
WHAT'S NEW



The quarterly newsletter of Waterloo's Anglican Church of the Holy Saviour.
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FROM THE RECTOR

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Dear Friends

I want to say thank you to our wardens, the parish council, Archdeacon Neil Carver, and all of you for the support that I have received in recent weeks. I had a continuing education opportunity to be one of three people from the Diocese of Huron to visit our companion Diocese of Amazonia, Brazil, from October 19th to November 6th. It was a wonderful trip. It was also a little different than I expected. The Diocese of Amazonia is a new diocese having only been created in 2006. Prior to that it was a mission district. While the diocese is very large geographically most of its ministry is focused in the city of Belem (Bethlehem), a city of two million people. Much of the ministry is reaching out to people living in very poor and dangerous neighbourhoods. It was evident to me that the Anglican Christians were very intent on showing their children an alternative life style, from what they experienced, of the life of Christ where people love and care for each other.

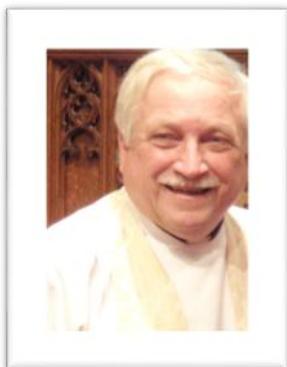
The diocese has a combined total of ten parishes and mission centers. There are only five priests, and only two are full time paid priests. While not large in numbers the Anglican Christians are Spirit filled, joyful, faithful and extremely thankful.

I had many opportunities to share in worship and fellowship with them. My companions and I visited the music and education projects in the neighbourhoods, schools, people's homes, and visited several islands and people in more traditional settings on the edge of the forest. We were warmly welcomed everywhere we went. We learned to be very spontaneous in prayer and in sharing reflections on faith, as well as on life in Canada. I also had the opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist and preach at the Cathedral, with the assistance of a translator. On another occasion I led a study evening for the clergy and lay leaders on "Anglican Identity."

I returned home feeling very blessed by the experience, and very appreciative of the many blessings in our life of faith, and in life in Canada, which we so often take for granted. I hope to share with you pictures and more experiences of my trip with you, possibly in the new year.

Once back in Waterloo, there has been much to do, all the usual things, but also preparing for the Renew information sessions which were held on November 15th and November 22nd. The planning committee did a great job and I hope that you will pledge to donate to support in raising funds to support our parish vitality by rejuvenating our facilities, and our commitment to our youth. We need everyone to be involved. Each one of us can make a difference.

As well as returning to the work in the parish, I was also thrown right into the midst of the Episcopal election process. I have previously been involved in two other Episcopal elections, but this time it is a new process. It involves, providing biographical material, written responses to questions, video interviews, and four all candidates meetings in different regions of the diocese. It is very time consuming, and will continue to cause conflicts with my usual involvement in the parish. Your patience and support is very much appreciated. I will be very pleased to reach February 14th, the day after the election, regardless of the decision which is made on the 13th.



At present we are about to enter into the season of Advent and once again begin the journey to Christmas. I pray that you will share fully in this journey. The collect for Advent Sunday has us praying “Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light.”

We need time to reflect on this prayer by withdrawing from the busyness of the world, both privately and corporately, with our parish family to reassess our lives and determine what is truly important in our life of faith. Of course I believe that whether or not we recognize it as such, all of life is in fact our life of faith.

The Apostle John once said of Jesus; “in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.” However John also tells us “He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.”

I pray that we will all use this Season of Advent to come together as our Lord’s family in this Church of the Holy Saviour. May we together use this time to once again prepare to receive our Lord Jesus into life as we celebrate Christmas. May the truth of our Lord’s incarnation be made very real in each of our lives. May the Spirit of our Lord be renewed in each of us and may his light, through our lives, shine brightly in the darkness of the world.

Yours in Christ, Peter

FROM THE WARDENS

The parish seems busier than ever this fall with wonderful things going on in all corners, for all ages and, sometimes it seems, at all times. We are blessed with such a diverse and vibrant parish family!

Nowhere is this busy schedule more apparent than with Peter. Already scheduled for a two week trip to Amazonia in October, Peter was informed of his nomination for election to the position of Co-Adjutor Bishop. His stories from Amazonia are inspiring - about people without much money and parishes without churches. Now that he’s back he has a full calendar every week with meetings and preparation required leading up to the diocesan election in February. We all wish him well in this journey and we know Peter is looking forward to a few days rest starting on February 15th.

Our Fundraising initiative as dictated by the Vestry motion last January has had two information sessions in November, with over 120 parishioners attending. The Steering Committee – Tricia Siemens, Richard Blumenauer, David Embury and Jeff Ford – presented the details of the request to raise \$250,000 over the next five years. The target is split out in three categories: \$100,000 for facilities improvements, \$50,000 to enable long range planning and \$100,000 to fund resources for our Youth Program. Pledge forms were handed out and we ask you to **return these by**



November 29th. Anyone who was unable to attend these sessions can contact the church office and one of the committee will be touch with you.

David Barton has formed a Property Committee with Glenn Brogden as Co-Chair. He still needs a

few volunteers to look after specific areas of responsibility. Please speak with David or any of the wardens if you are interested in helping in this area. [Editor’s note: A few of the items on the Basement Improvements list you’ll find in your Renew packet have begun. The storage room next to the organist’s office was cleared and ceiling tiles replaced in several rooms beneath the sanctuary.]

We wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and New Year’s and we hope you are able to participate in the many special Advent Services being scheduled in – starting with the Advent Carol Service on the evening of November 29th."

Jennifer Ross
People’s Warden
Richard Blumenauer
Deputy People’s Warden

Glenn Brogden
Rector’s Warden
Tricia Siemens
Deputy Rector’s Warden

YOUTH

At Church of the Holy Saviour, our Youth Group focus continues on the grade 5-8 or LIGHT age group, while the All Saints group has more attendance in the high school ages (SALT). After the September "Welcome Back" meeting, Jeff Kischak and Mary Shaw arranged a very successful visit to two farms just outside of Woodstock.



We visited Jim Walton's family farm - a cash crop operation - complete with hay wagon

transportation, and then moved to a dairy operation run by the David Vanderspek family. The kids were able to hold baby goats and later viewed a newborn calf in the main dairy building. All in all, a memorable and fun day in the country.

Subsequently we have had a World Food Day meeting organized by Tricia Siemens and Carol Motuz and a Remembrance Day movie night looking at *War Horse*, organized by Roland Kym of All Saints. The next session will be folded into the Advent Carol Service on November 29th and in parallel the leaders will be getting together to plan out the winter schedule – for which we already have several ideas. Meanwhile, fundraising for the CLAY trip to Charlottetown next summer is in full swing, with Daena Mervyn-Fleming and Brendon Bedford facilitating the activities with several leaders and parents at All Saints.

SILVER SPOONS

A special invitation for our Seniors

Your Holy Saviour team continues to put on a hot, three-course dinner every second Tuesday of the month at W.K. Mennonite Church across the road from us. Meals are provided every Tuesday at noon, other weeks are run by other local churches. Sometimes there are special talks provided by the Parish nurse of W.K. church following the meal. Please join us for food and fellowship, for under \$7 a time. If you have questions, please call Judith Toogood, or another member of our team whom you know. We also welcome volunteers, particularly in the winter months, to assist with food preparation. Your rewards are a free meal, and fellowship with other Holy Saviour members!

Judith Toogood (519-634-9305)

WE PRAY FOR

Angela-Marie, Matthew, Stephanie, Angie, Lauren, Lloyd, Ron, Heather, William, Wendy, Elyse, James, John, Jessica, Jane, Michelle, Laura, Rebecca, Ross, Heather, Jennifer, Joseph, Russell, John, Lisa, Susan, Sophia, Joy, Bob, Betty, Janet, Joanne, Shirley, Kevin, Anne, Martin, Bill, Noel, Ruth, Eileen, Carol, Laurence, Caroline, Veronika, Daena, Tony.

For those in Nursing/Retirement Homes and people who are Shut-in:

Dorothy Gilbert, Doris Leland, Frances Whittaker, Shirley McHugh, Mary Culliford, Bernice Hodgson, Esther Hodgson, Manley Richardson, Shirley Beaudry, John Ford, Veronika Embree, Margaret Goodwin, Arleigh Cook.

WE CELEBRATE the wedding of Ashley Pelley and Brendon Bedford

and the Baptism of Zachary Sean Murphy

WE REMEMBER our brothers & sisters departed this life, who now share in our Lord's eternal life:

Ed Chadder

FROM THE TREASURER

As we begin the process of crafting our 2016 budget, I have put together our first estimate of Holy Saviour's probable financial position at year-end. As at October 31 members displayed their usual generosity for our various Outreach projects (including the very successful appeal for Angela-Marie); however, compared to last year, our regular envelope and PAC donations have fallen behind by close to \$5,000. There have been no unusual or unexpected expenses this year (at least so far); however, the usual cost creep is in evidence, so our current projection is that we will be dealing with an operating deficit at year end in the \$15,000 range. In that event, Vestry has authorized us to pay building-related expenses from the Property Improvement Fund income; but, we continue to push the limit on this and it is only a matter of time before that well is maxed out.

December and Christmas are the times for giving. Please remember your parish. Our fellow citizens are available to donate to all of the charities that clamor for support at this time of the year but only we can help our parish family.

David Embury

HOW TO ELECT A BISHOP

When Bishop Bennett called for finding a Coadjutor Bishop next February, the nomination and election process swung into gear. A Coadjutor is the automatic successor when Bishop Bennett retires, unlike a Suffragan, or assistant, bishop. Our rector has been nominated twice in the past. He has again agreed to stand for election for Coadjutor.

There are eight nominees for this position, five men and three women. Seven are from our diocese; The Right Reverend Linda Nicholls is currently Suffragan in Toronto Diocese. You can review all the candidates at www.diohuron.org (click on Coadjutor Election 2016).

Unlike the federal election Canada just went through, there is little “politicking” in a diocesan election. But there are opportunities for delegates to Synod and the clergy to familiarize themselves with the nominees. Questions have been collected and will be presented both in written and video formats. There are four regional meetings – the next one is on January 13th at St. Mark’s in Brantford.

The voting takes place on February 13th at the Cathedral in London. Laity and clergy vote separately and the first candidate to receive 50% support from both groups will be elected. The consecration ceremony will be on April 16th. Please keep Father Peter and all the candidates in your prayers.



O God, you led your holy apostles to ordain ministers in every place. Grant that your Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may choose suitable persons for the ministry of word and sacrament, and may uphold them in their work for the extension of your kingdom; through him who is the shepherd and bishop of our souls, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. (BAS)

MEET LOIS HORST

Lois is director of the Generations Choir and has a side business as the Cake Lady. Her creations include the celebration cakes we enjoy each month.

She literally grew up in the Lutheran Church, the daughter of a rural pastor. Her dad was raised on a farm and was expected to take it over but felt the call to ministry, even though he hadn’t finished high school. In his thirties the Waterloo Lutheran Seminary offered a program that included matriculation, and Arthur rose to the challenge. Lois’ mother worked at Mutual Life during his seminary years. After ordination, Arthur was called to a parish of German-speaking Finns in Timmins. Lois was born the following year. She has two older brothers and one younger.

When Lois was four, they moved to Arthur’s next parish in Heidelberg. Six years later, they moved to Brodhagen, a village north of Stratford. Her mother was the organist and choir director, and Lois, who had begun piano lessons begun at age three, gradually shared musical duties with her mother. “I was so young when I started in the choir in Heidelberg that my dad had to build a stool for me to be seen.”

The church was the very heart of the small farming village. It was a big shock to take the bus to the public school in Mitchell with its 600 students. “Life in the parsonage was like being in a fish bowl. You had to be careful who you talked to because everyone knew everybody, you were



always performing.”

After high school, her musical career progressed with a year in the music program at WLU. Lois got married to a farmer at age

nineteen and had three children in quick succession. Despite changing her name, everyone knew her as “Lois Horst, the minister’s daughter,” but also as the organist/choir director and a farmer’s wife. When her dad retired in 1988, he had been in the same church for sixteen years and it was a major adjustment for Lois to work with the new minister. She became friends with his wife but could no longer count on the pastor to “have my back.” It meant shifting from a black-and-white mentality to realizing there were lots of shades of gray. Her marriage was also coming apart, and in ’91 she and the children left the farm to live in Heidelberg again and Lois resumed her university courses, still playing the organ on Sundays in Brodhagen.

Eventually she moved her family to KW and got a job directing the children’s and youth choirs at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church. For the first time, she felt recognized for herself and not as her father’s daughter. Two years later, with her B.Mus. and ARCCO degrees, she switched to a position at Christ Lutheran and felt at home there for the next nine years (from 1994-2003). But a car accident in ’01 left her with chronic shoulder pain and dizziness which interfered with Sunday duties. An interim organist position came up in Stratford but the pain, dizziness and anxiety put an end to playing the organ on a regular basis. When she’d almost given up on being able to hold a music position in a church, she heard about the Generations Choir director job at Holy Saviour and applied, knowing that accompanying on the piano would be less taxing than on the organ.

Lois meanwhile had gone through a second marriage and divorce and dealt with the impact of both divorces on her three kids. Her daughter Stephanie, who was eight at the time of the first divorce, bore the most emotional scars. When Stephanie and her boyfriend had a son in 2007, it was clear that neither of them could handle parental responsibility. Lois stepped in and, after messy court dramas, eventually adopted Spencer four years ago. Stephanie was diagnosed with a brain tumor 18 months ago and underwent successful surgery and rehab. Lois moved recently to be on the same floor as her daughter, son-in-law and her 3-yr-old grandson Luther in an apartment building in Kitchener. Lois's two sons are 30 and 27; one of them shares farming with his dad.

When I asked how all these crises affected her faith, Lois said that she did not feel it had been compromised. "We grew up with an ethic from my dad and grandma learning not to complain, to just keep doing what needs to be done, and believing that God would work things out." Being "on duty" every service rarely allowed for developing personal spirituality in church, per se, but reading, contemplation, writing music, and going to counseling helped. The sudden death of her father four years ago did shake her faith. "The darkness and despair I experienced made me feel alone – having always performed at church; I found it difficult to reach out to share it."

Lois appreciates, though, the support and friendship she and Spencer have found in her 8 years at Holy Saviour.

Our conversation concluded with both of us realizing that the leaders in worship, both liturgical and musical, get 'slotted' in a role and their personal issues and needs are often left out. Looking back, she misses Arthur Horst, "a good man who lived what he preached." I compared notes with Lois several times in our conversation. Both of us are PKs (preacher's kids) and church musicians, and have dealt with loss of our fathers. I was grateful to share our parallel paths and deeply admire the work that Lois does, as a (grand)parent, choir director, and the Cake Lady .

ALTAR GUILD



That wonderful season of joy and sharing is fast approaching! As is our custom, seasonal flowers will once again adorn our sanctuary. If you would like to give a donation for these flowers, make your cheques payable to "The Church of the Holy Saviour" and mark donation for

Christmas flowers. Thanks to all those who make it possible to decorate our church with Christmas colour.

Two trees adorn our church, ready for Christmas Day. The one at the back is for any parishioner to bring an ornament from home and add it to the tree. Please make sure you identify it as yours so that at the end of the season, you can take it home again ready for next year. Those that are not taken back will be stored until next year. Thanks for making this Holy Saviour's family tree!

Chris Schmidt (519-747-4098)

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

As the Christmas Season approaches we wish to remind you that, following the tradition at Holy Saviour, the givings in the Christmas Envelope go to our Rector as a Christmas gift for him and his family. If using a cheque please make it payable to Peter Townshend, and not to the church. This makes year-end accounting and depositing to the bank much easier for all concerned. Thank you and have a Merry and Blessed Christmas.

FROM THE EDITOR

I first became aware of **Phyllis Tickle** as the founding editor of the religion department of Publishers Weekly in the early 1990s. I was a bookseller and PW was an essential resource for staying ahead of new books that I chose to stock our shelves. When she began publishing her own books, I continued to pay attention. First came a modern breviary, a resource for daily prayer, called **The Divine Hours**. It was published in three seasonal volumes in 2000 and 2001 and I eagerly bought each one and tried to establish a daily practice observing morning, noon, evening and bedtime offices. (In fact she had written many books before this, unbeknownst to me.)

When I noticed in fall 2012 that she was coming to lead a weekend workshop at Five Oaks, I leapt at the chance to meet her. Five Oaks, the United Church retreat centre on the Grand River south of Paris, has a long history in my family and personal histories. We went to family camps there in my childhood, and my father first sensed his call to the ministry at a vocational conference there in 1961. He and I returned for a Finding Our Fathers weekend in April 1990, a turning point in our relationship.

So, with my *Divine Hours* and her latest book, **The Great Emergence**,



under my arm, I was eager to meet Phyllis at Five Oaks. She was happy to sign my books but more important, she

'took me in' with an attentive regard that made me feel like

I was the only person in the room. She was there to talk about The Great Emergence, her perspective on how and why Christianity is experiencing radical changes. She calls it the great rummage sale, a 500-year cycle, in which the institutional church empties out its dusty attic, discarding what no longer works or gives joy, discerning new methods and ideas for going forward. With her Tennessee accent, she enthralled us with biblical stories and challenged us to engage in heartfelt discernment.

I emailed Phyllis after that weekend and she responded immediately. My curiosity about where the Church is going was kindled and I began reading authors like [Brian McLaren](#) that she had cited. It's been clear for a few decades that liberal Protestant denominations are shrinking in numbers, and that the majority place they held when I was growing up in the 50s and 60s is gone. We might feel jealous of the burgeoning popularity of the evangelical mega-churches but were not drawn by their rock music and simplistic theology. And here was Ms. Tickle suggesting that the new monastic spirituality of a daily office and the formal liturgies of Anglican Eucharist were attracting new seekers. Frankly, I'm still searching for signs of The Great Emergence, but, like aspects of parenting that you don't know worked until years after your children grow up, I have faith that she's right.

It was with a heavy heart then that I learned last spring that Phyllis had lung cancer and at 81 was stepping back from her crowded calendar of speaking engagements. She died on Sept 22. She knew that death was but a stepping stone. From an interview she did last spring:

Tickle's answer [to why she was at peace about dying] is as surprising as the revelation of her diagnosis: She had a near-death experience at 21, she says, thanks to an experimental drug she was given to try to prevent a miscarriage. In the middle of the night, she stopped breathing; her husband, a medical student at the time, was able to revive her long enough to get her to the hospital. "Mine was a classic near-death. So, not much to say," she begins. "I was dead. I was like a gargoyle up in the corner of the hospital room," she continues. "And I remember to this day looking down and watching Sam beat on me again and screaming for the nurses, and the nurses coming with the machines and the whole nine yards. And then the ceiling opened and I just went out the corner and into a tunnel, which was grass all the way around. Ceiling, sides, the whole thing. And I went to the end of the tunnel to this incredible — people call it 'the light.' I guess that's as good a name as any. But an incredible peace, a reality, unity, whatever. The voice, which was fortunately speaking in English" — she laughs again — "said, 'Do you want to come?' And I heard myself saying, 'No, I want to go back and have his baby,' meaning Sam." She recalls that she turned around and went back down through the hole in the ceiling and into her body.

Rest in peace, Phyllis Tickle. You have left us blessed by your insights, discerning the signs. Of her more than 40 books, I recommend *The Great Emergence* (Baker Books, 2008) as a starting point. *Divine Hours* is available free at <http://annarborvineyard.org/tdh/tdh.cfm>.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Advent I Sunday November 29th - 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (BAS) & 7:00 pm - Advent Carol Service

Advent II Sunday December 6th - 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, 9:00 am Morning Prayer & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (BAS)

Advent III Sunday December 13th - 8:00 am Holy Eucharist & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (BAS) - Christmas Pageant

Advent IV Sunday December 20th - 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, & 10:00 am - Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve December 24th - 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm & 10:30 pm - Choral Eucharist

Christmas Day December 25th - 10:00 am - Choral Eucharist

1st after Christmas December 27th - 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

Epiphany January 3rd - 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

By the numbers Nov 20-22	
No. of leaf bags moved to the curb from the Fall Cleanup Nov. 21	65
No. of teas served at the Snowflake Tea Nov. 22 (over \$2500 raised)	89
No. of children in the church school Nov. 22, not including Nursery	25
No. of attendees at the RENEW luncheon Nov. 23	67
No. of shepherd's pie dinners served to the homeless Nov. 23 (part of St Louis' Community Dinners held at Holy Saviour)	22



Please pray about your pledge to the RENEW campaign. Please return your pledge envelope by Sunday, Nov. 29th



HOLY SAVIOUR PRAYER LIST – This list is used at most Sundays and mid-week services. It is also used by the Rector as well as members of the parish as a focus for their daily prayers. It is important to keep this list up to date, as it is appropriate for some names to be included on an ongoing basis but the need for others may be for a shorter term. Your help is appreciated by informing the Rector or Jeanette if you wish a name to remain on the list or to have it removed. Please let us know by December 15th at that time the list will be updated to include only the names which have been requested to remain on the prayer list.

