



The Wardens' Wire

Issue # 44 NOVEMBER 24 – DEC EMBER 8 2024

Stir Up Sunday – November 24th.

Sunday Nov 24 SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT

10.30 AM ADVENT LESSONS & HYMNS

Monday Nov 25

9.30 am Craft Circle

12.30 pm Friendship Circle

Wednesday Nov 27

1.30 pm Bible Study

Thursday Nov 28

10 am Extendicare service

Saturday Nov 30

9.00 am – 1 pm CHURCH GET TOGETHER **

Sunday December 1st ADVENT SUNDAY

10.30 AM HOLY COMMUNION

Monday December 2nd

9.30 am Craft circle

12.30 Friendship Circle

7.3 pm EVEN SONG

Wednesday December 4th

1.30 pm Bible Study

Saturday December 7th

5 pm Christmas Pot Luck Dinner **

Sunday December 8th

10.30 am MORNING PRAYERr

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Sundays

8.30 am St Mary's Independent Anglican Church

2.00 pm Hoi Thanh Tin Lanh Vietnamese service

Mondays

7.30 pm Hamilton Schola Cantorum practice

Fridays

6.30 pm Park Group AA

** sign up sheets on the bulletin board.

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Traditionally, dating back to Victorian times, the time for making your Christmas pudding. .

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Saturday Nov 30th 9 am – 1 pm

Join the church members to discuss the future path of St George's, looking for your ideas, your comments, suggestions, and worries.... Lunch will be served at the end of the exercise. Sign up sheet on bulletin board.

Monday December 2nd 7.30 -8.45 pm

Evening Prayer will be held If you have been to the previous services this year, you will need no convincing – a beautiful service, with Prof W Renwick's, Hamilton Schola Cantorum choir and John Laing on the organ, along with the service of Evening Prayer from the BCP. Invite a friend. Refreshments to follow.

Saturday December 7th 5 pm

Our Christmas Pot Luck Dinner... Please come bring a friend, bring a dish that can be shared with about ten people- if you have something special to bring you can write it on the board...

Thursday December 19th 2 pm

Mark this date – an afternoon at Extendicare ... a Christmas special for the residents there. Please attend if you are able.



The Wardens' Wire



Starting in January 2025 join online to learn about the Reformation.

Learn about:

- The People: Martin Luther, John Calvin, Henry VIII, Thomas Cranmer, and many others.
- The Issues: indulgences, king Henry's divorce, influence of printing, Luther and the Jews, the Bible in English.
- The Consequences: rise of capitalism, different denominations, the modern nation state, and much else.

When: Starting Tuesday, 7 January, 2025, 7-8 p.m.

How: By zoom from the comfort of your own home!

Email Tom Power for the zoom link: thomppower@gmail.com

Cost: Zero!

No prior knowledge necessary.

No preparation necessary.

Bring your questions.

Invite your friends.

Hosted by Tom Power

At our recent Friendship circle, Linda introduced us to a new hymn. This actually is new – written in 2002.... The most beautiful words. It will take practice to

remember the tune. The 2nd and 4th stanza have a completely different melody! If you are one of those savvy people who 'google' ..just type in the title and you will hear the beautiful hymn..

Alison

Every Day is a Gift from the Lord Don Besig, sung by Nancy Price

As I waken each morning from the shadows of night
To a clear blue sky and the sun shining bright
I am filled with wonder at the glorious sight
Ev'ry day is a gift from the Lord.

For the world so bright and fair
Sunshine and rainbows, joy I can share
For the chance to love and care
Thank you, thank you, Lord

As I greet a new morning I can hear my heart sing
And my spirit soars like a bird on the wing
I will find life's meaning and the joy it can bring
Ev'ry day is a gift from the Lord

For the time to learn and grow
Kindness and friendship, love I can show
For your grace which makes me whole
Thank you , thank you lord.

As I travel life's journey, I will not be afraid
For I'll walk with Christ. He will show me the way
I will face tomorrow filled with courage and faith
Ev'y day is a gift from the Lord.

Thank you, Lord.

+++++

RECEIVED THIS FROM FATHER BOB....

Before it all begins.....

When someone says "Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas" remember, they're not doing it because of political correctness. They do it out of respect. From November 20th to January 24th, there are at least 14 different religious holidays. So when someone says Happy Holidays to you, thank them. Because they don't know what you believe in. It's called respect, not a war on Christmas

REMINDER.....**MITTEN TREE.....** Our tree is looking very festive adorned with scarves, hats, mitts, and socks....thank you to all who have knitted, crocheted and purchased warm outer clothing for the Streetlight



The Warden's Wire

Christian Church mission to those in the Hamilton downtown area . Their website is impressive, and we are happy to be able to send our love to them and keep their people warm through the winter months. Their Christmas baskets are usually distributed in mid December, so your donations over the next few weeks are appreciated. Thank you St George's members for all you do for those in need.

+++++

Do you have a favourite Bible verse, something that you remind yourself of when you need an uplift? If you do please send it to Alison for the Warden's Wire. Maybe you have more than one. There are too many meaningful verses to choose just one.

When I was very young, in my twenties, I chose Romans 8:28 as a verse that I'd live by. I still do.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." (KJV)

Because life throws us curve balls now and again we struggle at times to hold onto these life rafts. Things don't always go as we hope they will. I think it takes time and some looking backwards to be able to affirm that yes, God was there. He knows what He is doing. More importantly, He will never let go of me, of you, of us. We give Him our trust, our love and He gives us back His great care and His Love that deserves a capital " L".

It's just the way it works. - Judy

Sunday School update -

Between Sandra and myself on Sunday mornings we've got our hands full with our two adorable little guys who like the cookies and the juice and the game that they've invented about counting to five and then jumping over all the heat registers in the Parish Hall

floor. Ferdaus loves his Bible lesson as will Soroush when he gets a bit older. As for now he's only interested in yelling out "I won!" with great glee even though we're not playing a game. It's his newest English expression and he's perfected it.

We're on Lesson 6 already so we've been introduced to the idea that God created our world and has told Mary that He will send us His son so we can relate more easily to God the Father.

Thinking about the coming new year it is our hope that our Sunday School will grow. Thank you Christine and Pat for volunteering to teach and to Jane Vansickle who has agreed to come too on occasion. Pat hopes to teach the children some songs so if you hear the piano tinkling in the Parish Hall some Sunday morning give thanks.

And thanks to Sandra who is always there with her soft voice and to Esther who finds it much easier to get down on the floor to assemble the wooden train tracks than I do.

I want to share a sweet story. Several years ago, when we were still meeting in the basement of King Street Baptist Church before we came to St. Margaret's we recognized the need for a Sunday School. A dear former member, Laurie Akse, reminded us that if we prayed God would answer us. So we got busy that week asking God to send us children.

The following Sunday a family from Zimbabwe arrived, complete with four beautiful small children, all of whom said their prayers by pulling out the little wooden chairs, kneeling in front of them, elbows on the wooden seats, hands clasped in prayer. How good could it get? Actually it got even better because their surname was Million. We were able to tell others that we had "a few million children in church" thereafter.

So don't give up. All things are possible. - Judy

Friendship Circle

On Monday afternoon December 2nd Arpine and some of her friends from her former Christian women's group are going to join the Friendship Circle. Isn't that



The Warden's Wire

great news? They plan to stay with us which means that we will have new friends in them as they will in us.

This is an invitation to you, your neighbour, your sister-in-law, whomever wishes, to please join us from 12:30-2:00 on Monday afternoons unless otherwise noted.

The women are planning a small Christmas celebration and a devotional. This is exactly what we had hoped would happen when we first began the program and I'd like to thank each of you who attends. Your contributions have added so much to the fun and to the discussions.

Churches are closing all through this huge city but we are doing what we can to keep Christian worship and fellowship alive and well in the truth.

Do you remember singing " You In Your Small Corner and I in Mine" in your Sunday School days?

We've been given the small corner here at Emerson and Royal. We've got the goods and we have to keep it, enlarge upon it, celebrate what God has given us.

It is His church that we safeguard, our work on His behalf. - Judy

+++++

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Advent is a four-week period in the Christian calendar that prepares for the celebration of Christmas:

Beginning the closest to November 30 in Western churches, and on the sixth Sunday before Christmas in the Ambrosian and Mozarabic Rites of the Catholic Church.

The four candles of the Advent wreath specifically symbolize the Christian concepts of hope, peace, joy and love, with these candles being lit subsequently throughout each week of the Advent season.

Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent and marks a shift in the tone of Advent from reflection to joyful anticipation. The word "Gaudete" is a Latin verb that means "rejoice". The pink (rose) candle is lit on the third Sunday.

First candle

The purple Prophecy or Hope Candle symbolizes hope and the anticipation of Christ's coming.

Second candle

The purple Bethlehem Candle symbolizes peace and preparation, and commemorates Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

Third candle

The rose-colored Shepherd's Candle symbolizes joy, and marks the midpoint of Advent on the third Sunday of Advent.

Fourth candle

The purple Angel's Candle symbolizes peace, and marks the final week of Advent.

The candles are lit and extinguished in a particular order so that the Gospel side candle is never burning alone. The Gospel side of the church is the left side as you are facing the front. So the candles are lit from right to left and extinguished from left to right.

Many Advent wreaths also have a white candle in the center, known as the Christ candle, which symbolizes the birth of Jesus. The Christ candle is typically lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, and may be lit throughout the rest of the Christmas season.

The Advent wreath itself is circular, representing God's infinite love, and is usually made of evergreen leaves, which represent the hope of eternal life brought by Jesus Christ.

Advent is a season of waiting, but it's not meant to be empty waiting. Be intentional about the time spent before celebrating Jesus' birth! Prepare your heart and mind to receive Christ at Christmas by establishing some helpful Advent prayer practice.

Jps/ab44