



# The Wardens' Wire

Issue 31 Apr 28 – May 11<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Sunday Apr 28**

8.30 am St Mary's Independent Anglican service  
10.30 am Morning Prayer at St George's  
2.00 pm HoiThanh Tin Lanh worship service

**Mon Apr 29**

9.30 am Craft Circle  
12.30 pm Friendship Circle  
7.30 pm Hamilton Schola Cantorum practice

**Wed. May 1**

1.30 pm Afternoon Bible Study

**Thurs. May 2**

7 pm Evening Bible Study

**Fri. May 3**

6 pm Park Group AA

**May 3 – 11<sup>th</sup>**

As above Plus

Thurs. May 9<sup>th</sup> Ascension Day  
10.30 am worship service

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**Upcoming Events:**

Evensong for the Feast of Bede the Venerable  
Mon May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm Rev Paul Luth, with William  
Renwick, Director of the Hamilton Schola Cantorum,  
John Laing on organ  
Come and enjoy this well loved service with HSC choir  
present to delight us with their talents. Bring a friend.

**Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup>**

5 pm Pot Luck dinner with Bishop & Mrs W Jenkins  
Please come, bring a dish to join us welcoming Bishop  
Jenkins to St Georges for the annual Episcopal visit.

**Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

10.30 am Holy Communion service with  
Bishop Jenkins

**Garage sale plus Bake & Book sale**

June 15<sup>th</sup> 10 am – 2 pm in support of our Refugee Fund.  
Check the bulletin board or talk to Christine for details.

**SPRING IS UPON US ...**



This picturesque scene greets those coming into Dundas on Cootes Drive at this time of year. The numerous cherry trees were planted in 2014 given by the Japanese as a thank you and deep appreciation for the hundreds of Canadian female missionaries who ventured to their shores beginning 140 years ago to spread the Gospel and educate women. The first missionary Martha J Cartmell left Hamilton in 1882 for those far off shores, and two years later founded the Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin. This Christian women's institution today has an enrolment of close to 4,000. The archivist at St Paul's United Church in Dundas tells me that their church still sends and supports young women missionaries regularly.

During the weekend of May 11-12 a ceremony with Japanese and Canadian dignitaries and guests will again show their appreciation to those Canadians who have supported the young ladies with prayer and offerings.

Alison

+++++ Thank you to the Maintenance Committee who is organizing further improvements to our church over the next few weeks; I am told the windows will be replaced in the parish hall, and a new stove will be placed in the kitchen.. what a feat that will be to get the monstrous stove out the door. Thanks be to God for our generous donor. Alison



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## HONING IN ON HYMNS

### SAFE IN THE ARMS OF JESUS Fanny Crosby 1858

*Safe in the arms of Jesus, safe on his gentle breast  
There by His love o'er shaded, sweetly my soul shall rest  
Hark, 'tis the voice of angels, borne in a song to me,  
Over the fields of glory, over the jasper sea.*

*Safe in the arms of Jesus, safe from corroding care  
Safe from the world's temptations, sin cannot harm me there  
Free from the blight of sorrow, free from my doubts and fears  
Only a few more trials, only a few more tears.*

*Jesus my heart's dear refuge, Jesus has died for me  
Firm on the Rock of Ages, ever my trust shall be  
'Ere let me wait with patience, wait till the night is o'er  
Wait till I see the morning, break on the golden shore*

Fanny Crosby, the blind hymnist who has written, it is said, up to 9000 hymns has given us this beautiful hymn, a favourite to many.

A year after her marriage to Alexander Van Alsteine Fanny gave birth to a child, who did not live. Many years later she wrote "God gave us a tender babe and soon the angels came down and took our infant up to God and His throne." The child's death devastated her, she would not speak about it and privately bore the sadness all her life.

In 1868 Howard Doane, a musician knocked on the door of her Manhattan apartment and said "I have exactly forty minutes before I must meet a train. I have a tune for you. See if it says anything to you. Perhaps you can commit to memory and then compose a poem to match it". He hummed the tune for her. Fanny clapped her hands and said, "Why, that says "Safe in the arm of Jesus" She went to another room, knelt on the floor and asked God to give her the words quickly. Within half an hour she had composed the poem in her mind and dictated it to Howard Doane, who then dashed off to catch his train.

During her lifetime 'Safe in the Arms of Jesus' was considered in a class by itself. She claimed it was written for the bereaved, especially for mothers who had lost children. *Taken from Then Sings My Soul*

Alison

The world is on the move. Floods, famine, wars have driven millions from their homes.

I had the joy yesterday of attending Citizenship Court at the Federal Government building on Bay Street with two dear friends who arrived in Hamilton five years ago, having been delivered out of a terrible conflict and threats to their lives. They knew not a soul here. Their apartment was riddled with mice. They were thankful for all of it, for every bit of the opportunity to recalculate their routes.

They've been homesick, afraid, thankful, joyful, afraid again, worried, joyful again, homesick again, worried about their families back home, and have worked several jobs at once, studied English, and at the end of five years they paid \$600.00 each to write the very difficult Citizenship test and they passed.

So there we were yesterday, them standing with 65 other newcomers while a friend and myself stood at the back as people from twenty-one countries pledge the Oath that ends with "and fulfill my duties as a Canadian citizen."

And then they all stood together with the rest of us who had the fortune of the Canadian birthright as we all sang O Canada while they waved their flags, arms held high in the air. Some of the newcomers were elderly who had come to be with their children and grandchildren, others came from war, others from governments that do not tolerate difference of opinion, others for opportunity for their children just as my own grandparents, and possibly yours, did.

It made me think of our own fellow who sits waiting in difficult circumstances. It will be a joy someday, God willing, to be with him too as he takes the Oath, waves the flag, sings O Canada, welcomes the chance to live without fear.

Philippians Chapter 3:20 promises the entire world another kind of citizenship, the freedom that we cherish at St. George's.

"But our citizenship is in Heaven" it tells us. (NIV)

Judy

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# The Wardens' Wire

I was so pleased to receive a note from Sherre Gaertner the choir director of the Williamson College. She tells me she read to the choir boys the thank you letter from our Vestry. We are forging another friendship ..  
'The Tie That Binds..... Judy

*'Thank you so much for your letter to President Rounds on our behalf. He made reference to it at an assembly last week and forwarded it to me today. As you well know, it goes a long way when someone takes the time to do what you did. I really appreciated it so much!!*

*Thank you for the prayer book. I enjoy it very much!!*

Sherre  
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## FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

St Georges' has flowers on the altar each Sunday , excluding Lent. We are always thrilled to have flowers from your garden, or place flowers in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion. A list will be on the bulletin board , as in the past, for notation in advance.

*Alison .*

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The eggs have hatched! Peregrine falcons, once a species at risk, have called Hamilton their home for 25 years, and fledged 70 chicks from their nest high above the streets in downtown Hamilton. The chicks will make their risky maiden flights from the 18<sup>th</sup> floor of the Sheraton in a few weeks. McKeever and Judson, the current occupants, have successfully fledged 8 chicks over the past three years .. Three chicks have hatched this week, still be named.

*Alison*

The power possessed by the earth stuns, amazes, moves me.

I'm looking out the window into the back garden. Only two weeks ago everything was brown, gray, dull. Today? The moss, the grass, the unfurling leaves, all of them emerald green to the point that I won't be surprised if a troupe of Irish dancers jigs its way across the greensward.

I'm serious when I say that nature stuns me every Spring in its ability to get a second life right in tune with the Resurrection we've just celebrated. It brings such hope, hope that the lupins I planted that failed last year will bounce back into action, that the clematis that's been clipped down to the bottom will spread its beautiful pink cups across the railing on the deck again, that the mulberry tree a squirrel planted for me will keep on stretching its arms, east and west, providing both shelter and shade. I know what people think of mulberry trees so I'll plead ignorance if my neighbour asks me to cut it down. The birds loved it last summer.

And then of course there is the Benedicite, Omnia Opera, "All the works" of the Lord. Lent is made more special as we recite those lovely phrases each year. I think we should do it more often as a salute to thankfulness.

Small wonder that I like the part that celebrates "O all Ye Green Things upon the Earth, bless ye the Lord:/ praise him, and magnify him for ever."

- Judy

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**CHECK OUT OPEN DOORS HAMILTON  
NEXT WEEKEND - MAY4-5TH.**

Close to the church :-

- Livelab at McMaster Psychology Building 10-4 Sat & Sun
- The Westdale Theatre 1014 King St West 10-4 Sun.
- Walking Tour of Westdale 10 am Sat & Sun
- Dundurn Castle 10-4 Sat

Full Details on bulletin board

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