

# WHAT'S NEW



The quarterly newsletter of Waterloo's Anglican Church of the Holy Saviour. June 2018

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## FROM THE RECTOR

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us." (Hebrews 12:1)*



Over the past few weeks, our parish has seen an incredible amount of activity as we wrap up our final meetings and ministries before heading into summer. For me

personally, I've really enjoyed delivering first communion classes, our sermon series on the life of King David, and the New Testament discussion evenings. Our annual parish picnic and Quidditch match was also a fabulous event, and so it's fair to say we have been busy being family for each other, and doing our best to live out our Christian calling in the world around us.

I know we all have busy lives, and I'm so thankful for the many ways you have

contributed to the life of our parish. However, I recognize it can be very challenging at times trying to listen to God and discern our paths when there are so many competing voices and societal expectations around us. In fact, life can feel like one big race. We are, after all, busy people racing from place to place. At times, during this 'race that is set before us,' we can collapse from sheer exhaustion, or from the struggles and obstacles that we face day by day.

This reminds me of the story of [Derek Redmond](#) of Great Britain who was competing in the men's semi-final 400 metre race at the 1992 summer Olympics in Barcelona. Derek had trained all of his life for this race. He had just recently broken the British record, and had won gold medals in the World Championship, European Championship, and the Commonwealth Games. He had won both heats earlier that day and as he was rounding the final turn, he suddenly felt a sharp pain in the back of his right leg and he fell to the track with a torn hamstring.

Track officials ran towards him with a stretcher, but Derek got up, determined to finish the race despite the pain. His father came out of the stands and onto the track to help his son. Derek initially tried to push him away, not realizing who he was, but then he heard a familiar voice. "Derek, it's me," his father said. Derek told his father, "I've got to finish this race." His father said, "If you're gonna finish the race, we'll finish it together." And together they finished the race. They stayed in Derek's lane all the way to the end. At first, the crowd watched in silence. Then 70,000 people stood in the stands to cheer for Derek and his father; a reception to rival any gold medalist's lap of honour.



Derek's story reminds us that we are not alone as we run the race that is set before us. We have a heavenly Father who loves us more than we can imagine, and will support us when the pain is too great. We are also surrounded by a cloud of witnesses who are cheering us on. Because **together, we are the church**, where those who are suffering are supported and reassured; where those who are fighting despair are encouraged and prayed for; and where those who are in need are taken care of and loved.

As you continue to run the race set before us this summer, I pray that you will live with an awareness that this world is drenched in the divine, and that there is so much beauty and goodness waiting for you to discover. May you also find moments when you can discern your path through prayer, reflection, and interactions with those you trust. And finally, may God continue to bless you and your family this summer as you experience His peace, comfort and joy.

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

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### FAREWELL FROM ROS

As many of you know by now, the Hood-Morris family is moving to Nova Scotia this summer. I first joined Holy Saviour in March 2001, soon after my husband Peter was diagnosed with a very aggressive cancer. Thankfully we had Peter with us for another five wonderful years before he succumbed in September, 2006. At that time our grandson John had just turned two.

In the twelve years since Peter died, God has been my rock through all the trials that life has thrown at me and my family. Two years ago we decided that we needed a major life reset. We wanted to stay in Canada and decided on the Maritimes. Halifax made sense for a number of reasons, so off we go.

Since 2001, there have been many people keeping things going at Church while I dealt with crisis after crisis on my home front. I can't begin to thank all the people, all the committees and all the positions that have contributed so wonderfully to all aspects of life at Holy Saviour. But I would like to especially mention and thank Jeanette for her warm, friendly support towards me over the years.

I am so pleased that you selected Victor as the new Priest. He is breathing new life into Holy Saviour and transforming it into a vibrant organization ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century. My one regret is that I am going to miss meeting the new organist. Hopefully I'll get to meet him when I visit in the future.

I will still have the same email address (rhoodm@sympatico.ca) and telephone number so if you are in Halifax, please feel free to invite yourself over for a meal.

Peace to you all, Ros Hood-Morris

*(The editor has worshipped alongside Ros and family for over 40 years, starting in Mount Forest, ON. We wish her family well in Nova Scotia.)*

### REMEMBERING BILL SUTHERLAND

In a recent memorial service, the Parish recognized the many significant contributions Bill made to the church in his roles as Warden, Property Chair, and involved member of the congregation. One of his lesser-known contributions, but one that pays tribute to him each week, is the **inner set of handrails** on the chancel steps. Bill was a superb woodworker, and upon hearing that the chancel steps were

potentially problematic because the handrails were too far away to be of practical assistance, he designed and built the additional inner rail for each side, of a quality of design, materials and finish indistinguishable from the superb woodwork in the rest of the church. So as you go up the steps to participate in the Eucharist next Sunday, reach out and touch Bill's remarkable talent and commitment to this parish with your right hand, and remember him.



### FROM THE WARDENS

Time flies, especially when we skip spring and go straight into summer! And how can it be a whole year since we welcomed Victor to the parish? We have surely been blessed with his presence and the many creative aspects of his energetic ministry.

Highlights of his ministry include multi-media children's lessons and Sunday homilies, on occasion with accompaniment such as a life-sized Goliath. Multi-week sermon series on Job and King David have been featured in our Sunday family services. Victor's Wednesday evening series on the New Testament has continued into the spring with strong attendance. Five children and their parents attended a creatively done first communion program in May, while in the fall Victor plans to offer confirmation classes. Victor will also be offering a course on "Harry Potter as Sacred Text" with Renison College during the winter.

Last Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, was our Parish Picnic at Laurel Creek Conservation Area. The centrepiece was either Fourth Annual Quidditch game, or the pot luck dessert buffet, depending on your preference. *(see page 6 for more photos)*

We again thank Erica Schmidt-Weller for the fantastic job she has done this year leading the Sunday School! Erica is currently looking for a couple of volunteers to take over the Grade 3-4 Sunday School class.



Janine Noorloos, who took over leadership of the Youth Group and is teaching the Grade 5 to 8 Sunday School class, has done a terrific job of engaging the youth group and growing regular attendance. They recently planted geraniums in the church gardens.

In April the United Thank Offering service was held; our thanks to Alison Prittie for once again organizing this well attended event. The Spring Sensations dinner, chaired by Joy Prittie, was held on May 10, Ascension Day. It was the 25th year that Joy has organized this! We thank Joy for her many years of work organizing these dinner and service celebrations with seniors, many of whom have difficulty getting to church on their own.

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The popular adult Dinner and a Movie nights have continued, organized by Anders Bergstrom and Chuck Erion. 2001 A Space Odyssey included an invite to the Youth Group, who we are reported to have showed up mainly for the dinner part of the evening.



Extensive Parish Information Sessions were held in March regarding the Renew Strategic Planning work done with Marklevitz Architects on the Feasibility Study. Over 70 people who attended these, participated in an online survey and the many thoughtful comments submitted have been shared with the parish. The number one area of enthusiasm was for a revamped rear entrance, closely followed by the concept of infilling the courtyard to create a new Parish Hall and a more welcoming visible face to the buildings from Allen Street.

The new heating system served us well through the winter and there was no need this year for space heaters in the nave at any time. One of the more exciting moments came recently when a concern was lodged one Sunday morning that the church was too warm! With a few taps on the thermostat control the warden being advised of this looming disaster was able to produce cooling fresh air within about 10 seconds. As they say in the commercials, "priceless".

Regarding finances, we are doing reasonably well against our budget and we thank you for keeping us current with last year's income year-to-date! Please remember to keep up your givings as summer approaches. We also thank you for your continued commitment to RENEW campaign pledges.

The search committee for a new organist and choir director, led by Tricia Siemens, was wildly successful in hiring Jeff Enns, who will start in the fall. Jeff is a well-known musician, teacher and composer whose upcoming employment is



causing great excitement among the musical elements of our parish. (JeffEnns.com)

The wardens wish you all a pleasant and relaxing summer and we look forward to welcoming you back in the fall to meet Jeff Enns!

**Richard Blumenauer**, *People's Warden*  
**Tricia Siemens**, *Rector's Warden*  
**Anders Bergstrom**, *Deputy People's Warden*  
**Matt Bondy**, *Deputy Rector's Warden*

## MEET SHEILA TALBOT



After a recent Wednesday Eucharist, Sheila Talbot shared an album of Holy Saviour photos dating back decades. Like earlier versions of the parish directory, it's fascinating to look through old pictures and try to name parishioners, some of whom have passed on. I did this again when I interviewed Sheila, with Badger, her miniature dachshund, in her lovely home on Alexandra Avenue.

As we started our conversation, Sheila retrieved a 1949 telegram sent to her mother, requesting that she bring her daughter for heart surgery. Sheila was born in 1942 with a hole in her heart and could not be operated on before the age of five if there was anyone to do the surgery. "There was no National Health Service before 1949, and for my parents to take me to Guys Hospital, London UK (the equivalent of Sick Kids in Toronto) would have cost them an arm and a leg, the surgery alone, and on top of that hotel accommodation; my paternal grandfather offered to pay. However I had my surgery on the National Health thanks to Aneurin Bevan, MP." Bevan was the driving force behind the NHS. She shared family photos showing her as a sickly seven-year-old before the surgery but healthy looking afterwards. There are just a few survivors of that historic surgery. Sheila has recently been emailing them.

Born in Lower Weardale in County Durham, UK, Sheila grew up in the Church of England although some of her relatives were adherents of the Wesleyan Chapel, which forbade alcohol, etc. In both denominations young ladies were expected to wear hats and gloves to Sunday worship. Sheila recalled her own confirmation under Michael Ramsey, Bishop of Durham, and later Archbishop of Canterbury.

Her father served in France and the Holland Liberation during the War. He told her often that without faith he would never have gotten through it. Sheila took him back to Maastricht and some of the other battlefields in 1995, for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Liberation. They returned in 2000, both times taking the new tunnel from Dover to Belgium. Dad had been reticent about his war experiences when Sheila was growing up but opened up during their trips. Driving back, he again grew quiet. "Last time I was on this road, I saw bloated dead horses and the terrible aftermath of war." Her father died in 2003, aged

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88, though Sheila dug out a family tree to check the date. Her mother died at 59.

Sheila married her husband Dacres in 1968 and came to Canada when their son Richard was five. She mentioned the upcoming provincial election, pointing out that it was a British election amidst a tough recession that prompted their emigration. Dacres worked as an engineer for Lee Instruments (and later at Raytheon and Conestoga College). Sheila stayed home, eventually working as a medical secretary for various doctors when Richard was a teenager. She began in 1980 as secretary to a summer course for teachers. She also worked for ten years at Lutherwood and for Dr. William MacEachern, a dermatologist, for 19 years, retiring just last year when she was 75! She cites 'the hand of Providence' behind each new position.

The family moved to Waterloo in 1978, living first in the Lakeshore neighbourhood and attending All Saints' Church when the congregation met in a school gymnasium. The move to Alexandra Ave. brought her to Holy Saviour in 1981. Dacres was raised Catholic so was not a regular worshipper with her. Sheila quickly fit in to the Holy Saviour congregation, becoming vestry clerk under The Rev. Gerald Churchill and The Ven. Dennis Hayden as well as president of the ACW. She started the Women's Thank Offering service 25 years ago to bring together the different ACW groups at the time. (She had to borrow serving equipment from Lutherwood for that first breakfast!) She also was very involved in the church's centennial celebration. She credits Dacres as a big support in her work as vestry clerk and ACW president.

Her son Richard, who now works for Salto Systems, a security company in Montreal,



attended Sunday School and choir at Holy Saviour. Though enrolled in the Catholic schools, he was confirmed Anglican.

"I don't like being widowed," declares Sheila. It's now three years since Dacres died. He made

it clear that his memorial service should take place at Holy Saviour. The Venerable Peter Townshend officiated. The Ven. Neil Carver officiated at the interment.

Sheila finds strong support as a widow in her neighbourhood, and in the parish. Walking her dog keeps her in sight of her neighbours, who will come to enquire if she is absent from the streets for a day. One neighbour has brought her a hot meal once a week ever since she was widowed! "This young woman has two children and a busy life but she still find time to nurture and sustain me." Her birthday in April was a month-long celebration as a guest for many dinners at neighbours' homes. Sheila also has developed a special friendship with Rochelle Knox, Anders Bergstrom and their two boys. She offers to host when the grandparents come to visit.

Sheila is a regular not just at Sunday and Wednesday services, but at Dinner & a Movie, and even came to last Sunday's church picnic. The weather was sunny but much cooler than last year. I'm sorry I didn't get a photo of her bundled up in a blanket on her lawn chair. She remains one of the pillars of our congregation, one who give and receives a great deal of caring.

## DO YOU KNOW...

### who the Choral Scholars are?

Recently we bid farewell to four graduating musicians who have helped the Senior Choir for the past years. Isaac Page left on a high note: he composed a four-part anthem, You Will Bring Them In, based on an Isaiah passage. The choir sang it at his last Sunday in April. Isaac, it turns out, is the son of Stephen Page, of BareNaked Ladies fame. (This group, that topped the charts with If I Had a Million Dollars, were busking at the Waterloo Buskers Festival way back in 1990.) Also graduating this spring was Tyler Cooke, grandson of our interim organist, Brian Bennett. Janna Fleming, who has grown up at Holy Saviour, and Dylann Miller, also graduated this spring.

### how long Victor works on his sermons?

Typically twenty hours, but some ideas may be months or years in the "percolation" stage. For instance, he has been thinking for years about the post-Resurrection passage in John 20, trying to figure out the rivalry between John and Peter.

### who changes the outdoor sign every week?

**Dave Barton** and his girls, Jamie, Kylie and Taylor. Thanks, Bartons.

### Matt Bondy might have been where Mike Harris Jr. is today?

Our deputy rector's warden had just agreed to let his name stand for the nomination in the Kitchener-Conestoga riding, when he was told that the nomination meeting was cancelled and that the son of former premier Mike Harris was being 'appointed' by the PC party. We look forward to seeing where Matt's future political aspirations take him. Matt is also chairing the redesign of the church website.

## WHAT'S NEW

### Miles Pateman will be ordained on July 1<sup>st</sup>?

Miles from West Yorkshire, UK, spent two weeks in our parish in March. Having completed his theology degree, he will begin his diaconate in a two-point parish in Stanground and Farcet. You can reach him at [rev.miles@outlook.com](mailto:rev.miles@outlook.com).

### ...we have the biggest Sunday School?

in the diocese and possibly in southern Ontario! Surely a sign of a healthy congregation.

#### WE PRAY FOR:

##### THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Emerson Lucy Grace and Beckett  
John Grace

##### RECENTLY DECEASED

Doris Leland, Mabel Parsons

##### OUR SHUT INS

Dorothy Gilbert, Shirley  
McHugh, Bemice Hodgson,  
Esther Hodgson, John Ford,  
Veronika Embree, Margaret  
Goodwin, Arleigh Cook, Pat  
Barry, Barbara Stendahl, Ken  
Burn, Sheila Macdonald

## THE ALTAR PROJECT

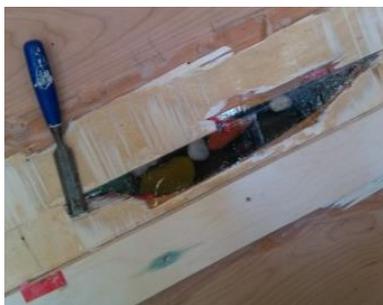
Back in 2016, The Rev. Eileen Scully (Director of Faith, Worship, and Ministry for the national Anglican Church) approached me about building a new altar for the chapel at Church House, the national offices, in Toronto. I was excited at the prospect. While I've build tables and bookshelves, the opportunity to build an altar spoke to me on both spiritual and craftsperson levels. Of course, like most church decision-making, it would be another year for her worship committee to agree to it. Nonetheless, I met with them, Eileen and Archbishop Fred Hiltz in the chapel last December. We agreed on a basic design, to include live-edge cherry planks with an epoxy "river" cast between them.

It took me til late February to find time to finalize a design and estimate of costs. With paperwork signed, I began work in April. I searched the internet for wood sources, eventually choosing Legacy Lumber near Rockwood, ON, with the help of my grandson, Wisdom Addico. The three planks had been cut from a large cherry tree in a backyard in Port Credit. Once I stripped off the bark, Eileen came by and helped decide how they should be cut and should be arranged. She also suggested that



the ends be curved. The top would be approx. three by four-feet in size. I used a router mounted above both planks to initially flatten them, plus lots of handplaning and sanding.

My previous experience with epoxy was building a cedar-strip canoe back in 2000 but there are dozens of YouTube videos explaining making a river table. What they don't tell you is that the setup must be waterproof! I mounted the two planks to a large sheet of plywood with caulking and Tuck Tape to seal it. There were then strips of ply to cap each end. My pour ended up leaking about a third of the epoxy onto the workbench and floor. (And the epoxy cost 4x as much as the wood!) When I returned after the three days to allow the epoxy to harden, it was firmly bonded to the plywood. Separating the top from the plywood was a messy challenge.



But the top and underside eventually got cleaned up and I began on the base: four heavy legs and thinner board between them as the apron and cross-members. These are joined together with mortice and tenon joints. Such technique is millennia old – in fact if you check the stain glass window

near the back on the west side, you'll see Jesus as a carpenter chiselling a mortise! So I'm in good company, even if mine are machine-cut.

The altar will be on display in the Parish Hall in September, prior to its installation in Toronto.





Throughout the church, there are dozens of items that have been donated by families and individuals to honour their loved ones. A new rose-coloured stole was donated in February by the Bondys, the Bedford and Bergtrom – Knox family. This marks a new generation of donors at Holy Saviour.

CHURCH PICNIC

From Shiela's Album

Photo 1: Lillian Watson †, Mary Woodhall †, Maria MacRae, Sheila Talbot

Photo 2: 1993 church pig roast: ?, Vivian Cudlipp, ?, Doug Kogler, Margaret Skells, John Capindale †

If you can identify the missing names, please let the editor know. († deceased)

