

# The Wardens' Wire

Issue # 37....AUGUST 4 -24, 2024

(Note the St George's service on Sunday Aug 4<sup>th</sup> will be Morning Prayer rather than Holy Communion).

SUNDAYS ,4th , 11th , 18TH  
10.30 AM Morning Prayer

MONDAYS 5th , 12th , 19TH  
9.30 AM Craft circle ladies meet

WEDNESDAYS, 7th , 14th ,21ST  
1.30 – 3 PM Bible Study

THURSDAY, 8th , 15th ,22nd  
7.00 – 8.30 PM Evening Bible Study

SATURDAY AUGUST 10TH  
5 PM BBQ in the garden to welcome Deacon Ben Pearce

THURSDAY AUGUST 22ND  
10 AM Extencicare Service

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Others using the church  
Sundays 830 pm St Mary's Independent Anglican service  
2.30 pm Hoi Thanh Tin Lanh service  
Fridays 6-9 pm Park Group AA

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*I trust most of our members were able to hear Rev Dr Walter V L Eversley, our guest at the Gospel Revival... He kept us all enthralled with his well prepared and most engaging sermons. We have a lot to ponder after hearing your Sermons: Something Happened in Church; Sight, Insight and Hindsight; Dreamers Wanted; The Language of Survival.*

*Thank you Rev Eversley for visiting us here in Canada . We hope you enjoyed being here as much as we enjoyed welcoming you.*

Alison

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*Thank you Father Bob for this quote ... A great lead up to a review of the Gospel Revival of the past weekend. ....*

**'The purpose of music, according to the Church's tradition, is not entertainment, but to lead the mind/soul to higher things'.**

All who attended any part of the Gospel Revival were treated to the most wonderful music at every service; if it was the harmonious Hamilton Schola Cantorum our own St George's choir, the special guests playing sax, trumpet, oboe, the incredibly talented John Laing playing at the Thursday evensong, the energetic, enthusiastic, talented William playing, singing, directing , or our own voices singing with such fervor the hymns in the garden or at each worship service. The music surely could be no better in the Cathedrals of the world. Thank you to all. Alison

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JOIN US FOR A BBQ in the garden **on Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup> ...5 pm** ..bring salad or dessert and we'll provide the burgers & hot dogs ... and the drinks... sign up sheet on the bulletin board.. Bring a friend, a neighbour, a family member --- just a fun evening in our beautiful memory garden  
Joining us will be REC Deacon Ben Pearce, whose visit last summer was enjoyed by all--- I'm thinking he enjoyed being here too, as he was very willing to come back this way and spend the week at St George's while the Luth family are on vacation.

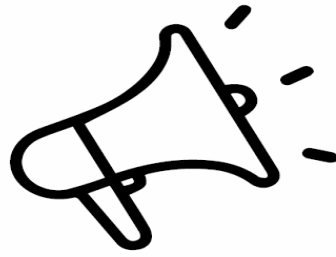
Alison

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## BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

Pick up your summer reading material – our book shelves are stacked ....

Also the bag from Hamilton Public Library with the September book club pick is on the shelf ... enjoy and pass on or return, recording the number on the sheet in the bag in time for the Book Club meeting of September 17<sup>th</sup>.



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*I'm declaring a personal war on over-listening to the tv news. There's no personal peace to be found in dwelling on things over which we have no control.*

*Enter the loveliest book I've read in a while. It is called 'Next to Nature, A Lifetime in the English Countryside.' It is written by Ronald Blythe who died "peacefully at home on January 14, 2023". He was one hundred years of age.*

*The library will have copies. If not I can lend you mine although I'm not quite finished with it. The print is small, the text dense but it is the most uplifting piece of literature I have read in a long time.*

*He writes from a sincere Christian viewpoint so that, for him, even the heavy rains are filled with beauty. The "filled-drains are singing and with a good ear on a pouring morning it is possible to pick up all the cascading water music of the February land."*

*And about a Sunday lunch in the garden "after matins" he says that "the birds are operatic. The horses on the sloping meadows benign. The Wordsworthian daffodils under the budding fruit trees making a show."*

*He closes his beautiful love story to nature with the Albert Camus quote, "In the depth of winter, I finally found that within me there lay an invincible summer." -*

*His book is a poetic love letter to Creation and to the God who made it happen. - Judy*

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**When I was a Brownie leader I delighted in explaining to the new, eager little girls what a 'Good Deed' was – (the mantra of the original 'Brownies') ..... When someone does something for someone but doesn't tell anyone it was them that did it ..... so easy to explain – so hard to keep the secret! Alison**

.....

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW .... The lovely pens with St George's on them that have been given out over the last few months were a gift of Walter Luth --- thank you – what a lovely gesture Walter.

## The Things I Learned This Week

1. Just because Häagen-Dazs ice cream is on sale doesn't mean you have to buy it. And just because it comes in those adorable little tubs of 450 ml doesn't mean it's less lethal than the stuff you buy in tubs of 1.5 litres.

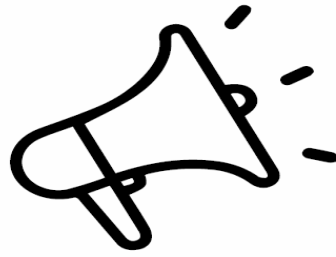
But if you weaken the person who wrote this told me to tell you that she heartily recommends the chocolate-peanut butter.

2. Just because your shirts came out of your dryer all tangled and crumbly doesn't mean you have to iron them. It's not as if ironing our shirts is a piece of Federal Legislation. And it's summer. And your mom will never find out. That's what the person who wrote this told me to tell you.

3. Just because the weeds in your garden are out of control tell yourself "It's not my fault. It's the rain." And because the Benedicite proclaims the beauty of the green things God gives us ("O all ye Green Things upon the Earth, bless ye the Lord: praise Him and magnify him forever") we can assume it means that we should leave them in situ and should not bend in half for four hours pulling them out. Instead just put some green things in a little pot of water in your kitchen window. They are no end of cheerful. And they will demand nothing from you. The person who wrote this did that too and thinks it's easier than pulling weeds.

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(PS. 'just saying – I did not write this !! Alison)



# The Wardens' Wire

## The Friendship Circle

Is it ok with those of you who come out on Monday afternoons if we change the word Friendship Club to Friendship Circle? The word "Club" suggests exclusivity, membership fees, cigars and leather armchairs. We prefer our squeaky maroon chairs, no cigars and inclusivity where everyone who wants a little lovin' can stop by for tea and a biscuit and share some interesting ideas. And the word "Circle" reminds me of God's love in the way that it keeps coming back to meet us, over and over and never has an end date like yogurt and bread!

If we change the shape of the Friendship Circle a bit it should make it even better. Arpine has offered to do a Bible study one Monday afternoon a month. And she might bring some friends along! On both counts, yay!

Sandra is going to sort out some board games for us to play once a month. More yays!

Do any of you have ideas for the third Monday in the month? I'm hoping that Linda will be able to continue her amazing music fun but we will wait and see. I'm happy to do something once a month too and I know that Alison is on board.

Originally we had hoped that it might draw in some neighbourhood friends so let's keep working on that idea. And there are several new folks in the church too who might like to come. It's not just for women of course. James needs some company!

If you have any ideas let me know please.  
Thank you. We won't meet again until September. -  
Judy

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Please keep Alexei Gonzalez, the Archdeacon of the Cuban Diocese in your prayers. Now recovered from many months of ill health, and upheaval in Cuba, he is energized to travel through Cuba to the Eastern Convocation, to meet with clergy, assess situations and support the clergy in their communities. Towards the end of August he will travel to Havana and meet with the clergy of the Western Convocation. He has asked for our prayers for strength and wisdom in these endeavours.

*Travel through Cuba brings its own set of challenges....  
Our prayers are with you Alexei.....  
Alison*

## HONING IN ON HYMNS

### My Jesus I love thee

#### **William R Featherston 1846-1873**

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine,  
For Thee all the follies of sin, I resign.  
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou,  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now

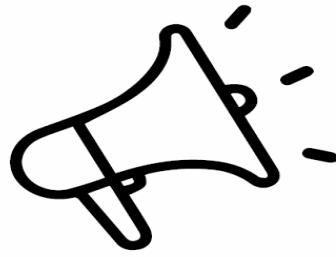
I love Thee because Thou has first loved me,  
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.  
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow,  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now

I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,  
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath,  
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow,  
"If ever I loved thee my Jesus, 'tis now"

In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I'll ever adore Thee, in heaven so bright,  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,  
"If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now"

.....  
It is amazing to learn that this beautiful hymn was written by a 16 year old Canadian! William was born July 23, 1846 in Montreal. Although not much information is known about this young man of a Wesleyan family, we know after writing the words, he sent them to his aunt in Los Angeles who encouraged publication. The original handwritten piece is still treasured by the family. William died a young man, apparently sickly most of his days. He is buried in Mont Royal Cemetery (section C5).

The author of the publication 101 More Hymn Stories writes "one never ceases to marvel at the workings of God in bringing together the necessary circumstances that make possible the birth and preservation of expressions such as these which believers in every generation and culture can



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employ in their praise and adoration of the Almighty “ ..... *my sentiments exactly* -- Alison

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## HISTORY NOTES .....

After St George’s Anglican Church on Tom Street was closed, locks changed and some important artifacts removed, some to ‘safe keeping’ others destroyed, a small group of long time members found another place to meet on Sundays. Although encouraged by the Diocese of Niagara to attend other Anglican churches in the City, the welcome from King Street Baptist church and their members was just perfect, friendly people, worshipping and providing for the needs of those not so fortunate, and true fellowship .... The gymnasium was turned into a worship area, reams of material was purchased to make curtains around the stage April L, Linda P and others, worked tirelessly; Lola took charge of the kitchen, and lunches after service - all of this rent free for years , thanks to the kindly folk at King St Baptist. The ‘St George’s ‘ congregation enjoyed their Sundays and reached out to many newcomers in the city, with families attending, and having wonderful outings for ten years. They connected with the Reformed Episcopal Church and were a happy band of worshippers for nearly ten years at that location.

In early 2004 Rev John Smith heard that St Margaret’s was to close, with haste he penned a very brief letter to the Bishop of Niagara asking if the group could be considered to purchase 134 Emerson ... What excitement when a positive reply was quickly received! . The \$50,000 accumulated in the bank was 1/3rd of what was needed for the building – a mortgage for \$100,000 was secured and by June 2004 we were moving in. (Two years later the mortgage was paid off).

When word came to those at St Margaret’s that St George’s Reformed Episcopal Church, under the direction of Rev John Smith had approached the Diocese to purchase the church, many of them decided to stay right where they were. The pews at the

opening services on June 27th were filled. There was re-dedication of the marble plaques and we were all so excited to know that Mary Krucker (daughter of Rev Donald Hawkins MacLennan) was present. Many members of the disestablished St Margarets were part of our new family, and able to continue with their Ladies Guild, their craft groups, their wonderful pot luck dinners. For 20 years now the parishioners of the ‘old’ St Margaret’s have worshiped along side the members of St George’s to make a very successful ‘marriage’. The familiar Book of Common Prayer and hymns from the Book of Common Praise - and the people singing in that building - as had been done for the past 95 years as St Margaret’s Anglican Church, built by the community – continued.

The church bell, raised in 1909 tolled each Sunday , waking up the neighbours, to the delight of the parishioners... it still stands high above the peak 115 years later, although very carefully rung on special occasions, so as not to destroy the worn out rope!

Twenty years later the doors are bright red, memorial stained glass surrounds them, the garden grows abundantly, the memory wall is a reminder of all who have come our way. Approximately 1014 Sundays have passed since the opening Sunday of St George’s on Emerson, and ne’er a Sunday has gone by without the tread being walked over.

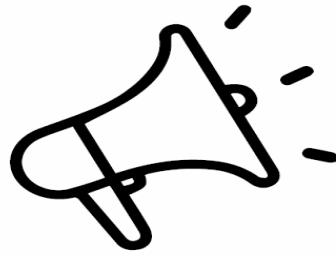
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**In John 3:16 we read that “God so loved the world...”.**

**The remainder of that verse is the most important part as it is a strong reminder that He loved us enough to have given us His only child, His Son Jesus, to so that we could have life everlasting.**

**When God says He loves the world it means every single person in it of every creed and nation. He doesn’t mean only the people who live in certain places or come from particular social groups. No. That wouldn’t make sense. When He says He loves the world we can take it seriously, depend on it and rejoice over it.**

**One of the things we cherish at St. George’s is that verse. And one of the things we hold high is that verse. And one of the things that makes our church family extra special is because we have been**



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blessed with our cosy, global congregation. We rejoice with friends from Sri Lanka, China, Korea, Pakistan, Ghana, and Afghanistan.

God so loved the world.

God so loves all of us. - Judy

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