



# WHAT'S NEW

The quarterly newsletter of Waterloo's Anglican Church of the Holy Saviour. EASTER EDITION MARCH 2017

## FROM THE INTERIM PRIEST

Dear Friends,  
Over the past nine months it has been my privilege to serve among you as your priest. Yes, nine months! It's been a gestation period. Led by Bishop Linda, we have sought the gift of discernment for the appointment of a new rector. It is with joy that, in a little over a month's time, we shall welcome Victor Kischak as our rector, priest and pastor.

After thirteen years of retirement, I hadn't expected to be liturgically responsible for yet another season of Advent to Christmas or Lent to Easter. I have been encouraged by your own commitment to engage in leadership and support to ensure our ministries continued unabated. Last fall, I shared how my own vocational call to priestly ministry was confirmed when I did much the same during an interim at my home parish in Brantford almost fifty years ago. I hope these past months have inspired you as we look forward now to charting a new chapter with Victor.

As the Parish of the Holy Saviour, we must continue to clarify our identity and purpose as those who claim to



share in the life of our risen Lord. I have witnessed a caring community where love and friendship, tolerance and understanding are offered to both friend and stranger. This is where we seek to remain with Jesus. May others come and see, and desire to dwell with him and us.

May the Lord Jesus who walks on wounded feet  
walk with you to the end of the road.  
May the Lord Jesus who serves with wounded hands  
equip you to serve others.  
May the Lord Jesus who loves with a wounded heart  
be your love forever.  
Love God wherever you may go, and  
May you see the face of the Lord Jesus in  
those you greet. Amen  
*(Blessing of Bishop Timothy Matthews 1907-1991)*  
- Neil

## FROM THE WARDENS

What a crazy winter we have had with record-breaking temperatures at both ends of the thermometer! And now with spring approaching, we can expect new growth and renewed energy.

Much has happened in the last few months and all of it good news. The Selection Committee is thrilled to announce the appointment of our new rector, Victor Kischak. You can read about Victor further on in this newsletter. Victor will begin at Holy Saviour starting May 1st. His first Sunday will be **May 7<sup>th</sup>** and we invite everyone to stay after the 10 am BCP service and enjoy a **Welcome Lunch**. Note: the first Sunday in May we will have TWO services only, 8 am and 10am. In this way we hope more people can attend the lunch and give Victor a warm introduction to the people of Holy Saviour. In June we will revert to the original schedule of BCP Matins at 9am on the first Sunday of the month.

On February 20 over thirty people attended a meeting about the next Phase of the Feasibility Study looking at the future of our buildings. There was much enthusiasm and a consensus for keeping the church,

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Joy Prittie, still vibrant at 88, p. 4

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removing the tower and parish hall and building a new hall and front entrance. This gives our architect, Michael Wilson, the direction he needs for working on potential designs and three-dimensional drawings to help us visualize these suggestions. There will be more meetings over the next few months for everyone to have input to the process.

In the meantime work has begun to assess design and cost for a new heating (and potentially cooling) system in the church chapel and sanctuary. After repairing a major pipe leak in the basement music room in January, a subsequent pipe leak has appeared in another part of the church basement. There will likely be a Special Vestry Meeting on this subject in the spring.

Dave Barton led a small group of volunteers on March 17 in a clean-up of the basement storage areas that had been shifted when the new flooring went in last fall. The same day, the smoke alarms were replaced throughout the building, and light bulbs upgraded in the hall – from 300 watts incandescent to just 27 watts LED! (photo)



Our youth group continues to enjoy their bi-weekly supper and movie evenings and we regularly get eight or nine youth attending. As well, the adult dinner and movie nights sees two dozen people enjoy an evening together.

Holy Saviour has functioned well under the guidance of our interim priest, Neil Carver, and we owe him many thanks. As well, a big thank you to all the volunteers who are helping in various capacities to keep our parish thriving. The wardens are extremely grateful for everyone's assistance, for their prayers, and for sharing their thoughts.

With Easter approaching and the great celebration of the risen Christ, we wish you all the best in this time of renewal.

Richard Blumenauer  
*People's Warden*  
Anders Bergstrom  
*Deputy People's Warden*

Glenn Brogden  
*Rector's Warden*  
**Tricia Siemens**  
*Deputy Rector's Warden*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

This past winter has been active, with good turnouts for various programs. Could it be that anxiety around the Trump residency has drawn more people to discussion groups? The monthly "Dinner and a



Movie" has continued, providing fellowship, appropriate food for the occasion, and discussion of thought-provoking films on Saturday evenings. The series will continue on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and May 13<sup>th</sup>. Watch the bulletin for more details.

Particular thanks to Archdeacon Carver for leading us through new opportunities in education with series on reflective meditation (Advent) and the changing face of Anglicanism (Lent, 7pm Tuesday nights). These new perspectives have had good participation from across the congregation.

Another event with good participation was a half-day workshop on March 4 at Renison Institute of Ministry with the Rev. Matthew Kieswetter. He is the newly appointed rector of St Andrew's Anglican Church in Kitchener, and a recent graduate of Trinity College, U of T. His award-winning thesis was on the Episcopalian theologian and activist, William Stringfellow (1928-1985). Matthew gave a brief summary of his life and theology, then we broke into discussion groups, followed by Eucharist in St Bede's Chapel. The audience of sixty included eight from Holy Saviour.

## SAFE CHURCH

Your Safe Church committee submitted 17 requests for police records checks in 2016 and an additional seven requests between January and March of this year. This is our third submission to Xpresschek since the implementation of the Screening in Faith policy introduced by the Diocese of Huron. To review the main steps: police record check requests are submitted for those serving in ministries considered high risk – those involving children, vulnerable adults and those ministries containing financial and confidential information. Once the submissions are sent to Xpresschek in Mississauga, the results are sent to the

Diocese of Huron within 90 days and Xpresschek shreds all submitted documentation. Should any concern be raised within the police records check, the parishioner would be contacted by a representative from Church House in London. Every organization requires a separate submission and cannot be transferred from one site to another. Police record checks are valid for 3 years.

The Safe Church Manual is being updated and a copy kept in the Church Office.

- Jennifer Ross and Wendy McIntyre

## THE NEW VICAR, VICTOR

*I asked Rev. Kischak to provide a "bio" to introduce himself. You may recall some of his family background from the [What's New Fall 2015](#) profile of his brother, Jeff Kischak, who has served as a youth minister at Holy Saviour while in seminary.*

Hello everyone! I'm looking forward to meeting all of you soon and joining with you in ministry at the Church of the Holy Saviour in May.

I was born and raised in the small town of Paris and I am the proud father of two teenage girls: Ally and Grace. When I was growing up in Paris, our family didn't attend church. I didn't really know anything about church, except that God, Jesus, the Bible, and church were all connected in some way. Then in my late teens, I began reading about our faith and started to wonder whether or not these stories about Jesus were real. And I don't just mean the miracles, I mean the beatitudes: Blessed are the poor in spirit, Blessed are the meek. You see, that's what I was looking for because it seemed like I didn't really fit in anywhere in high school.



Even though I was great in academics, for a teenager that's not what high school is about. It's about fitting in, and my friends and I were geeks who played Dungeons and Dragons most weekends. We were creating imaginary worlds where we fit in.

But then I was reading these stories about Jesus who always hung out with those on the margins, and seemed to favour those who were bullied and kicked around. These were stories of an upside-down reality, where you were loved, valued, and accepted, regardless of who you were or whether or not you were part of the cool crowd.

When I was in university, there was this girl who said that she trusted that God would look after her, that she would never be alone, and she believed it with all her heart. And right at that moment, a little miracle occurred; for the first time, I saw faith as something tangible. Something real. All I had to do was trust, and I'd be okay. It was that simple, and that night, sitting under a tree on campus at Wilfrid Laurier (WLU), I became a Christian.

Now I am well aware of how that traumatic adolescent thing called high school shaped me and led me to that moment. There were no fireworks as a result of me becoming a Christian. There was no sudden transformation of character. But what happened that night was real. It meant something significant then, and it continues to have profound significance.

After completing an honours degree in History and English at WLU, I moved out to Winnipeg to do a Master's degree in Anglo-Saxon literature. I especially enjoyed the courses I took on literary theory but eventually realized that my job prospects in Canada were scarce. So in 1995, I moved to Hokkaido Japan to teach English and study samurai sword-fighting, achieving the rank of shodan (black belt).

Then in 1997, I moved back to Kitchener and worked for the Japanese company Komatsu. It was there that I got involved in the field of Environmental, Health and Safety (EH&S). The work was exciting and provided me with incredible opportunities, one of which was to join the company Raytheon Canada as an EH&S officer. The global Raytheon Company is a very large defense contractor. I was able to travel and see some amazing things with them, but my spirit was always restless and unsettled, out of alignment.

That's when I started to reassess my entire life. I told my priest, "I think I'm called by God to priestly ministry." And he looked at me carefully, and the first thing he said was, "That's too bad." And I responded, "I know..." because priestly ministry is not something that rational people do.

He told me the different steps involved, so I met with the Dean of Theology at Huron College and enrolled part-time that fall. Suddenly all of these opportunities opened up for me. I resigned from Raytheon, and literally the next day got a call from Blackberry, offering me a position as their manufacturing safety manager. We negotiated part-time hours, the work was satisfying, and it paid my entire way through seminary.

While there, I was ordained early and worked at East London Anglican Ministries (ELAM) with a focus on youth ministry and community outreach. Then I accepted the bishop's appointment to Good Shepherd,

Woodstock and Christ Church, Huntingford. While serving there, I developed a seven week sermon series on Harry Potter.

Now I love Harry Potter. I had read a chapter every night at bedtime to my two daughters for years. I treasure these stories because of the bond that we created while reading with them. But I also noticed that the series explores the universal struggle between good and evil and the redemptive power of love, which happens to mirror the Lenten journey in many traditional Anglican parishes. Excitement surrounding my Harry Potter sermon series spread, and a few months later I received an invitation to present my work at the Allusions to God in Literature conference at Oxford University, an amazing experience.

Later in 2012, I accepted the bishop's appointment to St. James, Paris, and began doing ministry in my own hometown, a rare opportunity. Over these past four and a half years I reconnected with people from my childhood, buried dear friends, and ministered in a growing community. In that context, my view of Jesus has been getting more expansive, inclusive, and all encompassing.

Now as I prepare to join with you in ministry at the Church of the Holy Saviour, I would like to thank the members of your Selection Committee, the wardens and staff of Holy Saviour, and Fr. Neil for making this transition as easy as possible. Again, I look forward to meeting all of you soon, as we love and serve the Lord.

## OUR REFUGEE FAMILIES

Our deanery, through donations from 13 churches, has provided sponsorship for four Syrian refugee families in 2016 and 2017. These include two families jointly sponsored by the government and the Deanery (BVOR\*) - the Abo Nubwt family and the Al Ramadan family. We have also provided support to two GARs\* families: the Mohammed and Abdulrazak families. Total donations received: \$84,773.89 (including Simon's Ride fund raiser \$5,165.45). Our commitment runs for one year after our families have arrived.

Our BVOR families:

The Abo Nubwt family - Thaeer, Rim, Monir (4), Anwar (2) - completed their first year in Canada at the end of February. Thaeer has a job as a part time bus driver, Rim is at level 3 English and Thaeer is at Level 4. The boys are doing well and Monir has been accepted into JK. Medical and dental appointments have assured the family is in good health. Primary contacts: Roy & Kathie Thibodeau (Trinity, Cambridge)

The Al Ramadan family - Mohamad, Siham, Oday (12), Qusay (9), Omer (4), Hamza (2) - arrived in Canada on July 14, 2016 from Jordan. They moved into a

townhouse in Kitchener that August. The family is from Homs, the site of multiple bombings. The family suffered through that and a siege, were separated for a time, but reunited in Lebanon, where they stayed for four years. Mohamed and Siham are the parents of four lively boys, and are expecting another child in June. Quay, the eldest boy, was non-verbal; medical assessments determined he is on the autistic scale. He is attending a special school in Waterloo and progressing well. Qusay is very enthusiastic about learning and his English is coming along well. The parents are attending English classes, and the two younger boys are in a daycare where they are exposed to English while their mother attends class. The family has settled in well and love being in Canada. Mohamed has recently passed his driving test, bought a Dodge van large enough for the whole family, and they are beginning to do their own weekly shopping. They are a delightful family. Primary contacts: Val Haiser, Mary Hunt, Nancy Carlisle-Weaver (All Saints).

Our GARs families:

The Muhammed family - Omar, Ule, Yasin (boy- Gr 2), Limar (girl - SK), Verd (girl - 3), Mohammed (boy). We supply minimal start-up costs and support teams. The older children are in school at Westmount primary school, the younger ones are starting a school readiness program to help with English. Ule is cooking for an exercise class. Omer would like to help anyone with construction or gardening work. Primary contacts: Wendy McIntyre (Holy Saviour) and Wendy Sherlock.

Our fourth family: Hiam (mother) is an older lady and Abdulrazak is her 38-year old son, who is blind. They live in Cambridge. Abdulrazak has talked with CNIB about possible services and the primary contact has explored programs for him in Waterloo. Primary Contact: Susan Grenville (Trinity, Cambridge).

\*BVOR= Blended Visa Office-Referred.

GARs =Government-Assisted Refugees

-Rebecca Short

## JOY PRITTE

I met with Joy in her Margaret Ave. apartment. She has lived there for several years, on her own since the death of her husband Bruce four years ago. They had been married for 68 years! She gave me a brief tour of the apartment. One bed was covered in clothing ready to pack for her next cruise. As you read this, she and her daughter Alison are on a five-week cruise to Hawaii and the South Pacific. A well-deserved vacation for one who has spent her life in service to our Church.

Joy's parents emigrated from England before she was born. (Her mother returned briefly to give birth to Rex, her older brother.) Her father, trained in the British Army, initially worked as a pay officer in Ottawa. They moved to Kitchener when he was recruited by the

Arrow Shirt Company. Both parents were very musical; "Dad played the trombone and mother was a singer at the Crystal Palace." Sunday afternoons growing up were family music times with all four of them playing and singing hymns. Her father's uncle, Harold Darke, was well-known as a composer of sacred choral music. The Senior Choir still uses his mass settings. In fact, while vacationing in Victoria last month, I heard Darke's "Communion Service in F" at Christ Church Cathedral. (Joy explained that the 'Darke' surname became just 'Dark' in Canada.)

She literally grew up at our church, attending Sunday School, Junior Auxiliary, choir, Brownies and Guides. Joy graduated from KCI and worked for Equitable



Personality of the Month, after four years in the Policy Issue Department. There she met Bruce Prittie and they were wed by Rev. Ernest Bishop at Holy Saviour. The nuptial

announcement in the local paper bore the headline, "A Prittie-Dark Wedding." Bruce continued to work at Equitable and was an active member of his Baptist Church all his life. Alison is their only child.

In 2002, Joy was one of several parish leaders across the diocese to receive the initial Bishop's Award for Excellence. She showed me the history that Alison prepared for the application submitted by then rector, The Ven. Dennis Hayden. The list of Joy's volunteer activities runs to three pages! Here are just a few highlights: >taught Sunday School for 17 years, >as a teenager she served as Brown Owl for five years, > a member and often executive of various Women's Guild and ACW (the Emily Freeston and Aletha Kelly groups), >on the Board of Management from 1962 to 1989, >organized the first Pancake Supper in the early 1970s, >chaired the first Waterloo World Day of Prayer service, >organized a fund-raising dinner for the new organ campaign in 1986.

Joy's one-on-one ministry has been as a Eucharistic Lay Visitor for 19 years. Taking the wine and bread to shut-in members of our parish family continues to be a meaningful point of connection both spiritually and socially. But how to bring the shut-ins together, at least once a year? Joy responded to this by starting the annual Spring Sensations dinner, which will occur again on May 25<sup>th</sup>. At the service on March 19, Father Neil

blessed two new viaticums (portable communion sets), one in memory of Bruce Prittie and one in her name. The congregation applauded.

At 88, Joy has worked with more rectors at Holy



Saviour than any of us can imagine. She was confirmed by Rev. Seaton Adamson; as mentioned above, married by Rev. Bishop; her daughter was baptized by Rev.

Harvey Southcott and confirmed by Rev. Jack Peck, Rev. Denton Massey buried her father, Rev. Gerald Churchill buried her mother, and Ven. Peter Townshend assisted at her husband's funeral.

Girl Guides was not her only non-church volunteer commitment. Joy has worked in local politics including as an Assistant Returning Officer. She still enjoys playing the piano and bridge. And especially, cruising travel with her daughter. To quote the tribute to Joy from her workplace, "Knowing Joy, we think she will probably be embarrassed by some of the compliments we have paid her. But no words can express the feeling we have that it is nice to know you and to work with you, Joy." Some 65 years later, those words still ring true.

#### JOB LISTING –YOUTH MINISTRY

The Church of the Holy Saviour is looking for an energetic and creative individual to serve in the role of Youth Group Pastoral Assistant. The successful candidate will lead and manage the parish's ongoing Youth Program for Grades 5-8 as well as assist with Sunday School for that same age group. We are hoping for a two school year commitment from September 2017 through June of 2018, as well Sept 2018 through June of 2019.

Currently the Youth Group for the Grades 5 to 8 ages meets every other week for 3 hours on Friday nights. A Huron University College divinity student is currently managing the program and would be available in the fall of 2017 for some skills transfer and handover. Volunteers from the parish will participate to assist the successful candidate and ensure Safe Church ratios are met, but leadership for the program is expected from the Pastoral Assistant. For more details, check our website, [www.holysaviour.ca](http://www.holysaviour.ca)

## ALTAR GUILD

The Easter season is fast approaching. With it comes the expectation of spring flowers adorning our place of worship. If you wish to contribute to these flowers, please place your cash or cheque, made out to the Church of the Holy Saviour, in an envelope on the offering plate and mark it "Flowers...Altar Guild". This support is much appreciated by all.

On Maundy Thursday, towels will be provided for the washing of feet, but if you would feel more comfortable bringing your own towel, please feel free to do so. Thank You.

-Chris Schmidt, Altar Guild Convenor

## NEXT BAPTISM

Next Date for Baptisms - Pentecost Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. We already have two children registered who with their parents are preparing to be baptized on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> (Pentecost). Our new rector, Fr. Victor Kischak, will arrange to meet with candidates and their families soon after his arrival on May 1<sup>st</sup>. In the meantime, candidates and interested families are encouraged to register and indicate their interest with Archdeacon Neil Carver at their earliest opportunity.

## WOMEN'S THANKOFFERING

A service of Corporate Communion for all the women of Church of the Holy Saviour will be held on **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>** at 9:00 a.m. The service will be followed by a breakfast in the Parish Hall. A special feature of the service will be the receiving of the United Thankoffering. Our celebrant will be The Reverend Julia Gill from St. Columba's Anglican Church in Waterloo. The guest Homilist this year will be René Alexander. Rene is the Chairperson of the Parish Health Council at St. John's The Evangelist Anglican Church in Kitchener. She is a retired Registered Nurse, Midwife, Nurse Educator and Spiritual Care Giver.

If you would like to join the choir for this service, please let Alison Prittie know at 519-745-3433. A brief practice will be held on **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 a.m.** in the Church. Come out and enjoy!! It would be wonderful to have you in the choir!!

## EASTER ENVELOPES

The Easter Offering envelopes will be available at the back of the church on Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. The envelope is intended as an extra gift of thanksgiving in support of the ministry of our Lord here at Holy Saviour.

## WORSHIP WITH US IN HOLY WEEK

**Palm Sunday**  
(Apr 9) 8:00, &  
10:00 am (BCP  
& Sunday  
School) Choral  
Eucharist with  
distribution of  
Palm Crosses

**Wednesday**  
10:00 am Holy  
Communion  
(BCP) with Intercessions for Healing.

**Maundy Thursday** 7:00 pm Choral  
Eucharist with Ritual Washing of Feet and  
Stripping of the Altar

**Good Friday** 10:00 am Choral Celebration  
of the Lord's Passion

**Holy Saturday** 7:30 pm Easter Vigil  
(BAS) at St. Columba, Waterloo

**Easter Day** (Apr 16) 8:00, 9:00 (BAS &  
Sunday School), 11:00 am (BCP) - Choral  
Eucharist



## WE PRAY FOR:

WE CELEBRATE the Baptism of  
Lauren Louise Ford

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

**John Jowle** (December 23)(father of Jennifer  
Jowle)

**Patricia Bow** (January 7)

**Shirley Beaudry** (March 11)

## SHUT INS:

Dorothy Gilbert, Shirley Mchugh, Bernice  
Hodgson, Esther Hodgson, John Ford, Veronika  
Embree, Margaret Goodwin, Arleighn Cook, Pat  
Barry, Barbara Stendahl.