gospel, it seems, offers us a slightly different point of view, but taken together the four accounts paint a wonderfully expansive picture. Perhaps the most intimate account is the one written by Mark, which we understand reflects the eye-witness experiences of Peter. There is a sense of immediacy and urgency that permeates this gospel and it is not difficult to imagine oneself walking alongside the disciples, watching Jesus as he interacted with the crowds and listening to his teaching. Mark leaves the impression that it is Jesus' reputation as a healer that attracts the crowds. Matthew's focus was to persuade the Jewish community that this man was indeed the long-

awaited Messiah promised in the Old Testament scriptures. Matthew systematically builds the case for Jesus, the ultimate teacher and healer, the Messiah in WORD (chapters 5-7) and in DEED (chapters 8-9), always referencing back to OT scripture. Jesus was no surprise, all was promised, and was now being fulfilled.

Our group unanimously decided that we liked Luke's way of telling the story. The language is so poetic and intimate. It was suggested that Luke may have interviewed Mary; who else would have known such detail concerning the annunciation, the visit to her cousin Elizabeth, the soul-searching of Joseph, the birth details in Bethlehem, the account of the 12 year old Jesus conversing with the Rabbis in Jerusalem? Luke also gives special emphasis to the social dimension of Jesus' healing ministry.



There are many similar accounts of healing in these three synoptic gospels, and Mark, Matthew and Luke all succeed in portraying the important message that Jesus is Messiah in word and in deed, and that it is God's Holy Spirit at work.

John's gospel attests to the same message, but reads very differently in the gospel text. John is more concerned that we, the readers, understand the significance of the events. It is believed that this gospel was written somewhat later than the other three; perhaps that explains why John could offer this perspective on the events of Jesus' earthly ministry. "In the beginning was the Word," says John, "and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The Word was made flesh in the person of Jesus. John goes on to demonstrate how God gave Jesus signs that were beyond human power to perform, in order to prove that God Himself was at work in the person of Jesus. John leads his readers on a journey of ever-increasing clarity concerning who Jesus really is, as the signs become more and more miraculous. The journey begins in Cana when Jesus changed the water into wine, barely noticed by those around him and certainly not understood, and culminates in the raising of Lazarus, the ultimate act of healing, to resurrect from the dead. Along the way when Jesus

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gives sight to the blind, John says, "Jesus is the Light of the World," and when Jesus raises Lazarus, "Jesus is Life." Then follow the "I am" statements of Jesus himself. Are these not reminiscent of God's identification of Himself to Moses in Exodus 3 when He says, "I am who I am... Yahweh... and thus I am to be invoked for all generations.?"

"What did we learn about healing?" you may ask. The foregoing description attests to the fact that our discussions tended to go delightfully astray. However, we did watch the Master in action. Jesus, we noted, was concerned for the health of the whole person, body, mind and spirit, and for the whole of society.

Jesus was concerned for the marginalized and his healing of these persons often restored them not only to physical or emotional wellness, but also to acceptance within their society.

Jesus' method of healing depended on the needs of the specific person; sometimes he touched; sometimes he used props like mixing spit and mud to make a poultice; sometimes it was sufficient to touch his garment; sometimes words alone accomplished the cure and sometimes he healed from a distance.

"Your faith has made you well," he said.

"Your sins are forgiven."

"Take up your bed and walk."

"Do you want to be well?" he asked.

And Jesus always prayed to the Father and acknowledged that it was God working through him that accomplished the healing.

We pondered these ideas and noted the roles of faith, confession, forgiveness, the willingness to participate in the process of healing and the power of prayer, all of these things being integral to the journey of healing.

Ultimately, the process of healing involves getting to know the Healer, and willingly taking the risk to trust in Him by opening ourselves to receiving and responding to His love.

The Stained Glass Windows of St. James

(With thanks to Anne Allengame)

The rays of the sun shine through them,
Making shades of red and gold,
Keeping alive the memory
Of the names of our pioneers of old.
They came here, just ordinary people,
To work a hostile land,
And made themselves a homestead,
Built by their own hand.

As you look at those stained glass
windows,
With their message of hope, not despair,
With the pictures of saints and martyrs,
And the face of our Saviour dear,
Imagine that you are a stranger
To our beautiful church of St. James,
And I am the one that shows you
Our windows and the names.

We'll start at the back. They're the big ones,
A picture of Christ's Mother you'll see,
With the names of the men who gave up their lives,
Connforth, Attwood, Pitchford and Morley.
And in the left hand corner, come and take a look,
Greater love hath no man, it's written in God's Book.

Flanking this solemn memorial,
Are St. Peter and St. Paul.
Davidson, and Robinson are inscribed upon this wall.
Facing the back, we look to the right,
A walking plough you'll see, guided by John Holder,
With a furrow as straight as can be.
To the left of it, the Good Shepherd,
Taking care of his flock,
Also by the Holders, they are of farming stock.

And in the distance, the Caledon Hills,
With fields of gold and green,
I must confess it's my favourite,
A peaceful pastoral scene.

At the back of the Altar is Jesus, standing at the door.
It's in memory of the Brackens, pioneers of yore.
St. James was put in by Mathews,
The Quigleys donated St. John,
A song of praise in colour, and a joy to look upon.



Again to the right, is a garden,
With Children at their play,
One holding the hand of its mother,
On a beautiful day in May.
Suffer the little children is written on this
pane,
And there is the name of a Blackburn,
Who here to worship came.

The next one is Christ at Gethsemane,
Praying to His father for strength
To endure that great tribulation,
When His body was broken and rent.
And then the angel at the tomb,
With the Good News, He is risen,
No more enslaved in mortal flesh,
But is forever living.
It's dedicated to Evans and Judges,
On a day so long ago,
They were pioneers from Ireland,
May Heaven be their joy.

As the sun goes down in the evening,
At the close of a summer's day
Those peaceful stained glass windows,
Light up with the sun's last ray.

Jack Boycott, Caledon East – April 14, 1988

The Wardens' View

You will all have noticed that there are many changes happening at St. James. For those of us who would rather have everything quietly organized and running smoothly, it is difficult to accept the upheaval as an opportunity to regroup, to discern God's will for us here, and move forward. But this is exactly what we are called to do.

We said our goodbyes to Wendy and Norbert who served and worshipped faithfully with us for five years. It is not easy to accept that they are no longer part of St. James, but we must do so, recognizing that this is God's call to Wendy as she retires to minister part time, and God's call to us to move forward. Lent is already here! Pancake Tuesday on February 12 symbolically reminded us of the feast before the ritual fasting of Lent; a special thank you to the Neville family who organized this event. The season

of Lent- approximately six weeks leading up to Easter Sunday – began the next day on Wednesday, February 13. Christians around the world are observing the season in a wide variety of ways. Some commit to daily Scripture meditation, devotional reading or regular prayer. One common practice is to “give up” something for Lent as an act of self-denial and as a way to centre one’s thoughts on Jesus Christ. However you choose to observe the season, we wish you a blessed, reflective Lent.

Easter is coming! There are some beautiful services being planned by our Worship Committee and Bill, our Interim Priest. Please join us as you are able; walk the journey that Jesus walked, from Palm Sunday, the last supper with his friends, the betrayal in the garden, the trial before Pilate, the Crucifixion and the burial, to the glorious resurrection of Easter morning.

Experience for yourself the joyous hope of Easter and the hope for new beginnings here at St. James.

Carl, Helen, and Juergen



Report from Parish Selection Committee

By Carol Kinzinger

The purpose of the Parish Selection Committee (PSC) is to (a) prepare a Parish Profile, (b) interview candidates for the position of Incumbent and (c) recommend to the Bishop our choice as our Rector. Part of the process in writing a Parish Profile is to interview as many parishioners as possible. With this in mind the PSC has been hard at work designing a survey and scheduling focus group meetings so that you, the parishioners, can tell us what St. James means to you, advise us about what you would like to see happen and the type of person you would like as a Rector. Every member of St. James has an opportunity to play an important role in the selection process of our new Rector. We encourage every parishioner to participate in this process. While we would like everyone to complete

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the general survey questionnaire and to attend at least one focus group, you are welcome to attend all the focus groups with which you are involved. (You will only fill out one questionnaire however.) Also, know that no names are required so your answers are strictly confidential. All we ask is that you be prayerful and open-minded as we move forward.

The first focus group we met with was the Advisory Board on February 12. Members in attendance filled out the general questionnaire and then proceeded to discuss questions focused specifically on the business of the parish. Jennifer Keyes moderated the discussion while Trudy Messer took notes.

At the time of this writing we are hopeful the Music Group – the Choir and Band - facilitated by Joanne Redhead and scribed by Jim Farmer will also have met and the same procedure used.

The next groups with which we want to meet are: Friday, March 1 – evening – Youths - We plan a pizza party and discussion - facilitated by Joanne and Jennifer

Sunday, March 3 (after 11:00 am service) - Greeters/Sidespersons – facilitated by Helen and Jennifer

Sunday, March 10 (after 11:00 am service - Liturgical – (readers, intercessors, deacons, chancel guild) – facilitated by Carl and Helen

Once all people within the various groups have filled out questionnaires, we will schedule a focus meeting for those not in a group, or if you wish we can go to your home and have a face to face conversation. As previously stated, we want to hear from EVERY parishioner so, if you unable to attend a focus group or don’t wish a home visit and want to fill out a questionnaire and give us your opinion, please contact the Church Office and get a Survey questionnaire from Ruth.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2013

On Friday March 1, at 2 pm, Celebrate World Day of Prayer 2013 at Salem United Church,

12295 Innis Lake Road, Caledon.

The service is written by the women of France.

Everyone is welcome.



Chancel Guild

By Christina Heighton

I wish to thank the members of the chancel guild for another year of working together to prepare the altar for worship.

It would be hard to find a nicer group of women who are so dependable, support each other and have become good friends.

It makes my job so much easier. Thank you

On a Sad Note

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of our friend and fellow parishioner, Bob Waller. Bob died on February 8, 2013, after a long and courageous fight to overcome some tremendous odds. We extend our sympathies to Sue and all the family. He will be so missed.

There will be a suitable tribute to Bob in the next newsletter.

News and Views is a newsletter for the people of St. James Church. It is published four times per year - Lent, Pentecost, Fall and Advent.

For submissions in the newsletter:

Any member of the Parish of St. James Church 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

Next Newsletter: Pentecost 2013

Deadline: May 19, 2013

Publication: June 2, 2013



LENTEN CALENDAR

Friday, March 1 – 2 pm - World Day of Prayer to be celebrated at Salem United Church

Sunday, March 3 - 10 am - Breakfast is served followed by our **Sabbath Rest Service at 11 am**

Saturday, March 10 – Daylight Saving Time begins

Tuesday, March 12 – 7 pm – Advisory Board

Wednesdays - March, April May from 7 to 8 pm – Please join us for Lifetree Café

Sunday, March 18 – 11 am – Healing Service

Sunday, March 24 – 11 am - Palm Sunday Service

Thursday, March 28 - 7 pm - Maundy Thursday – **Service of Tenebrae (Shadows)**

Friday, March 29 - 11 am - Good Friday Service with “Stations of the Cross”

Sunday, March 31- 9 am and 11 am - Easter Sunday Services

Sunday, April 7 - Breakfast is served Followed by our **Sabbath Rest Service at 11 am**

Tuesday, April 9 – 7 pm – Advisory Board

April 26, 27, 28 – Catering at Bridge Tournament

Sunday, May 5 - 10 am - Breakfast is served Followed by our **Sabbath Rest Service at 11 am**

Sunday, May 12 – 11 am – Ascension Day Service
Mother’s Day

Tuesday, May 14 – 7 pm – Advisory Board

Sunday, May 19 – 11 am – Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, June 2 – 10 am - Breakfast is served - **11 am Sabbath Rest Service - Appreciation Day, Special People Vestry**

*We look forward to
seeing you at our
Easter Services*

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*Holy
Easter*

