

ST. JOHN'S



CHURCH

NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 1988



Examining the Faith in FAITH IN ACTION

Recently through the Faith in Action program, we made a covenant with the diocese to raise \$55,000 over the next five years in support of projects in our parish, in the diocese, and beyond. This is a significant commitment to action which we shall be called upon to fulfil beginning in the new year. But, what is the faith that motivates this and other actions? What do we as Anglicans believe? And how is that faith expressed in what we do?

To help us explore these questions, Bishop Fricker has been invited to conduct three evening dialogues entitled THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY. Bishop Fricker was born and raised in Niagara Falls. He has over 30 years of parish experience and, for more than 25 years, has been a member of Associated Parishes, an organization instrumental in liturgical renewal in North America. In the Niagara Diocese, Bishop Fricker became Dean of the Cathedral. As an Assistant Bishop in the Toronto Diocese, he is currently responsible for the Credit Valley Region.

Bishop Fricker's dialogues on THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY will be presented as follows:

Sunday, October 23 - GATHERING
What does it mean to gather in worship?

Monday, October 24 - CELEBRATING
What is the meaning of worship?

Tuesday, October 25 - BEING SENT
What is our mission?

The schedule of each session will be as follows:

- 7:30 - Worship in the church
- 7:45 - Remarks by Bishop Fricker
- 8:15 - Questions and answers
- 9:00 - Refreshments

Child care will be provided from 7:15 to 9:00 in the North Room. This component of Faith in Action is offered so that we may reflect upon what we are about spiritually as members of the Anglican Church. Please plan now to take this pause, together as a parish, to explore and deepen our faith, even as we prepare to put that faith into action.

A. G. Waters



WHY I AM AN ANGLICAN!

I was born, baptized, confirmed, and raised in the Episcopal (Anglican) Church. My great grandfather was a chaplain for Gen. Robert E. Lee in the Confederacy in Virginia. As a child I attended Sunday School, served at the altar, and later as a teenager was active in a youth group. I did my undergraduate work in an Episcopal university.

As a church drop-out who thought he was an agnostic the last two years of college, I reapproached the Christian Faith through leaders in the Civil Rights Movement in the early 60's. In the mid-sixties I joined the Order of The Holy Cross.

I am an Anglican today because I cherish a Reformed Catholic faith that holds high scripture, tradition, and reason. The strength of Anglicanism for me is its unity in diversity - liberals and conservatives; Anglo-Catholics, Evangelicals, and broad church people charismatics and social gospel activists. Above all, Anglicanism holds high both the ordained ministry and the ministry of LAOS. Our policy is one of combined Episcopal and Synodical government.

As a Communion of National churches who have adapted or are adapting a variety of cultures, we play a pivotal role in the ecumenical movement. Anglicans play a key role today as in the past in the World Council of Churches.

Because our Anglican roots are in the Benedictine Monastic Movement in the pre-reformation church, our theological, spiritual, and ministerial (ordained and lay) ministries are formed in the local congregations. In common prayer, and study, and music, and work we experience Christ in each other in the gathered community.

Word and Sacrament are held in tension and balance as is our faithfulness to tradition on the one hand and to the future on the other hand. Communal fidelity and the freedom of the individual are part of our ethos. Worship is the single most influential factor in our theology and practice.

As Anglicans who rejoice in our tradition we must also see our church as one in a constant process of reformation. It is the task of the Church to live and preach the gospel anew in every generation. How we do this today is not the same as in the 1950's, the 16th century, the 12th century, or the 2nd century.

Having looked around and experienced other ecclesial communities of a variety of traditions, I'm willing to learn and share with them, but I'm glad I'm an Anglican. Having been in many congregations in the Diocese of Toronto, we have something very unique at St. John's and I'm glad to be a part of our congregation.

William, O.H.G.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Christian Education Committee will again take responsibility for organizing the annual Halloween party, an all-parish event. Kathy Gower will act as chairperson, with other members of the Christian Education Committee heading the various activities. The party will be on Saturday, October 29, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm and will be a pot-luck affair. To assist the Committee, everyone is asked to indicate on the sheet that will be available on the two Sundays before the party what they will be bringing.

Remember that this is a costume event for both adults and children. There will be games for children of all ages. Plans are underway for a "haunted house" and a costume modelling event. This will be a great party - be sure not to miss it. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more information.

Dean Samaras volunteered to be chairperson for the Christmas Pageant and Party. More information will be available on this event in the next issue of the Newsletter.

NEW CLASS FOR CHILDREN (AGES 9 - 13)

The Christian Education Committee has decided to begin offering an additional educational opportunity for the children in the intermediate grades. This includes all children over eight years of age.

For the next several months, a new course will be offered for children of this age during the adult forum hour, following the 10:30 service on the third Sunday of each month. Dean Samaras and Maggie Muldoon will be responsible for this class, which will focus on aspects of liturgy and the church year. The class is being provided as a supplement to the regular classes during the 10:30 service, for the purpose of offering a more concentrated learning opportunity for children in this age group who are not currently in a church school class. The first of these classes will be held on October 16 in the dining room of the priory.

We strongly encourage parents of children in this age range to stay for the forum and to enroll their children in this course. Also, the committee is willing to provide an "arts and crafts" hour for younger children during this time if there is an interest. For more information on this, call Maggie Muldoon at 466-9378 or 466-9005.

TEACHERS NEEDED

There is still a need for Church School teachers. Anyone who is willing to become a member of one of the teaching teams and work with the children for the Church School period on one or two Sundays per month is encouraged to volunteer. No experience is necessary as a very good curriculum is provided, and you will work with other more experienced team members. This is a great opportunity for ministry. There is also a need for nursery volunteers and for someone to help with the scheduling of these volunteers.



MAGGIE MULDOON

One of the latest rising stars to enter the St. Johns scene is Maggie Muldoon.

Maggie hails from Minneapolis, Minnesota and is in Toronto primarily to earn a Masters degree in Divinity from Trinity College at the University of Toronto. Previously Maggie attended the Lutheran Northwestern Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota where she completed her first year. She is now a postulant for ordination from the Diocese of Minnesota and is entering Trinity as a second year student expecting to spend the next two or three years here.

Her choice of Trinity College stemmed from a desire to spend some time in Canada, a place she has long admired. To date she has not been disappointed in her choice.

The mother of five children, four sons and a daughter ranging in age from 22 to 29 years and the grandmother of two, ages 3 and 6. Most of her family is in Minnesota, but her daughter is presently residing in San Francisco.

For over 20 years Maggie worked in data processing, particularly in Customer Relations and Project Management for a large banking organization.

From a Roman Catholic background, Maggie became a member of the Anglican Church about 10 years ago, since when she has fulfilled many positions within the church, she has been a Sunday school teacher. She has worked with the Director of Education in her home church, St. Marks Cathedral in Minnesota, to develop a program for high school aged people. Maggie was co-leader of the Adult Bible Class, arranged, wrote and produced five "childrens operas" based on bible stories, worked on the volunteer coordination task force, organizing a peace conference and served on the feeding program for the poor.

Maggie's philosophy regarding children is that they have the right to be treated as full members of Christs body. While it is important for them to learn about the Church, it is most important that children experience the Church as a place of love and community, so that as they grow they will continue to be involved in the life of the Church and community.

Maggie's time at present is taken up for the most part by her studies, work, and involvement with St. Johns Sunday school. When time permits a range of interests such as sewing, weaving, ceramics, needlework, painting and photography come into play. She also likes concerts, theatre and good movies. At present she is a little intimidated by our traffic so her bike stays in the basement.

Maggie is living in a cooperative house on Simpson Ave., just off Broadview and Gerrard. This is shared by three other theological students, the wife of one student and a male refugee from Chile. Maggie enjoys human company, so this arrangement is very much to her liking.



INTEGRATION OF SPECIAL NEEDS
CHILDREN IN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

For the parishioners of St. John's, the presence of Chelsea, Colin and Craig are familiar faces. For those who are not, these three special children have enjoyed a warm greeting and participation in services over the last several months.

Why has this acceptance succeeded and blossomed? Would it be irresponsible to say because of love, courage, quality, excellence and perhaps a shared vision? Should I write about the feelings I get every time I see the Parish at work with the children? (Eucharist, Sunday School, Church activities & socials).

It has become more evident that this is St. John's value base - their common vision as Christians that makes this a success. They stand for excellence in fellowship and are a true example of how people live with one another. They have followed the dictum of this short poem:

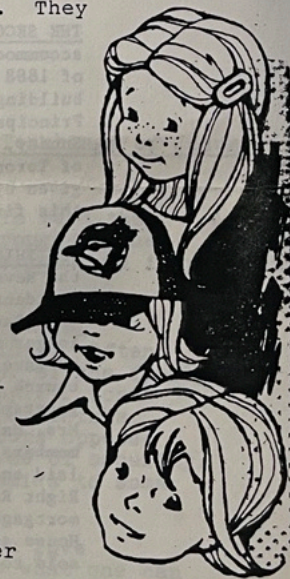
TELL ME, I'LL FORGET
SHOW ME, I MAY REMEMBER
BUT INVITE ME, I'LL UNDERSTAND

Sincerely and with Thanks,

Anne-Marie Mohler (Mom)

PARISH EVENTS

- October 15 - ACW Rummage Sale - 10 A.M. - Noon
October 15 - Apple Day - Cubs and Scouts
October 16 - Forum Sunday
The Rev. Dick Johns, Personnel Officer
The Anglican Church of Canada
"What's Going On."
October 22 - Brownie Brunch - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.
October 23 - Parish Mission - 7:30 - 9:00 P.M.
The Rt. Rev. Jo. Fricker
"The Christian Community Gathering"
October 24 - Parish Mission 7:30 - 9 P.M.
"The Christian Community - Celebrating"
October 25 - Parish Mission - 7:30 - 9 P.M.
"The Christian Community - Being Sent"
October 29 - Halloween Party - 4 - 7 P.M.
November 4 - Deanery Dinner - 7 P.M.
November 6 - All Saints and Baptism
November 13 - Parish Thanksgiving - 107 years
November 14 - Music and Liturgy Workshop
November 20 - Forum Sunday
The Rev. Kelly Walker
Worship - State of the Art
November 26 - Holly Tea - 2 - 4 P.M.
Advent Wreath Making for Children - 3 P.M. North Room





HISTORY OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

MISSION - In the year 1878 a few Church of England people living in the neighbourhood of what was the Town of West Toronto Junction formed a Mission and held services in a small cottage on what was then Elizabeth Street. The first Vestry Meeting was held on December 19, 1879.

FIRST WOODEN CHURCH - In 1880, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese gave his sanction to the erection of a building for the purpose of Divine Worship, known as St. John's Mission-Runnymede. This Church was erected at a cost of \$700 and opened for worship on November 20, 1881. In 1887, there was a rapid growth of the town and his Lordship was requested to set apart this district as a separate Parish. This he did under the name of St. John's Parish, West Toronto Junction.

THE SECOND CHURCH - As the building erected in 1880 was too small to accommodate the increasing congregation, it was resolved in the winter of 1888 to erect a larger building. The corner-stone of this new building was laid on May 11, 1889, by the Reverend J.P. Sheraton D.D., Principal of Wycliffe College, Toronto, and opened for service on Sunday, January 26, 1890, by the Right Reverend Arthur Sweatman, Bishop of Toronto. The plot of ground on which this Church was situated was given by Messrs. John Fiske and Thomas Wadsworth in 1880. Cost of this first brick building was \$8,737.

THE THIRD CHURCH - Soon after becoming the fifth rector of St. John's, the Reverend Richard MacNamara realized that, as a result of changing residential tendencies and also the creation of two new parishes (St. Paul's and the Church of the Advent), St. John's Church was no longer in the location best suited to the needs of the parish. Thus he gave all his support to the new and daring policy of erecting a church building at the corner of Humberside and Quebec Avenues, the geographical centre of the parish. At that time of decision, Mrs. MacNamara played an important role - as did the Wardens and members of the Vestry. The corner-stone of the present Church was laid on May 5, 1923 and opened on Sunday, November 4, 1923, by the Right Reverend James Fielding Sweeney, D.D., Bishop of Toronto. The mortgage on this building was cleared on November 19, 1944. A Parish House at 204 High Park Avenue was purchased in 1959 and in 1985 was sold to The Order of the Holy Cross. Also, after prayerful consideration, the Rectory was sold in the following year.



WARDENS' REPORT

As the "new year" begins St. John's faces many formidable challenges. Many committees are actively planning the upcoming year to ensure the continued success of St. John's existing programmes in addition to establishing new programmes that will continue our tradition of outreach.

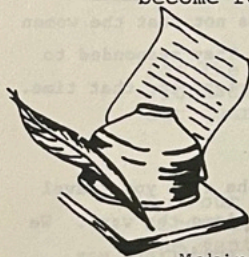
Scouting, Guides, the Christian Education Committee, Alcoholics Anonymous and many other of our church organizations will need our continued support in order that they may carry on doing their good work.

New undertakings, such as Faith in Action, Daycare and Handicap access are evidence of the commitment St. John's is making to the future health of the parish as a body that stretches beyond the physical boundaries of the church building.

St. John's has proven itself to be a parish that is up to the challenge of actively supporting new, innovative ways to serve the community as well as carrying on existing programmes to the benefit of our immediate Church family.

We look forward, with eager anticipation, to watching our plans become reality.

Anthony Ruta and Kathy Gower



Book Review

Making Friends of Enemies - Reflections on the Teachings of Jesus.

Jim Forest; Crossroad, N.Y. 1988

What does it really mean to love our enemies? To turn the other cheek? To forgive? Jim Forest, known throughout the word for his work on behalf of peace, offers insights and inspiration on loving our enemies as Jesus taught us.

An enemy, he points out, is any person or group I feel threatened by and may seek to defend myself against. Often ones most feared enemy is someone close: a member of the family, a co-worker, a neighbour. But they could be people I don't even know: blacks, whites, gays, punks, pro-abortionists, pro-lifers, people in political or religious groups opposed to my own, foreign nations which threaten my sense of security. Forest helps us to realize that we, too, are enemies to some people.

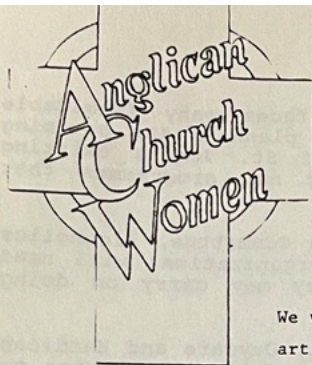
The only solution to our fears, says Forest, is a love characterized by action and responsibility to do what one can to foster the well being of another whether one likes that person or not.

"Perfect love casts out fears."

Using the life and teachings of Jesus, and also examples such as Dorothy Day and Thomas Merten, Forest helps us understand and, more importantly, experience spiritual liberation that comes from turning fear into peace - enemies into friends.

I first know Jim Forest in the early 70's when he was president of the Catholic Peace Fellowship and I was the National secretary of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship. Today Jim is Communications Secretary of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, located in the Netherlands, with branches around the world.

William - O.H.C.



ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

We would like to share with you some thoughts as expressed in an article on RENEWAL & GROWTH, written by our new Diocesan ACW president, Gladys McClellan:

"Whatever we do, we do in the name of Christ. God has never stood still in history. We are constantly being moved in one direction or the other. Ideally, we hope we are moving closer to the Kingdom of God. As we are challenged by today's world, we must respond to the best of our abilities to today's world. That is what RENEWAL & GROWTH is all about. It is not that the women of 20, 30, 60 or 100 years ago did it wrong. They responded to God's call in their age in the way that was right for that time. We must do likewise.

"I recently heard PURPOSE defined as 'the road you travel on' while GOALS are 'the places you stop at along the way'. We all have a common purpose but varying parish conditions may require us to pause at different places as together we travel that same road. If you have a breakdown or lose the map, your Board of Directors will be your Emergency Road Service!"

The Anglican Church Women of St. John's wish to thank all of you who have supported our various endeavours to date this year.

We now remind you to circle your calendar for November 26th when the Annual HOLLY TEA will be sponsored by St. Anne's Group of the A.C.W.

Joan Devitt
Sherry Haynes
Irene Munroe

CHANCEL GUILD

The Chancel Guild offers you an opportunity for a special service to your Church. Each Saturday, on a rotating basis, one Chancel Guild member prepares for the Communion Services on Sunday and arranges the flowers for the Sanctuary. On Sunday, prior to the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist, the necessary arrangements are completed.

This is a special kind of commitment to St. John's - and one that is not very time consuming. The Chancel Guild would welcome new members!

Please contact Marilyn Shortt, Chancel Guild President at 769-8574 or Father Robert Hagler.



A PARISH LITANY

The feast that crowns the fall season of Anglican worship is the Feast of All Saints. Officially November first, All Saints will be observed at St. John's on the Sunday (November 6) following that date. In the early Church, All Saints was a celebration of our Lord Jesus Christ, commemorating the many men, women, and children whose lives had been given as martyrs to the Faith. Today, our celebration has been extended to embrace all whose lives are given in witness to the promises of God in Jesus and in the Church.

In appreciation of our continuing witness in faith at St. John's, I have composed the following litany. Read it, pray it, and be thankful that we are privileged to be one with that "great cloud of witnesses" as "we run with patience the race that is set before us.:

LET US PRAY,

For everyone God has called to St. John's; for those just beginning and for those who have reached deeply over the years to offer "such as they have" for the building, up of the Kingdom Jesus proclaimed and promised,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For the cheerful and willing competency of Sherry Haynes, Jennie Richardson, and Nan Weston, in taking on the task of putting out our quarterly Newsletter,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For our Wardens, Anthony Ruta and Kathy Gower, and our deputy wardens, Sheila Crummey and Cynthia Stoddart-Webster, who bear the mantle of leadership and fiscal and legal responsibility in the parish,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For the members of our Day Care Committee and for Jim Crummey, their chairperson, who are helping us to reach out more effectively to the families who live and work in our neighbourhood,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For Anthony Ruta, Garnet Devitt, and Allan Waters who have taken on the responsibility of joining our efforts in faith and ministry at St. John's with those of our parishes in the Diocese in FAITH IN ACTION,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For the faithful witness of our Treasurer, Irene Munroe, and our Envelope Secretary, Ida Brittain, and for Gladys Graham, Jean Rowe, and Olive Roberts, who in counting the Sunday offerings assist us in transforming the fruit of our individual labour into the corporate service of Christ in His Church,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For the members of our Christian Education Committee and Maggie Muldoon, our new coordinator, who work to ensure that our children will have faith in a loving and merciful God,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For our children who show us the power of Jesus' words that "whoever does not accept the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it,"

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For the boys and girls in Scouting and Guiding who come to St. John's to explore and learn the goodness of creation and of being with one another in acts of service and good citizenship,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For their leaders, especially those from our parish family: John and Kathy Gower, Kim Furvis, Sharon Barnes, and Nan Weston,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For the members of our Anglican Church Women, whose dedication in prayer and practical service, lead us gently into the daily joy of the Incarnation,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For Cy Weston and the members of the Property and Maintenance Committee; for John Bateman, our Office Manager; and for Orlando Huntington Flores, O.H.C. and Dennis Richardson; who work to keep our building a fit symbol of God's caring and available presence in this neighbourhood,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For our sidespeople and for Dennis Richardson, chairperson, who welcome and assist all who come to pray and render praise to the Eternal Majesty revealed in Him, who laid down His life as a ransom for many,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For David Holmes, our new Head of Servers and Stephen Mitchell, his assistant, and for our servers,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For Marilyn Shortt and the members of the Chancel Guild whose work in preparing the altar helps each of us in joining our life with the same Life offered once and for all on Calvary,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For those who Sunday by Sunday serve the poor and hungry by supporting the Ministry of STOP 103 and for Jane Walker who delivers our donations of food and alms,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For the members of the Etobicoke Group of Alcoholics Anonymous whose programme of fellowship and recovery allows us to serve and support the individuals and families in our neighbourhood who are scarred by the disease of alcoholism and addiction,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For Bruce Alton, our honorary assistant; Cy Weston, our lay reader; Evelyn Butler, our lay delegate to Synod; Kathy O'Connor, our delegate to the Deanery Council, Br. Orlando, Kathy Gower, and Jim Crummey, our volunteer at Glendonwynne House; and for Madge Irvine and Margo Raven, our links with CARERING; for keeping us in personal touch with the wider community,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For those who help and lead us in Music: Sandy Nemenyi, our choir director; Jennifer La Marche, our organist, members of our choir and John Gower their president; for Ann and Erroll Gay; and for Rick and Pauline Payne, who teach our children,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For our readers and intercessors and May Webster, their coordinator; for those who bear the chalice and for our parish hosts who provide the bread and wine of our eucharistic worship,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For Lindell Mitchell and the members of the Prayer Chain whose vigilance in prayer keeps us always in remembrance "that the only Name under heaven given for health and salvation is the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For those who are seriously ill or shut-in:

Bert Clayton
Alberta Hannington
Herb Wickenden
Ed MacMillan
Mrs. Buckle
Molly Woodcock
Ethel Percy
Jack Brittain
Mrs. McGuire
Job Gillard

whose past service and example in suffering deepens our experience of Him who, through His own suffering, gave us the crown of everlasting life,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For those who visit the ill and shut-in, especially Helen Titherington, Lindell Mitchell, Gladys Graham, Joan and Garnet Devit,

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

And finally for all your faithful servants departed this life; for Ella Ambersley and Alf Gandy whose deaths this year have left us poorer in this life, yet richer in our faith as we all look forward to that table where all your Saints feast in your heavenly home."

WE THANK YOU, LORD.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and for ever.

AMEN.



MINISTERING AMONG PEOPLE

1120 OSSINGTON AVENUE, 588-1963

A Charitable Organization No. 0649004-01-11

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Toronto, Ont. M6H 4E1

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Former Moderator, United Church of Canada

Tuesday September 20, 1988.

Dear Fr. Hagler and friends at St. John's, West Toronto

Thank you very much for your donation to STOP 103. As summer draws to a close, we are struggling with a city-wide food shortage. Most of the food distributed by agencies in Toronto, including STOP 103, comes from the Daily Bread Food Bank. In turn, the Daily Bread Food Bank depends on four or five major food drives per year to replenish its stocks. At the present time, food supplies are so low that some small agencies have closed. Many of the people who depend on these agencies are coming to STOP 103. This increase in demand has meant unusually large food bills—more than \$9800 in August, compared with \$874.41 in July.

All this simply means that we are especially grateful for your help at this time when so many additional people are requesting assistance.

God bless you for caring!

The Rev. Rick Myer
Executive Director, STOP 103.



ST. JOHN'S DAY CARE CENTRE

DAY CARE GOES TO THE DOCTOR

MEDICAL NEWS FLASH - Exclusive to the Parish Newsletter!
(We scoop the tabloids!)

Confidential medical reports from St. John's personal obstetrician confirm that Day Care will definitely be arriving at St. John's in 1989. In attempting to confirm the worst-kept secret since Benazir Bhutto's pregnancy, the Newsletter sent its most intrepid reporter to cover the story of St. John's Day Care. Never before published ultra-sound reports confirm a healthy and thriving Day Care.

Consider these pertinent points:

GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF..\$166,000 for capital & operating costs.

DIOCESAN FUNDING OF....\$ 30,000

PARISH FUNDING OF.....\$ 5,000

Plus unanimous Vestry approval!

DAY CARE IS UP AND RUNNING! *****

Our confidential sources further suggest an arrival date in the summer of 1989, and much will need to be done in preparation. The architect will prepare detailed working drawings, a contractor will be selected, construction undertaken, staff hired, equipment installed, etc., etc., etc.!

Be sure to stay tuned for the many exciting developments in the days to come!

ORGANIZATIONS AT ST. JOHN'S

7th Toronto Beaver Colony: boys aged 5-7, Tuesday 6:30-7:30
Mrs. Kathy Gower, 769-8183

7th Toronto Wolf Cub Pack: boys aged 8-11, Monday 7:00-8:30
Mr. John Gower, 769-8183

12th Toronto Brownie Pack: girls aged 6-8, Thursday 6:30-8:00
Mrs. Sharon Barnes, 767-9629

12th Toronto Girl Guide Co: girls aged 9-11, Wed. 6:30-8:30
Mrs. Betty Zukorsky, 762-4296

12th Toronto Pathfinder Unit: girls aged 12-15, Tuesday 7-9:00
Mrs. Nancy Weston, 766-6663

Anglican Church Women: Mrs. Irene Munroe, 762-5327

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunday and Friday evenings

Since the last Newsletter, parish life has been active. We welcome our newcomers and celebrate those rites of passage that mark our life in Christ.

Baptisms

Michael James Morrison Massiah
Parents: James and Carol

Nicholas James Meneses
Parents: Alvaro and Sandra

Nigel Zachariah Holmes
Parents: Frank and Soryha

Leith David Harding Craine
Parents: Stephen and Linda

Brandon Michael Judd
Parents: Peter and Jane

Christine Elizabeth Eleanor Kerr
Parents: Jim and Carolyn

Marriages

Cynthia Jane Westbrook and Harry George Newman
Cristina Booth and Frank Bolzicco
Dushyanthi Navaratnam and Sriskantha Shanmagarajah
Diane Linda Nowicki and Victor Manuel Rocha
Edith Jean Vanderhart and John Giordano
Laura Lynn Xamiu and Christopher Alton Bray

Funerals

Ella Ambersley

Alfred Charles Gandy



Newcomers

Marian Barker and Dwayne Barr and
Kristopher

Sharon and David Bowman and
Jessica Rae

Jennifer Barnes

Robert Chute

Georgia and Gerry Helleiner and Peter

Yvonne Johns

Andy McRae

Sandy Marentette

Ken Mealey

Nick Sellars

Miranda Tavener

John Yarrow



Evelyn Butler, Lay Delegate

The 136th Synod of the Diocese of Toronto

The Synod opened on Thursday evening, September 15, with the Consecration of Bishop Douglas Blackwell in St. Paul's Bloor Street, and continued until Saturday September 17.

The business meeting of our Diocese started on Friday morning with Archbishop Garnsworthy's 16th and last Charge to Synod. The Archbishop asked us to support Faith in Action, the Aurora Village and the Sesquicentennial Year. A written copy of the Charge is available and will be printed in The Anglican.

Another highlight was a moving presentation by a young woman who had been homeless. She now lives in All Saints, Sherbourne Street Residence. Having a home has given her dignity.

On Friday evening Bishops Finlay and Brown showed slides and talked about Lambeth 88. Some of their experiences are also printed in The Anglican. One of Bishop Finlay's experiences needs repeating. It is about a black South African bishop who told Bishop Finlay that during the day as he meets with people he tries to tell them that things will get better. At night, though, he cries himself to sleep because the situation appears so hopeless. He asked our Bishop to tell others and to pray for his people.

On Saturday morning part of the film "One in Ten" was shown. This film is about family violence and the name means that, in Canada, one in ten women are beaten. A conference about violence will be held in Toronto on November 11 and 12.

The Youth Committee motions were sent to committees without discussion. One motion about Diocesan Youth Ministry staff was discussed and referred to the College of Bishops. The motion asked that the Diocese have a full time Youth worker. Of course such a change would cost money. The Archbishop asked the Synod to support this through Faith in Action.

All through the meetings there were commercials for Faith in Action.

A disappointing motion, for me, was one to change the Constitution to read "Chairman" rather than "Chairperson". In my opinion, this is a step backward for everyone. The Reverend Alice Medcoff spoke against the change because language defines the boundaries of our thinking.

A motion was passed regarding Sunday Shopping. It asked the Premier not to pass a law allowing each municipality to control Sunday Shopping.

A motion about Nuclear Weapons was also passed. It asked that the Church join with other groups in requesting the Courts to make Canada's support of NATO's "first use" of Nuclear Weapons illegal. Two elderly men took different sides of this motion. One said that it would be "putting our heads in the sand" if the motion was passed. The other said that, as a veteran of World War II, he believed that the only way to win a war is to never start one. This latter gentleman felt that a war could not be stopped or won by using Nuclear Weapons.

The Synod also approved the "Aurora Village" plan to build a retirement community at the Aurora Conference Center. The complex would consist of 350 independent residences for sale, 60 residential care units for rent, a 30-bed nursing care unit and a renovation of the Conference Center. The cost to build the Village will be about \$75 million dollars. Thirty-five of the 350 units will be available for parishes and other Anglican organizations to buy. This village is an important step forward for seniors since studies have shown that independent living keeps people healthier longer. The Archbishop urged us to support this project.

I would like to thank the people of St John's for giving me the privilege of representing them at Synod. If you have any questions please ask.

KELLY WALKER AT ST. JOHN'S

Again this autumn, Kelly Walker will be visiting St. John's Church to lead a workshop in music. This workshop is for ALL members of the parish, whether or not you can sing or read music. The workshop will be on Saturday, November 19th from 9am to 1pm. Lunch will be available. Kelly will be returning to preach on Sunday, November 20th at which time we will be using the music taught at the workshop. Please mark the date on your calendar! Babysitting may be arranged, if needed.



AMO, AMARE...

From the Latin verb meaning "to love", comes the word "amateur": one who performs an activity for the love of it. Often, the work of amateurs is superb in its quality -- sometimes even surpassing the efforts of professionals who obtain their livelihood from what they do. But to the amateur, what is most important is that they work for love, not wealth, glory or livelihood.

When Christ chose His disciples, He invited people who may have seemed unsuitable -- fishermen, tax collectors and the like. They were amateurs, they loved, and they spread the Good News.

Today that tradition of amateurism continues in the church, where people, through their love, discover talents they never knew they had -- teaching Church School, reading lessons aloud, visiting the sick, singing in the choir, writing and editing newsletters, establishing daycare centres, and yes, sometimes even "feeding the multitudes". It is love -- the true spirit of the amateur that leads people to give so freely of themselves to further the Gospel.

Perhaps you have a talent that is hiding, waiting for you to give it the chance to grow, develop and use for the Glory of God. If you are an amateur, hold your head high, and take part willingly, for your contribution is for love.

Sandi Nemenyi, Choir Director

Our New Organist

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of St John's for the great support and encouragement they have given me over the past few months. I am grateful for the experience I have gained and the enrichment I have received from the creative music programme here.

Thank you again,

Jennifer LaMarche



Volunteers Contribute To Glendonwynne's Success

Glendonwynne House residents are from all family situations. Some are from wealthy families; some from middle class; some from broken homes with one parent struggling to keep it together; some are estranged from their family and trying to make it on their own with minimal education; and still others from the streets where they barely survive.

They are in trouble with the law. Some for overindulgence and greed, others for crimes of absolute desperation. The lucky ones have understanding families who support their son and see him through the programme at Glendonwynne that teaches life skills and rewards him for his efforts. The staff works with the boys and their families to prepare them for the future. They try to reconcile estranged families. The parents and the son can often achieve this only when the situation is this crucial. Not many parents will turn backs when their son is in trouble this deeply as well, few boys will ignore their family when there is no one else to turn to. It is from this basis that an arrangement can be worked out.

For some boys the family is such that they can not, or will not give their son another "try". This situation is generally reached after years of heartbreak and hurt on both sides. So now the boy is on his own. In case there is little incentive for the boy to make an effort when rewards, week-end passes, do not exist as there is nowhere to go and no one to care.

This is where a volunteer makes a difference. A volunteer can sign a boy out on a pass and take him on an outing or just spend time with him as they go about their weekend duties, raking leaves or "veging" in front of the game on TV.

The Gowers have done this for a period of time with noticeable improvement. Results are not instant or immense. Sometimes, just seeing the boy himself makes it worthwhile. The boys have always been polite and well behaved on their passes and we have never had a incident of any kind. Our sons have been good sports and with good nature join in the "Mommy & Daddy" things that they have long outgrown (constant supervision is necessary). We always allow quiet time alone with the family member that the boy is most comfortable with in case there is a need to talk. This is often the only lace and time that they can do this, because they are distrustful of authority figures, but feel comfortable opening up with a volunteer who is interested in them. This relationship takes time to build, and often is limited to a 30 day stint. The trust relationship is communicated between the boys so the progression to the next boy is natural.

The teenage problem is of grave concern to those who care for teens in Toronto. The drug and homeless situations are mammoth, far beyond anything that an individual could hope to tackle. We feel that if we can work with one boy at a time and help him over a very intense time in their lives, it make some difference.

If it is not possible for you to get involved on an ongoing basis, you can help on a sometimes basis. You are needed on the weekend or Wednesday evenings to help with the literacy programme. Bake a cake, rent a video, play Trivial Pursuit, buy a pizza, go to the game.

There are no provisions at Glendonwynne for follow-up work, but the staff do so on a volunteer basis, and we maintain contact with some of the boys. Although none is an Assistant Bank Manager yet, they are leading productive lives.



Vacation Bible School: a Great Success



A very successful Vacation Church School was conducted by Brother Michael, OHC, and a combined staff from St. John's and St. Martin-in-the-Fields, July 4-7. Funding was provided by the West Toronto Deanery and the two parishes.

The four day programme, held this year at St. Martin's from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for boys and girls aged 4-9, was designed around the theme "Add Salt to Season: Bringing Out the Best", and featured storytelling, crafts, games, singing and a very popular bread baking event.

The exceptionally able staff included Kathy Gower and Nancy Weston, who handled the pre-school children, Lindell and Dennis Mitchell, leaders of the older group, Sandra Nemenyi and Brother Michael, who led the singing, and Marilyn Shortt, who helped where needed. Brother Michael was the instructor. As recreation director, Dennis Mitchell was the extremely popular "Athlete's Foot" with a bagful of engaging games geared to each age group.

From St. Martin's, Norma Venthams served as co-ordinator and kitchen manager, Danuta Smith and her friend Pat Mohn provided a wide assortment of very creative craft projects, while Heather DeRome, a classical guitarist came one day to play and lead the singing. An unexpected treat was the organist/choir master Jack Hattey's clever organ demonstration.

Danuta and Pat also managed to produce two plays for the closing programme. The older group presented a Biblical paraphrase, "Two Big Macs and Five Large Fries", which was set in High Park. The pre-school children portrayed the sun, rain and wind in "The Little Flower".

Each day the enthusiasm grew as well as the number of children, many of whom were non-Anglicans. Several of the older children were asking on the last day if there would be another programme at the end of the summer or next year.

An interview with one of the participants, Rachel (age 4), conducted at the dinner table by Edward, Clare and Daddy.

Question: How did you feel when you first went to Vacation Bible School?

Rachel: I felt nice when I first went. I liked Sarah because I knowed her. We had a boy named Noah there.

Q: What activities did you do there?

R: We did some plays about the little flower and the wind and the sunshine and the rain. Y'know what? Me and Sarah were the wind.

Q: Did you do any other activities?

R: We made crowns with veils. We glued blocks together and coloured with very special crayons.

Q: Didn't you make bread?

R: Of course we made bread!

Q: What else did you like about Vacation Bible School?

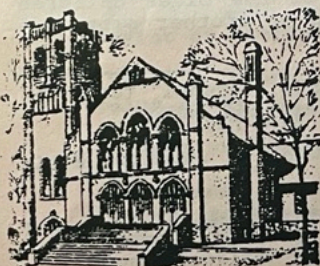
R: We didn't have to make a line when we go down, it's not like Kindergarten.

Q: What about next year?

R: I would like to go back there again!

Q: Can you sum up your Vacation Bible School experience in just one word?

R: It was marvelous!



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