



# The Wardens' Wire

## ISSUE 24 JANUARY 7 – 16, 2024

***IRONIC THAT ISSUE 24 SHOULD BE AT THE START OF 2024 ....IMAGINE 23 ISSUES OF WARDEN'S WIRE HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED ....***

### SUN. JAN 7<sup>TH</sup>

10.30 AM HOLY COMMUNION

### MON. JAN 8<sup>TH</sup>

9-12 NOON CRAFT CIRCLE

12.30-2.30 FRIENDSHIP CLUB

7 – 9 PM HAMLTON SCHOLA CANTORUM PRACTICE

### WED. JAN 10<sup>TH</sup>

1.30-3 PM BIBLE STUDY

### THUR, JAN 11<sup>TH</sup>

7-8.30 PM BIBLE STUDY

### FRIDAY JAN 12<sup>TH</sup>

6.30-8.30 pm AA GROUP MEETINGS

### SUN. JAN 14<sup>th</sup>

10.30 AM MORNING PRAYER

### MON. JAN 15<sup>TH</sup>

9-12 NOON CRAFT CIRCLE

12.30-2.30 FRIENDSHIP CLUB

7 – 9 PM HAMLTON SCHOLA CANTORUM PRACTICE

### TUE. JAN. 16<sup>TH</sup>

1.30-3 PM BOOK CLUB \*

### WED. JAN 17<sup>TH</sup>

1.30-3 BIBLE STUDY

### THUR, JAN 18<sup>TH</sup>

2- 4 PM VESTRY MEETING

7-8.30 PM BIBLE STUDY

### FRIDAY JAN 19<sup>TH</sup>

6.30-8.30 pm AA GROUP MEETINGS

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*Thank you all who made the Christmas season at St George's so meaningful, with the hymns, beautiful voices, wonderful music, and worship, the warm and beautiful sanctuary, decorated with beautiful poinsettias, being among friends after services, sharing food, stories, and love. We are blessed. AB*

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THANK YOU JACQUIE D-R FOR THIS BEAUTIFUL MESSAGE.

Hold onto HOPE. Hope is that which we cannot see but we know God extends to us in our relationship to Him, revealed to us from the prophets of old.

Hold onto PEACE. Peace comes to us from the Holy Child of Bethlehem as a gift and a legacy and a relationship to be cherished and developed.

Hold onto JOY. Christmas Joy was first described in the Scriptures as the Shepherds received the Message of Hope and began to spread it to anyone who would listen- with JOY!

Hold onto LOVE. LOVE was the message of the Angels on Christmas Eve - a message that put God's Love for humanity in clear perspective as he sent His son to earth as the Baby born in Bethlehem!

The challenge for us is to hold onto these things that life and the world would take from us, Hope, Peace, Joy and Love are the gifts that Jesus has given to each of us.

Let's hold onto these gifts close in our hearts and give them to those we encounter this Christmas and throughout 2024.



# The Wardens' Wire

'Just in case you are thinking there is not much going on inside the red doors at Royal and Emerson .....check this list out !!!

(compiled by Alison – did I miss anything??)

## ST GEORGES IN 2023

### ACTIVITIES

- FRIENDSHIP CLUB – 35 GET TOGETHERS
- CRAFT CIRCLE - AT LEAST 35 GET TOGETHERS!
- BOOK CLUB – 8 GREAT DISCUSSIONS
- MOVIES & PIZZA - 3 FUN AFTERNOONS
- A LITTLE GARDEN MUSIC – A GLORIOUS DAY
- SUMMER PICNIC - FUN FOR ALL
- OUR CHRISTMAS MINI-MARKET – WHICH TURNED INTO A FULL BAZAAR!

### PRESENTATIONS

- ANGLICAN RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT FUND  
Mike Tweedle
- AFGHANISTAN - Fahim Zadhar
- MISSIONARY WORK – B & NJ Jankiewicz

### FOOD

- EVERY SUNDAY AFTER THE SERVICE
- SPECIAL EVENT LUNCHESES FOR ST GEORGE'S DAY AND THE KING'S CORONATION
- BIRTHDAY CAKE MONTHLY PLUS !
- THE SUMMER INDOOR PICNIC
- PANCAKE DAY
- PANCAKES AGAIN ON A SUNDAY
- THANKSGIVING POT LUCK
- BISHOP'S WELCOME POT LUCK
- WELCOME BACK NEIGHBOURHOOD BBQ
- SOUP & BUNS AT COMPLINE
- POT LUCK END OF YEAR

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- TWO FOOD DRIVES FOR CROSSFIRE
- KNITTED HATS, SCARVES, MITTS, SOCKS FOR WINTER FOR STREETLIGHT CHURCH

- BLANKETS, ETC FOR ATWELL HOUSE
- STARTED THE PROCESS FOR REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

....AND THEN THERE IS THE WORSHIP

- 52 SUNDAYS OF MORNING PRAYER OR HOLY EUCHARIST
- COMPLINE SERVICES IN LENT AND ADVENT
- CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL SERVICE
- EVENING CAROL SERVICE
- FEAST OF ST JAMES AND FEAST OF THOMAS BECKETT
- QUIET DAY X 2
- EVENING PRAYER
- EVENSONG X 2
- WORSHIP AT EXTENDICARE – X 3
- REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Thanks to all who have made St George's hummmm every week  
Alison  
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.... Not to mention The Wardens' Wire .. Judy and I have had so much fun writing this up every couple of weeks... Let us know – do you have a favourite issue?, a favourite funny story (of Judy's!)? Did you miss an issue? (we have 23 filed in both our homes !)  
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Next issue we'll bring you up to date on plans for 2024 .... It's the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St George's and St Margaret's coming together on Emerson ...we should celebrate ? .... There is a history to be shared ....



# The Wardens' Wire

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Friendship Club resumes Monday, Jan. 8th from 12:30-2:30 in the Parish Hall.

We've had lots of fun over the past while sharpening our brain power with new and unusual words. You'll be delighted (or perhaps not) to know that I've got a great source from my Word.A.Day website, the developer to whom I must give credit. (Thank you Anu Garg.) The root words are included as are the languages from which they derive. So this week I have three doozies for you, two of which you'll figure out but the third I'll guarantee you is a brand spanking new one for all of us.

Come prepared with your favourite quote and I'll pass this little gem along to you right now to get you started. ....

*"The love of one's country is a splendid thing. But why should love stop at the border?"* (Pablo Casals, cellist, conductor, composer, 1876-1973.)

If I remember I'll bring along a piece of his music for us to listen to with our tea.

Do you know anyone who might like to come? - Judy

## Book Club-

**St. George's Book Club is open to all. If you don't like reading come to hear the discussion. If you don't like discussions come for the tea and timbits. If you don't like timbits come for the friendship and fun. It is informal and offers something for everyone.**

**The next one is Tuesday, January 16th from 1:30-3:00 in the Parish Hall. As you have heard we've decided to use the library bookclub kits with grateful thanks to Marlene and Tom for arranging that. Because we've changed systems we had to change the January book and you've all had a chance to pick up a copy of To Kill A Mockingbird. There are a few left in the Library bookclub kit bag in the bookcase beside the kitchen door, top shelf.**

**We have been fortunate to have discussions led by Jolie Phuong Hoang in her book about VietNam,**

**Colin Morris who grew up in Cairo leading discussion of Rory Stewart's book about his walk from Herat to Kabul, and this time Liz James, who grew up in Alabama will open our discussion for us with her insights about the book. How fortunate we are.**

**We'd love to have you. Bring your friends, your neighbours, someone you know who needs something to help them through the winter.**

**Here's to our next chapter! - Judy**  
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**Do you make New Year's Resolutions? I do. Do yours take? Mine wobble.**

I stopped off at Farm Boy in Bronte the other day after my walk along the water. My grocery list had only four items on it: "northern crunch lettuce, bananas, chicken soup, grapes."

Somehow a package of those little round sweets with chocolate hazelnut filling found their way into my cart.

When I got to the checkout my guilt kicked in.

ME: "Please just take those away" I told the cashier. "I've changed my mind."

HER: "You mean you don't want them then?"

ME: "No, I DO want them but I shouldn't"

HER: "So what should I do?"

ME.: "You SHOULD let me keep them. But don't. Oh just a minute. Ok. DO let me keep them. It was a New Year's resolution but it seems I'm a mere mortal after all.."

She was still laughing when I walked out of the store.

Those little blighters have been in my refrigerator untouched now for three days.

Keep you posted.

**Happy New Year friends! - Judy**



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## JUDY'S RESOLUTION GOT ME SEARCHING

The very first New Year's resolutions dates happened over 4,000 years ago. The first recorded people to celebrate a new year were the ancient Babylonians. Their new year celebration was a [12-day festival called Akitu](#), which began at the start of the spring planting season in March.

During the celebrations, Babylonians would make resolutions to their gods, pledge their loyalty to the king and promise to pay their debts and return borrowed items to their rightful owners. They believed that if they kept their resolutions, the gods would treat them favourably that year. But, if they broke their promises, they would get on the bad side of the gods.

The Babylonian New Year was adopted by the ancient Romans, as was the tradition of resolutions. The timing, however, eventually shifted with the Julian calendar in 46 B.C., which declared January 1st as the start of the new year.

Around the world food traditions are a focus ,,,

In Spain, people attempt to eat 12 grapes during these 12 strokes of midnight! Tradition says that if they succeed before the chimes stop, they will have good luck for all 12 months of the coming year.

In the southern US, black-eyed peas and pork foretell good fortune.

In Scotland—where [Hogmanay](#) is celebrated—Scots also hold bonfire ceremonies where people parade while swinging giant fireballs on poles!

In Dutch homes fritters called 'olie bollen' are served. Eating any ring-shaped treat (such as

doughnut) symbolizes "coming full circle" and leads to good fortune.

The Irish enjoy pastries called bannocks.

In India and Pakistan, rice promises prosperity.

In Swiss homes, dollops of whipped cream, symbolizing the richness of the year to come, are dropped on the floors—and allowed to remain there.

New Year's Day was once the time to swap presents.

Gifts of gilded nuts or coins marked the start of the new year in Rome.

Eggs, the symbol of fertility, were exchanged by the Persians.

Early Egyptians traded earthenware flasks.

In Scotland, coal, shortbread, and silverware were traditionally exchanged for good luck.

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*When driving around the city, or to Cambridge or Hagersville, as often happens, my thinking turns to the people who have come through my life, and especially those from St George's who we miss; so many who have spent a lifetime worshipping together and who can no longer get out to gather. Everyone I think of brings a memory of a special time, or chat, a laugh, a hug, or even just 'good morning' and I think "I should call and say hello" ...another day goes by, then a week, etc.etc. Please know none of you is forgotten we hope you read the Wardens Wire to keep up to date with your church, and know that you hold a special place in our heart for helping to build a place for generations to come.*

Alison

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JPS/AB 124