

# WHAT'S NEW



The quarterly newsletter of Waterloo's Anglican Church of the Holy Saviour. June 2017

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## FROM THE RECTOR

“There is no fear where love exists. Rather, perfect love banishes fear, for fear involves punishment, and the person who lives in fear has not been perfected in love.” (1 John 4:18)

As I reflect upon my first month with Holy Saviour as your rector, I think that there was a nervous energy that seemed to surround us all as we started worshipping and doing ministry together. But this nervous energy soon turned into excitement for me, and I want to thank you all for the incredible welcome that you extended to me and my family. You have all helped me through this time of transition and have been very gracious, supportive, and encouraging, and together we have already shared a lot of laughter and joy.

This past month, our parish has been busy doing its best to live out our Christian calling in the world. We have worshipped together Wednesdays and Sundays, played

Quidditch, celebrated the ministry that my brother Jeff had with you, marked the feast of the Ascension with a tremendous meal and worship service, talked about the care and maintenance of our church, and joined together with Anglicans all across our Diocese for our annual Synod in London.

Now I know we all have busy lives, and I think it can be very challenging at times to listen to God and discern which path to take from the many choices we have. But I heard something a while ago at the Bishop's Clergy Conference that really stuck with me. The guest speaker quoted an Australian poet, Michael Leunig, who said, “There are only two feelings: love and fear. There are only two languages: love and fear. There are only two activities: love and fear. There are only two motives, two procedures, two frameworks, two results: love and fear.”



Initially, I resisted the simplicity of there being only two emotions: love and fear. But since then I have found it helpful when I try to analyze why I do certain things, or why I react certain ways. I ask myself, am I doing this out of love, or out of fear? In fact, the more I think about this, the more I realize that there really are two ways through life: the way of love and the way of fear. I believe as

followers of Jesus, we follow the way of love. And by embracing the way of love, we continue to remain open to God who is the source of love.

Throughout this summer, I invite you to join us at Holy Saviour as we gather to be the church, where those who are suffering are supported and reassured; where those who are fighting despair are encouraged and prayed for; where those who are in need are taken care of and loved; and where we decide to

## **choose love instead of fear.**

I feel deeply honored and truly blessed to be with you and serve you at Holy Saviour. Again, thank you so much for every kindness you have extended to me and my family. May God continue to bless you and your family this summer, and may you experience His peace, comfort and joy.

Yours in Christ,  
The Rev'd. Victor Kischak  
Pastor, Priest & Rector

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### FROM THE WARDENS

Spring reminds us of continual change and renewal of the seasons, as well as our shared Canadian hope for warm weather. This year spring has been doubly exciting as we welcomed Victor Kischak to be our new Rector; his enthusiasm and energy was immediately felt throughout the parish.

Within days of arriving, Victor participated in a Youth Group evening with his brother Jeff and several of our Quidditch-playing youth. Victor wore his treasured Gryffindor sweater and fit right in! Jeff finished up his



two-year stay with us at the end of May and is off to a summer posting at Sauble Beach. Jeff also finished his Master of Divinity degree at Huron College in fine style, winning prizes for

Pastoral Care and for Preaching. Our best wishes to Jeff!

We will soon welcome Janine Noorloos, a second year Wilfrid Laurier student who will be taking over leadership of the Youth Group and teaching the Grade 5 to 8 Sunday School class, in the fall. And we send a special thank you to Erica Schmidt-Weller for the fantastic job she has done leading the Sunday School this past year, and we are grateful that she will continue.

June 11<sup>th</sup> at 3pm marks the date of our Parish Picnic at Laurel Creek Conservation Area. The centrepiece will be a combined LIGHT (Grade 5 – 8) and SALT (high school) Quidditch game, with fun activities for the Sunday School children as well.

On April 29<sup>th</sup> the United Thank Offering service was held; our thanks to Alison Prittie for organizing this well-attended service and breakfast. The Spring Sensations Dinner, chaired by Joy Prittie, was held May 25<sup>th</sup>. It featured a wonderful dinner, prepared and hosted by many volunteers and was followed by worship. We thank Joy for this important event, sharing an evening with many seniors,

some of whom have difficulty getting to church.

The popular adult Dinner & a Movie nights have continued, organized by Anders Bergstrom and Chuck Erion. Strong attendance stretches the ability to hold this in the Fireside Room. The series will resume on Saturday, Sept 23.

Renew Strategic Planning work continues as the Committee has started meeting with Terry Marklevitz on Phase II of the Feasibility Study. Marklevitz Architects received a clear mandate for the direction of Phase II at information meetings held January 15 and February 20. Another parish information session will take place in the fall.

Meanwhile, work continues on implementing a new heating system for the worship space prior to next winter. A meeting in early May with past property managers and wardens confirmed the wisdom of this project and gave the wardens a consensus approach for structuring the business case. Pending receipt of bids on the system specifications in June, a Special Vestry will be called.

Regarding finances, we are somewhat behind our budget. Please remember to keep up your givings through the summer. We also thank you for your continued commitment to the RENEW campaign.

We wish you all a pleasant and relaxing summer and we look forward to welcoming you back to a warm (but not too warm) and cozy church in the fall!

**Richard Blumenauer**, People's Warden  
Glenn Brogden, Rector's Warden  
Anders Bergstrom, Deputy People's Warden  
Tricia Siemens, Deputy Rector's Warden

### SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFFING

In June, we will be saying goodbye to over 90% of our teachers, many of whom have been teaching for many years. They have brought their enthusiasm, creativity, and love of God to Holy Saviour's children and provided our kids a safe place to build their personal relationships with God.

For this dynamic ministry to continue, we are looking for new people to take the lead to help raise our children in the church. The good news is that we have a fantastic curriculum to follow, lots of materials to use and some newly updates spaces in which to teach.

Class divisions will depend on the number of teachers we are able to recruit. The fewer teachers we have, the more grades will be combined in a class. Hopefully, each teacher will lead two of the four Sundays in a typical month.

We are blessed to have a new ministry member to lead the Grade 5-8 class, along with the youth group, starting in September. So

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at this time, we are specifically looking for teachers for the Junior Kindergarten to Grade 4 ages.

If you are interested in joining this fun ministry, or if you have questions, please let me know. I am happy to help you feel comfortable! Many thanks.

Erica Schmidt-Weller  
[e.schmidt.weller@gmail.com](mailto:e.schmidt.weller@gmail.com)

## SYNOD

The Bishop's Charge, which sets the priorities for the 176th Synod of Huron, was delivered at the Monday session rather than at the opening Eucharist on Sunday (as previously). Bishop Linda Nicolls recounted her first year of experience in Huron, the major events and markers, and the theme for this year: "Live a Life Worthy of your Calling" (from Ephesians 4). She highlighted the unity of the Church: in geography, worship, within the Anglican Church of Canada, and in the world-wide Anglican Communion.

The nature of the Anglican Church in Huron is changing, the result of rural depopulation, and the dramatic changes in demographics, neighbourhoods, and the perception of "church" across all age groups. Her vision is the re-energizing of Huron in the terms of the "Five Marks of Mission", changing the framework and places of worship, and also the relationship to the non-Church community. Resources have to be managed, even to the point of recognizing that existing buildings and budgets may not be sustainable. Every parish will be scrutinized.

There are four commitments for the Diocese:

1. To discipleship: beyond personal faith;
2. To children: especially Huron Church Camp;
3. To indigenous peoples: especially to the Truth and Reconciliation recommendations in the context of the indigenous communities of Huron;
4. To the wider Anglican Church: our partnership with Amazonia and dialogues with other dioceses (e.g. Brandon).

Finally, the Synod is asked to engage in dialogue and in response to the proposed

Marriage Canon (2016), and to plan further local discussion, in preparation for the final vote at General Synod (2019).

Besides reports and presentations, some of which are available online (see Web resources below), the 176th Synod dealt with changes to a number of the Canons. Among the reports not available online were reports from Renison and Canterbury in Windsor, outlining their continuing education programs for lay people in our Diocese. Huron Church Camp was also mentioned a number of times as a great place to send our young people.

**Web resources:** The Bishop's Charge and the Popular Report may be found at: <http://diohuron.org/resources/> > Diocesan > Synod. Other reports or presentations may be found at: <http://diohuron.org/category/huronsynod/>

Rob Lofthouse, David Embury,  
Paul Henderson, (Lay Delegates)

## REFUGEE COMMITTEE SHOUT OUT

Local Anglicans have so far sponsored four Syrian families totaling 8 adults and 10 children – two solely by ourselves, and two sponsored at first by the federal government.

Our 13 churches, to date, have contributed over \$84,000 to support these refugee families coming to our Region – a remarkable amount of money and compassion. Because our two government-sponsored families have not cost us very much money, we current have roughly \$40,000 in our Refugee account that could sponsor a fifth family.

That said, we have one clear need before we can venture to apply for a fifth family. We need 2 to 4 people to come forward from our 13 churches to join our committee, and be prepared to be the primary contacts for the new family for a year.

We have lots of people on our Committee who now have expertise at handling all the dimensions of support that is required of a family over the year: Our committee knows now how to help with: housing, transportation, medical and dental needs, education (including ESL), shopping, budgeting, coordination with government agencies, furniture and clothing.

Our core Committee members (about 30) are prepared to continue their support for a fifth family, but we recognize that we cannot move forward unless 2 to 4 volunteers come forward to be primary contacts.

Our Committee has decided that we need to make a clear appeal to all of our congregations, as both a follow-up to the outreach that has already taken place, and to candidly report what we need in order to compassionately continue our support for the legitimate refugees from war-torn countries who are still waiting for an opportunity to come to Canada.

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If you are interested, please email me at [rebecca@machteldfaasxander.com](mailto:rebecca@machteldfaasxander.com), or phone me at 519-897-7862. If you think you know of people in our Anglican community who might fulfill this need, please let me know. To be clear, talking to me does not mean you are making a commitment to be a primary contact. But if you don't talk to me, you won't know the fuller picture of what is involved.

Rebecca Short

## TRYING TO SEE THROUGH HER EYES

*Carrie Snyder is an author of four books, including Girl Runner, who lives on William St. in Waterloo. This is from her blog, [CanLit Mama](#), dated Wed, Mar 20, 2017. Reprinted by permission.*



Just realized why this morning is feeling emptier than usual. For the past couple of months, I've spent Wednesday and Thursday mornings tutoring a new neighbour in ESL, and as of Monday, she's attending formal ESL classes, which was always the goal. My intention was only to tide her over while she waited to get into the program.

Last week, we spent Thursday morning walking and riding the bus together, so her new route to school would become familiar. The next day, I listened to The New Yorker's fiction podcast; [the February post is Junot Diaz reading Edwidge Danticat's story "Seven."](#) At the story's end, two characters, who are immigrants from Haiti, ride the bus together. The phrase that spoke to me was: trying to see through her eyes.

I spent Thursday morning trying to see through my friend's eyes, and it seemed that although we moved through the same

physical space together, what we saw and heard did not mean the same thing to both of us. I've been thinking about this a lot. How privilege, skin colour, gender, age, wealth, familiarity, health, past experiences alter the world as we move through it. We exist in relation to what surrounds us, and in relation to how we perceive and are perceived.

Here's what I wrote after listening to "Seven."

When I am with my friend, I feel as though I am almost wearing her skin, her headscarf, I feel the exposure and vulnerability of being a newcomer, unaccustomed to the weather, to the language, to what is safe and what is dangerous. As we walk along a sidewalk, I see she fears the big black dog whose owner clips its collar to a leash on our approach — she recoils as she passes the dog, politely pulled off the sidewalk by the owner, who says good morning. But she does not seem to fear the white man and woman who come toward us with dyed and shaven hair, who I fear might be skinheads. Instead, I recoil.

Later, as we arrange ourselves on the bus, it is I who stagger unsteadily to a seat, uncertain of my balance, while my friend stands braced against the stroller and a pole, concerned for me. Her face is tired. She has been in Canada for almost three months. I think suddenly, she is tough, tougher than I can guess, tougher than me. All this time, I have wanted to protect her, but as I see her now I am ashamed to have been so reductive. She has told me about the guns coming to Syria, bang bang. She has endured more than I can imagine. Even so, I recognize her anxiety as she tries to orient herself. I want to assuage it, to reassure her.

I tell her, This is the stop. I pull the line and stand. The men move out of our way to let the stroller by. I want to help her lift the stroller, but she doesn't need my help. We begin to walk. She sounds out the letters on the building across the street: "Don McLaren Arena." Yes, I say, ice skating. I mime ice skating. She laughs and I think she doesn't understand so I continue to mime. She taps her head. What she's trying to tell me is that she will remember "Don McLaren Arena" — this is her stop. Great idea! I stop ice skating and exclaim.

We walk in silence for a while. I don't want to fumble with my phone and Google translate in this bright sunshine. I see a man walking a big black dog, ahead, different man and dog. They are walking on a cross pass away from us. In Syria, dogs inside the house? I ask. She laughs, No! Brother, chickens, sheep, dog, she says. Outside. I tease her: Maybe someday, you will have a dog. In Canada, so many people have dogs and cats. No, no, no, she says. No dog, no cat. A bird, she says to me.

I can see her face, turned toward me, smiling, an objectively beautiful face, no makeup, clean and memorable. She is wearing a light-coloured headscarf.

A bird, I say.

A bird, she agrees. We walk past Tim Horton's where she and her husband have come to buy coffee and roll up the rim to win. He

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won another coffee. She was hoping for a car, a TV. But just a coffee. No one wins the car, I tell her. She tells me that a little dog scared their daughter, who is five, who began to scream in fright, and the dog's owner, a woman, picked up the dog and held it in her arms. It was okay? I ask. It was okay.

My friend is opening up the world to me. I see that I can't see through her eyes, though I try, though I want to. I can only walk beside her, often in silence. Wondering what this place looks like through her eyes. Is it ugly or beautiful? Welcoming or closed? Is it safe or dangerous? Is it home? Could it be home? Everything looks both brighter and starker when I'm walking beside her. There is a clarity to the light, and a barrenness, as if the objects and structures are being stripped back to their bones.

The light is bright for February, and we are warm. Even my friend, wrapped in her black coat, always cold, admits that she is now warm. The baby starts to fuss as we near their apartment. I don't want to say goodbye. It seems I receive as much from her friendship as she could possibly receive from mine, because I enjoy her company, because I am happy when I am with her, more curious, more alert, more aware, because even a bus ride feels purposeful, somehow, when I'm trying to see through her eyes.

Carrie Snyder

## CELEBRATING HYMNS

The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada (The HSUSC) will hold its annual conference at Conrad Grebel University College in Waterloo from July 16-20, 2017. This conference is one of the largest gatherings of hymnologists and



**THE HYMN SOCIETY**

congregational song leaders in North America and will host top hymnologists from the US, Canada, Great Britain, Brazil, and Japan. Each night of this professional conference, The Hymn Society provides a hymn festival that is free and open to the public as a way to live out its mission to

"encourage, promote, and enliven congregational singing."

The Hymn Festivals take place at 7:30 each evening at local churches: Sunday, July 16 - St Matthew's Lutheran (Kitchener), Monday - St Andrew's Presbyterian (Kitchener), Tuesday - First United (Waterloo), Wednesday - St John's Lutheran (Waterloo). To register or to learn more, go to [www.thehymnsociety.org/2017-waterloo](http://www.thehymnsociety.org/2017-waterloo)

## MEET PAUL HOPKINS

I first met Paul Hopkins at a coffee hour following a Wednesday morning service in March. He is a professional actor who found Holy Saviour when he and his wife moved to KW from Montreal. They were looking to buy a house on Avondale Ave. and Christine pointed out the Anglican Church nearby, "and look," she joked, "Pete Townshend is the rector!" Paul and his eight-year-old son, Ben, have become Sunday regulars and Paul often comes to the Wednesday service as well. He and I met at a local café to learn more about each other.

Paul was born in Ottawa, the oldest of three boys. His parents were both active in the Anglican Church, St. John the Evangelist. They had met at church and were married by the dean, The Very Rev'd Herbert O'Driscoll. In addition "Herbie" is Paul's godfather and conducted Paul and Catherine's wedding some forty years after conducting their parents' ceremony. His mother started a Christian Montessori school in Ottawa and went on to found the Ontario Federation for Independent Schools (OFIS). His dad was an engineer and taught at Algonquin College. "Mom was the musical one, a piano player. I did choir as a child and now sing in the Schneider Male Chorus. My dad was a good teacher, taking passages from the Bible and engaging us kids to explore the meaning. That translated to my way of doing Shakespeare, cracking open the text for insights."

When Paul went to Concordia University in Montreal for drama, he attended a Catholic church, and says he was in and out of church his whole life. When his acting career took him to Los Angeles, he joined a choir. While working on Toronto, he was in the in plain chant choir at St Mary Magdalene for two years. Returning to Montreal, he joined Christ Church Cathedral but admits he felt more motivated to attend after Ben was born.



His major role while in Los Angeles was in *Tales of the City*, a six-episode series starring Olympia Dukakis as a landlady of a San Francisco apartment house in the 1970s. Paul returned to Canada for two seasons at Stratford, in 2004-05. He played the doctor in *Macbeth*, First Gentleman in *Henry 8<sup>th</sup>*, and the Provost in *Measure for Measure* (see photo).

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Paul met Catherine while working at Stratford. She grew up in a very large Mennonite family and runs her own marketing business based in KW.

Newly married, it was back to Montreal to become the Artistic Director of Repercussion Theatre, putting on Shakespeare in the Park each summer from 2007 to 2014. The company performed one-night stands around the city, setting up a full stage, lighting, etc. for audiences of up to 2000 sitting on the grass.

The company offered entry-level work to new drama graduates. "I'm proud that one of my finds was Antoine Yared who worked for us for three seasons, then got hired at Stratford. This year he is playing Romeo and you can see his picture on all the Festival ads. I'm going to the opening night in a few days."

With Repercussion Theatre, Paul was responsible for fund raising, beginning with the financial crash of 2008. "We treaded water for a few years, calling in favors, applying for grants. But suddenly we got a \$30,000 anonymous donation." He was relieved to leave the company solvent, though he never got to enjoy it without funding problems. Repercussion is still going strong, "a sign that you've done something right." We chatted about the more positive attitude in Quebec politics toward funding for the arts.

We also talked about live theatre as story-telling. I was delighted that he was familiar with the theories of Scapegoating by the philosopher/theologian, René Girard. (I told him about the Third Age lecture series on this topic that I organized two years ago.) He is fascinated by the evolution of ideas and cultural "memes", or story metaphors, which play out through centuries of human history. In that context, we spoke about Sarah Polley's *Stories We Tell*, the recent Dinner & a Movie program. Paul has enrolled in an MA program starting this fall at the University of Guelph, where he hopes to explore the relationship between story and dramaturgy.

During his 25 year career, his other acting credits include *19-2*, a cop show set in Montreal, and the lead role in *Vampire High*. He is currently working in a movie musical for Disney in Toronto. In 2013, Hopkins was one of 3 finalists for the Christopher Plummer Fellowship Award of Excellence, for his exceptional contribution to the study of Shakespeare and/or the classics in performance.

I asked what attracted him to Holy Saviour: "I tried out a few churches after we bought a house in Kitchener but what turned me on was the website and the ritual choir. So we went and it was so crowded with young families, and it smelled like the church I grew up in."

You can learn more about him at [paulhopkins.ca](http://paulhopkins.ca). Getting to know Paul reminded me that one never knows what amazing stories can come out, starting with a conversation at coffee hour.



### WE PRAY FOR:

THE NEWLY BATPIZED  
William Michael Napoleon  
Roberts and Sarah Elizabeth  
Roberts

### OUR SHUT INS

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

The Rev. Victor Kishak has been invited to an international gathering of Anglicans at the College of St George at **Windsor Castle** in England. Called God: Some Conversations, the conference runs from July 3 to 13. Victor's contribution will be on how he uses Harry Potter as the lens through which he explains systematic theology in the course he teaches at Renison and in his confirmation classes over the past 6 years. Safe travels, Victor!