

The Wardens' Wire

ISSUE # 46 JAN 5 – 19 2025

- Sun Jan 5
10.30 am HOLY COMMUNION
5 pm English Conversation Club ++
- Tues Jan 7
7 pm ON ZOOM THE HISTORY OF REFORMATION
- Wed Jan 8
1.30 pm Bible Study
- Sun. January 12
10.30 am Morning Prayer
5 pm English Conversation Club
- Mon. Jan 13
12.30 – 2.20 Friendship Circle
- Wed Jan 15
1.30 – 3 pm Bible Study
- Thurs Jan 16
2 pm Vestry meeting
- Sat Jan 18
4 pm Movie
- Sun Jan 19th
10.30 EPIPHANY LESSONS & HYMNS

Also regularly meeting at St George's Sundays

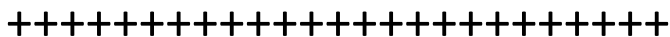
- 8.30 am St Mary's Independent Anglican service
- 2 pm Hoi Thanh Tin Lanh Vietnamese service

Mondays

- 7.30 pm Hamilton Schola Cantorum choir

Fridays

- 6 pm Park Group AA



New Year. New Beginnings.

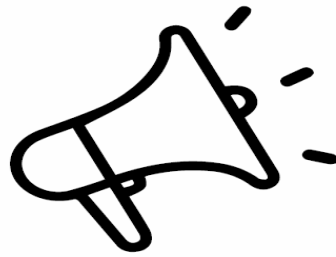
New Years is always exciting. I don't mean it in the traditional way that includes balloons, streamers and count-downs but it's exciting because of the yet undiscovered possibilities within ourselves, and therefore within our church.

There are those things called New Year's Resolutions. I've never kept one of them in my life so I won't be doing that. But this is a time when old friendships are remembered and forgiveness can be considered. We want a fresh start and to be the best people we can be.

This past year we've been able to put the wheels in motion to bring us the young man we have sponsored from overseas. It's wonderful to think of the party we will have when he arrives and the joy this will bring to Hakima and to Helen and to every one of us. The most salient thing I noticed about this sponsorship is that every person in our church did something towards the goal. You made things, you sold things, you donated your time, your money and your love, your prayers towards the goal. And we were amazed when God provided the way for us to reach the goal much more quickly than we thought possible.

We put up a flashy banner about our new Sunday School program and we asked God to send us children. He answered our prayers and we have a few delightful little ones who like to be here with us. I must say they take their Bible lesson seriously and offer up some interesting ideas of their own. We have helpers in Sandra and Jane and Christine and Pat and Esther. And last week we welcomed new friends from Nigeria in Christiana and her beautiful little boys. Once the attendance is stable we'll make a proper rota.

There is a lovely hymn in the Blue Book, #3. It begins "New every morning is the love..."



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I like that it mentions the idea of new beginnings when it says “ New perils past, new sins forgiven, New thoughts of God, new hopes of Heaven.” Perhaps we can sing it some Sunday soon.

There is important work going on here and you are all a part of it. Just by showing up you are saying “ I am an important part of this work towards sharing the Gospel message in Hamilton.”

Let us see what God has in store for us next! Thank you all. –

Judy

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Reminder: Reformation History Course
Commencing Tuesday January 7th at 7 pm

On zoomcontact Tom Power if you are not already signed up...

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

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Friendship Circle starts again on Monday, January 13th at 12:30-2:ish.

Bring a favourite piece of poetry and a Bible verse that you find helpful.

If there is anything you'd like to sing to welcome in the New Year have a look through the white hymnals in the Parish Hall.

Linda will have her knee surgery soon and we can remember to pray for her and think about ways we can be helpful to her afterwards. She's brought us so much joy with her music on Monday afternoons.

See you there. Bring a friend. Or five. - Judy

English Conversation Classes

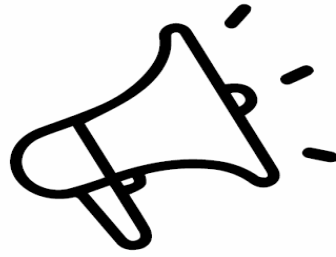
Back at St. George's

There is a long tradition at St. George's of having English language classes for the many non-English speaking students who come from foreign parts to study at McMaster University. Now that tradition is being revived. Led by James Hahn, Judy Smith, and Tom Power, our first gathering will take place on Sunday, 5 January at 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Through James' social media initiative, there have been over 40 expressions of interest by students on the McMaster campus. Perhaps 10 will actually come. Some of our friends from the Vietnamese church have also expressed interest. Classes will be informal based on conversation between participants. Food and drinks will be provided. We have received a generous donation from a friend of St George's to cover our costs. We are excited to welcome these students into our fellowship. Down the road if numbers grow we may be asking for more volunteers (the only qualification is that you speak English and like talking to people!). In the meantime, please pray for the success of our venture!

Tom P.

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EVENSONG

Monday January 20th 7.30 pm

If you are able, come out and enjoy a beautiful service of Evensong ... refreshments, no doubt, afterwards, and you'll be home by 9 pm.

river and at his first miracle in Cana, Galilee Epiphany is one of the three principal and oldest festival days of the Christian church; Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Lutherans and other western churches observe the feast on January 6th

After Epiphany Sunday the altar cloths will change to green and remain so until Lent.

(I have been to the Topkapli Museum in Istanbul and have seen many ancient artefacts)

Alison

EPIPHANY

FOLLOWING TWELVE DAYS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, WE ARE MOVING INTO EPIPHANY ..

**MOVIE NIGHT – SATURDAY
JANUARY 21ST 4 - 6 PM**



**THE BISHOP'S WIFE
A 1947 CLASSIC, STARRING CARY GRANT AND LORETTA YOUNG
...should be a good one !**

**IF YOU HAVE A FREE SATURDAY AFTERNOON
COME BY AND ENJOY PIZZA, AND TREATS, AND THE MOVIE ...NO CHARGE ...**

**Cost absorbed through generous donations to the Social Committee.
Thanks Michael for organizing this .**

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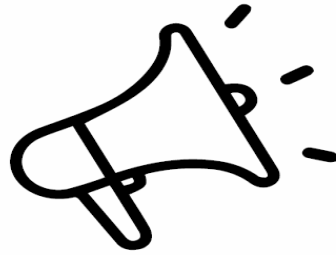
[Baptism of Jesus](#) An Armenian miniature of the baptism of Jesus from 1273; in the Topkapi Museum, Istanbul.

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Epiphany, (from Greek *epiphaneia*, “manifestation”), Commemorating the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, and the manifestation of divinity as it occurred at his baptism in the Jordan

**The BiblioMpower Book Club meets
Tuesday, Jan. 21 in the Parish Hall @ 1:30.**

We will discuss Dr. Sima Samar's book 'Outspoken'. Dr. Samar, the Minister of women's issues in the former Hamid Karzai government has left Afghanistan under duress and teaches now at Tufts University in



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New York State. Tom Power will lead the discussion. It is a relevant book to all of us as we are interested in the current situation in Afghanistan and in the dear friends we have from there.

Please come. If you haven't read the book that's OK. The discussion will be good and is open to all of you and to anyone else who would enjoy it.

us and He is watching over the whole works! - Judy

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Extendicare Services The residents and staff of Extendicare at 99 Chedmac Drive, are indeed blessed. As well as the monthly St George's services alternating between Holy Communion and Morning Prayer, the good people of St Mary's have volunteered to have a monthly service there also;

Thanks to all who have initiated and made the commitment to give such pleasure to those who cannot get out to church. Thanks to Jane Boehm (and Dolph) for recognizing the great need. .

Funnies from Linda M's friend

- No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
- A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
- Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
- Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: "You stay here; I'll go on a head."

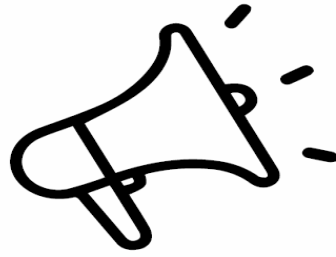
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If you have an east facing window make sure you check it early morning to see the sunrise. This morning's show was pale gold. Last week one morning it was crimson undercut with orange streaks. It took my breath away.

It makes me think of all the levels of the world. We've got the earth where we came from and on top of that are the things the earth supports with green things, animals, birds, humans, mountains and hills and rivers and oceans and above it all we've got weather, clouds, sun, stars, comets, moon, sunrises, sunsets and a Creator who loves

Well, it's a wrap 2024 has flown by, but how much we accomplished at St George's....talk about an active church, here are some of the highlights Thanks to each one of you, you all contribute to this family....from the food brought each Sunday, the knitted items for Streetlight, the food bank bags for Crossfire, the fundraising efforts for our friend in Islamabad, the banners lovingly made, the portrait of our new King purchased and framed, the generous donations for the upkeep of the church building, the contributions for extra activities, the, the pens, candy canes, flowers lovingly handed out to all, the decorated hall tables, and your participation in bible study, friendship circle, craft circle, book club, ... all this because of hundreds of dedicated hours given freely by many.

An real effort was made in fundraising this past year so that we could guarantee the amount necessary to sponsor Hakima's brother – starting with the Christmas 2023 market, the Pancake Day donations, the Lunar New Year tea, the Garage Sale, and generous donations from many members and friends of St George's, we were able to collect the required \$18,860 needed to sponsor him for 12 months. The money is in a separate account in the bank and a bonus, is earning about \$40



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interest a month... We are prepared for a welcome reception when he arrives, which surely will be soon. We undertook, with Tom's guidance a review of St George's with a Saturday discussion on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats ...to be continued.

And in case I haven't mentioned itthank you to those who look after the church and the garden willingly, and without compensation, throughout the year...You are a treasure....

Thank you to all for your contribution to St George's 2025 here we come !

Jps/ab/46