



# The Wardens' Wire

ISSUE #47

JAN.19-31<sup>st</sup>

- Sat Jan 18  
4 – 6 pm      Movie and pizza  
                  ' The Bishop's Wife'
- Sun Jan 19  
10.30 am      EPIPHANY LESSONS & HYMNS  
5 pm            Conversation Club
- Mon Jan 20  
12.30- 2.30 pm Friendship Circle  
7.30 - 9 pm     EVENSONG
- Tues Jan 21  
1.30-3 PM     BiblioMpower Book club  
7 pm            **ON ZOOM AT YOUR HOME**  
                  The History of Reformation
- Wed Jan 22  
1.30 pm        Bible Study
- Thurs Jan 23  
10 -11.30 am   Extendicare Worship
- Sun. Jan 26  
10.30 am       MORNING PRAYER
- Mon. Jan 27  
12.30 – 2.30 pm Friendship Circle
- Wed Jan 29  
1.30 – 3 pm    Bible Study
- Sun Feb 2nd  
10.30           HOLY COMMUNION

### 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

### UPCOMING EVENTS: ..what a busy week ahead!

**Saturday Jan 18 4 pm** – Join us for the movie The Bishop's Wife ..starring Cary Grant, Loretta Young & David Niven – imagine all those famous people in the fellowship hall of St George's! Join us for pizza and treats and a good movie.

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**Sunday Jan 19 5 – 7 pm Conversation Club** This Sunday evening, January 19, will be the second time we have invited students in for pizza and conversation. This idea was prompted by a recent Spectator article about the loneliness of students and young people. The plan is to do this every other week for now. At the first meeting we had seven lovely people show up from Colombia, Afghanistan. India, Korea and our Salunika from Sri Lanka.

James Han and Tom Power organized the event with thanks to James for his prowess with social media. We will try to have a conversation prompt each week. This evening they will bring a quote that is meaningful to them. They will write it on the flip chart in their birth language, read it aloud in their birth language and we can all discuss the meaning in English.

And soon you'll see another happy banner swinging from the porch railing. The Reformed Episcopal Church has a theme about Front porch Ministry so that we don't keep the Good News to ourselves. And it's clear that everyone in the church is doing their best.- Judy

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**Monday Jan 20 7.30 pm** Join us for the beautiful Evensong service with Wm Renwick and John Laing. Dedication of the organ speakers in memory of Jonathan Marler. Refreshments after in our warm parish hall.

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**Tuesday Jan 21 1.30-3 pm BiblioMpower** We will be discussing Outspoken by Sima Samar.....Join us even if you haven't read it ...there are copies at the church for those who wish to read it after hearing the reviews.

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**Thursday Jan 23 10 – 11.30 am** Always a pleasure to join the residents of Extencicare, for our worship service – we will have as many hymns as can be requested by the residents in half an hour followed by a short service. The residents love it, and we who attend for the joy of it always come away feeling the love that flows from the morning.

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**Saturday Feb 8<sup>th</sup> -2 – 4pm** Come and join your friends in the parish hall for an afternoon of singing your favourite hymns, and then having a bowl of soup, and some good conversation to send you on your way. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

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One of the many positive things about sharing our church with other Christians is that we all become friends, a part of each other in a variety of ways.

Two other groups meet at St. George's besides ourselves. We have formed new friendships within St. Mary's Independent Anglican Church and with the Hoi Thanh Tin Lanh Church which in translation from Vietnamese to English means The Good News Church. This makes all three congregations richer.

On my refrigerator door is a little post-it note in Vietnamese which says

“Cang dong Cang vui.” I'm not able to type in the diacriticals but it sounds a bit like it looks.

Any guesses?

“The more the merrier.” It's a proven recipe for us. – Judy

Sunday School has its own meandering way of turning into a reality. If it's God's will it will grow. In the meantime it's lots of fun.

This past Sunday only one little scholar was present.

Uriel did very well listening to the story about how God is everywhere and he drew a fine picture of himself in the snow with God watching over him.

The previous Sunday stirred up my faith in the human condition as children often do. Along came Ferdaus and Soroush and the two of them clung to Uriel as if they'd known one another for years. When it was time to go downstairs (I walk, they do the fifty yard dash) didn't they all hold hands the little darlings? It was one sweet parade.

That's the beauty about kids. They don't ask one another their names nor do they care. They recognize one another as fellow children and get on with it. None of this “who-are-you-where-are-you-from” business. Nope. It's “Want to play?” and they're off!

In case you are wondering what we're doing down there we use the book that we've used before for our previous Sunday School. It is called Leading Little Ones to God, by Marian M. Schoolland, Eerdmans Publishing. We have a Bible verse from the same lesson plan and a simple activity to follow it.

Thank you for bringing us your children. Precious! – Judy

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If you have been at Sunday services recently you will know that there have been some thought-provoking sermons coming from our Minister..... He wants you to know that he is very willing to answer any questions or concerns you have.... You can probably catch him after service in the lunch room, or arrange a time for a chat or a phone call to discuss what you have heard.... He would actually love to talk with you so just ask!



# The Wardens' Wire

## Update on Developments from our Church Gathering

On November 30, 2024 we gathered as a church community to identify our strengths and weaknesses, to explore opportunities to expand our ministry, and to itemize any perceived threats. It proved to be a productive exercise as people shared in small groups and then as a larger group the many

issues that came to mind. All the points under the four headings were recorded on flipchart paper, and these were later typed up. The organizing group will be prioritizing the different points that emerged to identify common themes. Prioritizing is based on asking:

- how can we leverage our strengths?
- how can we address our weaknesses?
- how can we embrace opportunities?
- how can we anticipate threats?

The process of analyzing the results has begun. What emerges will be shared with council, vestry and eventually with the entire congregation.

These are exciting times for St. George's! I pray that the Lord will guide and direct us to ensure that all our plans would be in accordance with His will. Amen. Tom

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+ *If you would like to purchase an Anglican Church calendar for 2025 please speak to Father Bob.*

There must be at least one hundred warmer people in Hamilton this winter with great thanks to all of you who spent hours with your knitting needles and to Melanie for organizing the Christmas tree. In fact I've been told that Melanie alone knitted one hundred hats and scarves. If you see someone downtown wrapped in brightly coloured stripes say a little prayer of thanks for what our fellows here have contributed and say a prayer too for the folks who depend on your generosity so that they can keep warm this winter. Thank you everyone! - Judy

## THINKING AHEAD .....

TUESDAY MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup> - SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES ANYONE? Carrying on the tradition of St George's/St Margaret's Pancake Day we'll be hoping for lots of helpers, and 'customers' to enjoy this fun day.

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SUNDAY MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
The meeting will be held after the Sunday Service ...An important time for members of the church, and those who are considering becoming members ..... all welcome. We'll have a light lunch and then start the meeting. Our secretary Jo-Anne will have the packages available for pick up or mail out the week prior to the meeting, so you are prepared for the meeting; and can have concerns, questions answered before or at the meeting.

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# The Wardens' Wire

In our house we have a fair number(at least 10) of very old, very well used Books of Common Praise, Common Prayer Hymn Book, Psalters, Psalms and Prayers, Psalms /Book of Common Prayer, which had belonged to various members of the family .Nelson being one of the few 'younger' family who uses this regularly, and was appreciative of the history that each one brings. One was given to 'mom' for Mothers Day 1967 – looking at it one would think it is much older than 50 years, worn, and falling apart, likely used every day of the week for decades. Many prefaced with The Church of England, Dominion of Canada. Another inscribed “to Mom, Easter 1924”. Different sizes, leather bound in white, black, navy, maroon....all precious to the original owner. Many of them have prayers, book marks, etc. with lovely inscriptions.

## HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?

*A little thing is a little thing  
But faithfulness in little things is a very great thing*

Alison



## HONING IN ON HYMNS

This hymn was written by Godfrey Thring, born in Somerset England in 1823, the son of the Rector of Alford and Sarah Thring, one of five boys. After he was ordained, Godfrey served the Anglican church in Southern England from 1846-1867. His Hymns and Poems for the Holy Days and the Festivals of the Church became well known. Little is known of the author, but his brother Edward, wrote of the work: Be sure that no painting, no art work you could have done, could have been so powerful for good. As long as the English language lasts, sundry of your hymns will be read and sung, and many a soul of God's creatures will thrill at your words. What more can a man want? “ Godfrey died and was buried in Shamley Green, Surrey, England in 1903.

Alison

## From The Eastern Mountains Godfrey Thring 1873

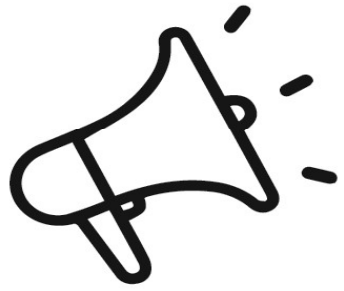
From the eastern mountains  
pressing on they come,  
wise men in their wisdom,  
to his humble home;  
stirred by deep devotion,  
hasting from afar,  
ever journeying onward,  
guided by a star.

There their Lord and Saviour  
meek and lowly lay,  
wondrous light that led them  
onward on their way,  
ever now to lighten  
nations from afar,  
as they journey homeward  
by that guiding star.

Thou who in a manger  
once hast lowly lain,  
who dost now in glory  
o'er all kingdoms reign,  
gather in the peoples,  
who in lands afar  
ne'er have seen the brightness  
of thy guiding star.

Onward through the darkness  
of the lonely night,  
shining still before them  
with thy kindly light,  
guide them, Jew and Gentile,  
homeward from afar,  
young and old together,  
by thy guiding star.

Until every nation,  
whether bond or free,  
'neath thy star-lit banner,  
Jesu, follow thee  
o'er the distant mountains  
to that heavenly home,  
where nor sin nor sorrow  
evermore shall come.



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