

The Wardens' Wire

ISSUE # 35

June 30th – July 14th 2024

Sunday June 30th & July 8th
10.30 am Morning Prayer (5th Sunday)

Wed, July 3 & 10th
2-3.30 pm Bible Study

Thurs. July 4 & 11th
6.30-8.30 Bible Study

Fri July 5 & 12th
6-9 pm Park Group AA

Also on
Sundays at 8.30 am St Mary's Independent Anglican service and 2 pm Hoi Thanh Tin Lanh service.

These friendly people will welcome you any time you wish to attend, many of our parishioners join the 8.30 am service, and others spend time late in the afternoon with our Vietnamese friends.

SPONSORSHIP UPDATE:

As you can see from the overflowing thermometer on the fellowship hall wall, we are now in a wonderful position to support our young man over 10,000 km away We are ready !! We hear that he now is on the list and things will move along fairly quickly from here we expect.

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THANKS TO CHRISTINE AND HER FAMILY FOR ORGANIZING THE LATEST MAJOR FUNDRAISER –the outdoor/indoor garage sale. It was a huge amount of work, but a huge amount of fun, and worth every moment of the event. Thanks to all who lugged everything upstairs, outside, inside, downstairs, sorted books, contributed through donations, baking, plants, who worked on the tables, spent their money,

You all know who you are ... a real congregational event. **THANK YOU THANK YOU ALL** Alison

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Here are a few 'jokes for us mature (aka seniors)! folks from Linda

I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.

When people see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat" I just say, "No, it's for company!"

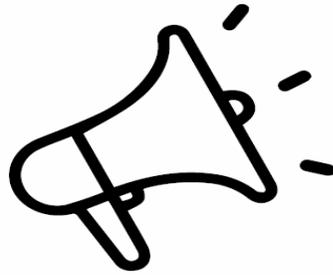
Employment application blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write, "An ambulance."

I want people to know why I look this way. I've traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.

Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth

Now I must tell you first that I do not relate to this one other than I think the person honking his horn would be my dad, a real jokester in his day!...before cell phones!
"I'm in a parking lot at the mall watching a woman who can't remember where she parked. Every time she holds her remote in the air I honk my horn!"
Alison

"In him was life; and the life was the light of men."
(The Gospel according to St. John 1:4 KJV.)



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Among my favourite passages of Scripture are the first few verses in the first chapter of The Gospel according to St. John.

I like the play between darkness and light whether it's in the Scriptures or in other ordinary books or in my own observances of the moon which never fails to light up my kitchen at exactly 3a.m.

I've been reading a lovely book about Dutch painters with thanks to the friend who points these books out to me. The explanations are all about that very thing; the play of the light, sometimes in the still life oils of which the Dutch painters were so fond, or sometimes in the huge sky with the cumulus clouds lit up from behind, at other times with a storm brewing when that same blue sky becomes overcast, threatening.

Several years ago I went to a Bible Study led by Patrick Moore who was a well respected member of St. George's and a good friend. My Bible is full of notes but especially the notes I took regarding The Gospel of St. John.

Patrick stressed that the darkness, or the evil, could not overcome that particular Light, the Light that God brought into the world in Jesus. My notes say that "our function in the world is to be a witness to that Light."

A dear Muslim friend has recently been making tee-shirts. She made me one in Arabic lettering. I asked her what it said. I was astonished that she had gone to the trouble of translating St. John 1:1. "In the beginning was the Word" I'd never told her it was special to me but hers was a true gift.

As I've been looking at those verses I realized that we have been doing a good job of sharing the Light we've been given through Jesus. And we are allowing ourselves the opportunity to share it way outside of ourselves, over the mountains and across the seas in fact. Our Front Porch ministry has expanded!

This is a time for thanksgiving. - Judy

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We had our final meeting of the Chat & Chew Book Club earlier this month and used it to talk about other

books that had been special to us in some way. It was a worthwhile topic as it happens.

Sandra talked about a book she had read regarding the intelligence of dolphins, Liz mentioned her quest to find further information about the American enforced eviction of the Cherokees and other nations westward which became known as The Trail of Tears and prompted the new concept of recognizing "Juneteenth."

Val enjoyed the book we read about Guernsey during the Occupation and how new friendships were forged. Joyce commented that she had enjoyed all of the books and two people mentioned that Jolie Phuong Hoang's book was their pick. Tom mentioned Eric Metaxas' book about seven women's contributions to the faith. Marlene talked about the Anthony Trollope novel that she is presently rereading and I shared her love of his novels too. Richard enjoyed reading Watership Down when he was a child in hospital and a friend told his mom that it would be too difficult for his young age to which his mother replied " You don't know my Richard!" And she was right. He read it and digested it.

Colin read aloud from an amusing older British book he is enjoying.

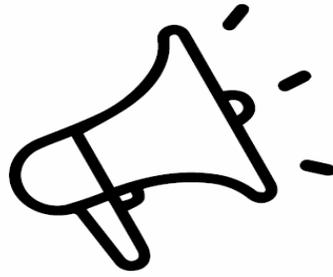
Thank you to Marlene and Tom for arranging the book kits for us and to Marlene for sending me the list of 350 book kits belonging to HPL to sort through. I made a list of several choices, we each numbered our favourites and Jo-Anne has the task of collating the picks so that we can set some up for September and forward.

What a great group you all are. We've thought new thoughts together, learned new things and enjoyed one another.

Why don't you join? It's not necessary to read the book if you'd prefer to come to hear the discussion. New ideas come in many forms and the value of "just listening" is not to be overlooked.

I'll keep you posted about start-up in September. Thank you all of you. Judy

HISTORY OF ST GEORGE'S



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It isn't long after someone attends St George's that they hear the story of 'the Windows'. Check out the website to read it again, or in the new history binder there is a good segment on it. On the off-chance that the Howitt family /descendents were still active and on social media, I 'googled' Elliott Haverlack, the great grandson of Canon Howitt. Sure enough, not only is he on facebook (not very often he admits) but he has his own website and is a very well known business man, strategic coach and published author.. I sent him a note and he replied.... It was actually pretty exciting; here is his response !

know where I usually am on Sunday mornings around 11 am ?It was interesting to see the activities around places like Carisma, Mountains of Fire, Legacy, Crossfire, Living Hope, Restoration House . People coming and going, talking to each other, and even a table set out with food for passersby right on King Street at the mosque.

It is reassuring to know that there are many people in our city feeling free to praise God in their own way.

aLISON

*On June 15, 2024 Mr. Haverlack responded:
"I just found this note. Thank you so much. Ironically I'm in Toronto getting ready to fly to YWG later today. The windows and the story surrounding them is a miracle in my life. Once my granddaughter has her passport I hope to bring her to see them.
On a related note I authored a book in 2021. There is a chapter dedicated to the story of the windows. The title is 'From Fear to Fulfillment, A Fight for Faith, Family and Freedom'.
When I travel your way I'll be sure to bring you a copy. Thank you again for your kind note. It means a great deal to me that windows are still touching and inspiring people. "*

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WHAT IS REVIVAL?

From 25 to 28 July, 2024 St. George's is hosting a Revival. But what is revival? To answer this question I delved into a book entitled, *Revive: Bringing Health, Vitality and Growth Back into Your Church* by Mark Eldredge. Here are some of the ideas I culled from the book

Part I

Revival means personal renewal into a vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ

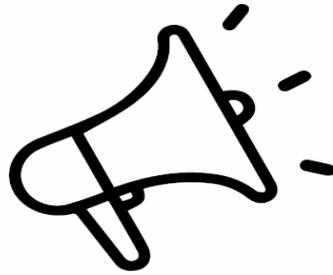
- Being born again (John 3: 5-7)
- Being bold in witness (Acts 1:8)
- Being baptized in the Holy Spirit (John 20: 21-22)
- Commit to doing one thing to show this
- Tell someone your own story of salvation: when, where, and how you came to know Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.

Our resident buyer of all books mentioned (!) ,Judy, immediately ordered the book; speedy Amazon delivered it within a day ...the story is as we know it, but with perspective from the family's feelings... we are just so fortunate to have these windows in our care and I hope every time you come into the sanctuary you delight in this treasure. ALISON

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I had the opportunity to be driving through Hamilton on King Street on Sunday morning around 11 am recently. This is something I haven't done for decades, as you

Revival means leaving our comfort zones



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- Being courageous (Josh 1:9; Isaiah 41:10, Math. 28: 20)
- Getting out of our churches and going to where sinners are (John 1: 1-2, 14a)
- Loving sinners (John 3: 16, Mark 2: 15-17)
- Practicing demonstration, proclamation and transformation (Acts 2)

- Asking how we can set up our church to welcome and help the hurting
- Asking how we can connect with the “sick” outside our church walls and become “first responders” to them (Math. 2: 15-17)
- Committing to making our church a hospital for sinners

Revival means being willing to change

- If our security is in the Lord, then change can be embraced (Acts 6: 1-7)
- If we love sinners and the lost, we can bear change to reach them.

Revival means prayer and trust that God will act in response.

- God wants our church to grow (Luke 15: 5-7)
- Before a church can grow, it must be healthy (1 Cor, 12:27)
- Trusting in Jesus to equip us to advance the gospel and make disciples
- “If in trying to save your church, your church becomes more important to you than Jesus, you will lose it. If liturgy is more important to you than Jesus, you will lose it. If being Anglican is more important to you than Jesus, you will lose it. However, if you give up your church, letting it and its growth go into the hands of Jesus and put your relationship with Jesus first, you will end up saving it.” (79)

Revival means impacting the local community

- Believing that St. George’s is part of God’s plan to transform our community
- Committing to addressing local needs
- Doing something, taking risks, and expecting some failures
- Partnering with others (e.g. Lift Church)
- Trusting in God to lead us in all our efforts

Revival means abandoning the approach of going through the motions, and instead showing zeal and enthusiasm (Rev. 3: 15-16)

Revival means asking and praying about what people God wishes us to reach in our community.

- Asking who is the Lord drawing into our midst already?
- Determining what their needs are?
- Deciding how we are to respond.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, by your Holy Spirit, prepare our hearts and minds to do your will. Open our eyes to see what you are doing in our midst. Grant us courage to be the people you want us to be.

Part II to follow in the next *Wardens' Wire*.

Tom Power

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JPS/AB 35

Revival means realizing that the Church is a hospital for sinners, not a hotel for saints.