



# WHAT'S NEW

The quarterly newsletter of Waterloo's Anglican Church of the Holy Saviour. EASTER EDITION 2019

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## FROM THE RECTOR

Christ Is Risen!  
Christ Is Risen Indeed!

As I write this on the first full day of spring, I'm reminded that the word 'Lent' comes from the old English word Lenten, meaning "spring," which is not only a seasonal reference to Easter, but also an invitation for a springtime of the soul. However, I find myself more closely identifying with this drawing from Sandra Boynton that I received on my Twitter feed.



This has been a long winter, filled with overcast skies, the polar vortex, and more days of freezing rain and snow than I care to remember. I used to love playing in the snow; that is, until I had to shovel it. But now I find myself aching for the signs of spring aching to see those crocuses fully emerge – aching to see signs of new life emerging from God's creation all around us. Because, in many ways, these signs of new life remind us of what has already happened, and continues to happen every day as God brings about the renewal and restoration of this world.

Sometimes we as the church, particularly the North American church, think of the resurrection as an event that occurred in the past and is limited to the past. Now true enough, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead occurred in the past and is God's own testimony against death. But the resurrection of Jesus is also what empowers us for living. Because if we want to truly live, then we need to embrace what it means to live the resurrected life - a life full of love, meaning, and purpose. For the good news of Easter is not only that Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead and is alive, but also that the power of the resurrection can transform our lives as well.

Throughout this season of Lent and into Easter, we as the church celebrate that there is new life and new possibilities for you and I right here and right now in this world.

Our Holy Week services begin on **Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** when we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with a procession of palm branches. Then as we enter into Holy Week, we are planning a reading of Mark's gospel one evening. To experience Mark's gospel, read in its entirety (about 2 hours), is a transformative event. The gospel will come alive for you in new ways. Once the date is finalized, an announcement will be made online and in our Sunday bulletins.

Then on **Maundy Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>** we will gather at 7:00 pm to remember the last supper and Jesus' mandate (*mandatum* became *maundy*) to "love one another as I have loved you." After celebrating the Eucharist, our liturgy will include stripping the altar of all furnishings to remind us of how the soldiers stripped Christ of his garments prior to his crucifixion.

We then gather on **Good Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 am to hear the proclamation of Christ's Passion and reflect upon his sacrifice for us. The tone is solemn, but not somber, for our emphasis is on the victory of the cross. We will then mark the beginning of the fifty days of Easter starting at 8:00 am on **Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>** After our traditional spoken Eucharist, we will be offering additional Easter Sunday services with a contemporary (BAS with Sunday school) service at 9:00 am and a traditional (BCP) service at 11:00 am.

Holy Week provides an opportunity for us to encounter our most powerful and transformative liturgies. They are central to our faith and our walk with Christ and I strongly encourage you to plan on attending as many of these

services as you are able. So as we experience new birth and new life around us, it is my hope and prayer that you will find your faith strengthened, your hope renewed, and that you will be blessed with His peace and joy throughout the Easter season!

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

### WE PRAY FOR OUR

**Shut Ins:** Dorothy Gilbert, Shirley McHugh, Bernice Hodgson, Esther Hodgson, John Ford, Arleighn Cook, Pat Barry, Barbara Stendahl, Ken Burn, Sheila Macdonald

**Baptism:** Lilianna Michelle Wesphal

**Deaths:** [Margaret Goodwin](#), Veronika Embree

### Preparing for

**Confirmation:** There are nine teenage girls who have been meeting with the Rector on Sunday nights. No date has been set for their confirmation. Stay tuned. And please pray for **Victor**. He injured his left arm while shoveling ice on his driveway and a pinched nerve is keeping him in pain.

### FROM THE WARDENS

Hopefully by the time you read this, winter will have turned the corner and we will all be enjoying signs of spring. Despite the cold, snow and ice, people have faithfully attended our services, evensong, and events like dinner and a movie. Holy Saviour truly is a community where we support and nurture each other despite or in spite of the weather.

Thank you to Dave Barton for heading up the Pancake Supper, our kick-off to Lent. We are half

way through Lent. If you have not done the traditional "giving up" for Lent, it is not too late. You could try giving up single-use plastic bottles. You could also try giving up small frustrations, or petty annoyances, or grudges. Or instead of "giving-up", try giving out: a warm smile to a stranger, a kind word to a check-out clerk, a compliment to a neighbour. Giving up chocolate might be easier but the impact of giving out may be more lasting.

We welcome Brent Hatcher as our new Deputy Rector's Warden as well as Gord Rice, Krista Parsons, and Janet Embury as our new members on parish council. The more people who help around the church, the stronger we will be. Helping in the Sunday School or nursery, making and or serving the refreshments after the service, working with the altar guild, or delivering flowers, makes a difference for all of us. If you want to get involved in any part of our parish life, please contact one of the wardens.



In the next few months you will notice some changes around the church. We are getting a computerized full-colour sign for our front yard. We will be able to make announcements via computer instead of standing outside in the cold or rain, fumbling with letters. As well, we will be erecting a garden shed in the back of the church to house a portable barbeque. We hope to have

this before our **June 9th** picnic at Laurel Conservation (mark your calendars)! The Design Committee is starting their work based on a motion at Vestry to spend up to \$150,000 to hire an architect and a cost consultant to investigate renovations and or expanding our parish hall. This is a process which can take several months and the parish will be kept informed.

In an effort to be more transparent we will be posting the monthly income and expense statements on the bulletin board by the ramp to the sanctuary. If you review the statements and have questions please contact either David Embury, our treasurer, or one of the wardens.

We are approaching the Easter season and the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. We welcome everyone to attend the services celebrating this time. Happy Easter to all of you and your families!

Richard Blumenauer, *People's Warden*  
Tricia Siemens, *Rector's Warden (who submitted this report)*  
Anders Bergstrom, *Deputy People's Warden*  
Brent Hatcher, *Deputy Rector's Warden*

### EASTER FLOWERS AND EASTER ENVELOPES

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.

-Chris Schmidt, Altar Guild Convenor

The Easter Offering envelopes will be available at the back of the church on Sunday March 25th, 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.

## THANKOFFERING



Calling all women, young and old! You are invited to the Annual Women's Corporate Communion and Thankoffering Breakfast potluck on **Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** at 9 a.m. This is the 25th year we will be celebrating the work of women in our church and all that they do. As expressions of our gratitude and thanks, our offerings that morning will be forwarded to the A.C.W. United Thankoffering. It will join funds for the mission of the church in our Diocese, our country, and around the world. (Cheques should be made payable to our church with WTO in the memo line). This is always a fun event and the breakfast potluck is fabulous!

If you have any questions or would like to sing in the choir organized just for that day, contact **Alison Prittie** at 519-745-3433.

## SILVER SPOONS



Each month a group of volunteers from Holy Saviour prepare a three course lunch for seniors at W-K Mennonite Church, across the street from Holy Saviour. Other churches also prepare a lunch which is offered each Tuesday at noon. Holy Saviour has been

providing this outreach for many years. Here are our present helpers. Any senior who would like to enjoy a home cooked lunch for \$6 would be very welcome. Get a group together and we will meet you there on the second Tuesday of every month. - Diane Medcalf

## DINNER &amp; A MOVIE

Chuck was away in March but somehow we managed without him! Twenty-five people turned out on March 9th for a delicious Greek meal prepared by Maria and Duncan MacRae. The movie, In America, about an Irish immigrant family, was quite moving.

Dinner & A Movie is in its third year, a gathering in the parish hall of two dozen parishioners who share a delicious meal and then watch a movie, followed by a short discussion led by Anders Bergstrom. Our theme this winter and spring is family relationships. Mark your calendar - **Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup>** for [The Family Way](#) starring Hayley Mills and Hywel Bennett, with music by Paul McCartney!



## MEET THE IGBOELIS

Okey and Hope Igboeli are new members at Holy Saviour. When I approached them about doing an interview, they graciously invited Tricia and me to dinner at their Barrel Yards apartment. It was a delicious Nigerian meal, with goatmeat, jollof rice and fried plantain. Hope's sister was visiting, and she took their four-year-old daughter, Bella, to the library downstairs.

Okchukwu is a lecturer in Science and Business at University of Waterloo, cross-appointed in the biology department and the school of pharmacy. He trained as a veterinarian in Nigeria and has a PhD and MBA from the University of PEI. His specialty is the diseases associated with farm-raised salmon and he started his own pharmaceutical company in Charlottetown in 2015. With the spread of aquaculture worldwide, Okey's research has found a burgeoning market. Hope is currently completing her PhD thesis in chemistry at UPEI this summer. Okey hopes that she will then join the family business, i.e. teaching!



We started to talk about how they met. Hope, who is about ten years younger than Okey, recalls coming home from boarding school and going to choir practice with her sister, afterwards she offered to help Okey walk home with his heavy bag. He was working; she was in high school. They had gone to the same church for three years but this was the first time they spoke; soon walking home together became a regular event. Hope continued: "Fast forward three years. We started talking more frequently but I was applying to University in Britain and Okey was seeing someone else. I told him to focus on his relationship with this lady and that I would name my first child after him [we laugh] and the next day he came back and proposed to me!"

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Okey is a third-generation Anglican from a large family (four brothers and two sisters). His uncle, now in his eighties, was the first to leave Nigeria for an academic life in United States, at Cornell University, rising to become a vice-chancellor at a Nigerian university. His father died at age 72 when Okey was at university, a loss of his "best friend" that still affects him. "Mostly I'm sad that he never saw what I've become." Okey went to an Anglican private school in Nigeria and at one point considered going into the ministry.

Hope comes from an Anglican background, attended a Catholic boarding school, and credits her mother with bringing her family to church. The cultural principle of primogeniture (first-born son in estate law) was what motivated her mother. After four daughters she desperately wanted a son, and was troubled that without one, her brothers-in-law would take over the family business. She prayed hard for one and enlisted her daughters to do the same. Primogeniture laws have changed in Nigeria, as they have elsewhere, but Hope experienced this as a young girl in Nigeria. She highlighted the impact of this problem during her sister's applications to study law in Britain. In 2005 a son was born into the family! His name is Emmanuel.

Hope struggled with a spiritual crisis last year, questioning fundamentalist Christianity against the science of evolution and the knowledge she has acquired as a research scientist. As she sought her own spiritual awakening, she began letting go of what she'd been taught, coming to seeing Jesus as a person of maximum spirituality, someone she strives to emulate. She finds Victor's sermons a big help in exploring her faith. Okey,

too, picked up this theme: God is not an S.O.S. rescuer but a universal force that works in whatever is there, good and evil.

Okey found a church home with the 8 o'clock Eucharist at Holy Saviour after trying various Anglican churches in KW. Hope and Bella have also found the parish welcoming, a fact she raised at the vestry meeting. She also thought that the good turnout at vestry was a sign of the health of our parish.

When asked if they think about returning to Africa, both felt that there are more opportunities in North America. They are planning a visit home to Nigeria this May. I am glad that they are part of our parish family.

## NEW JUNIOR CHOIR



The CHURCH MICE, a.k.a the junior choir, led by Lois Horst, received their T-shirts last Sunday. They charmed us with "All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir"!

## A GIFT IN YOUR WILL CAN CHANGE LIVES

It's that time of year when income taxes are being prepared and you are collecting your donation receipts. But have you given thought to how your FINAL tax return will look?

The Stewardship Committee hopes to inspire you to become a voluntary philanthropist and discover how to use the tax laws as they were designed to maximize your gift for the life and mission of the church, both now and for generations to come. A guidebook, published by The Anglican Foundation, is available through the church. There are many ways to make a charitable bequest that will best suit your personal philanthropic goals and financial situation.



## TYPES OF BEQUESTS

General bequest: Directs that Holy Saviour will receive a designated sum (e.g., \$50,000).

Specific Bequest: Directs that Holy Saviour will receive a specific piece of property (e.g., a gift of stock or real estate).

**Percentage Bequest:** States that Holy Saviour will receive a predetermined percentage of your estate (e.g., 10%), keeping your gift in line with the value of your assets as they change.

**Residual Bequest:** Designates that Holy Saviour receives all or a portion of whatever remains in your estate after all named beneficiaries, debts, and administrative fees for settling the estate have been paid.

**Contingent Bequest:** Allows you to make a primary bequest for a relative (e.g., spouse or child) with the contingency that, if that relative should predecease you, the bequest would pass to Holy Saviour instead.

### ADDING A CODICIL TO YOUR WILL

If you already have a will in place, you do not necessarily have to change your entire will in order to add Holy Saviour as a beneficiary. Often all you need to do is add a clause or codicil to your existing will, stating your intentions—a simpler and less expensive process. It is important to note, however, that the codicil should be as carefully written as your original will, preferably by a trained person, and like your will needs to be properly executed in front of two witnesses.

### TAX BENEFITS

- When you make a bequest to Holy Saviour or other charity, your estate is eligible to receive a donation tax receipt for the full value of your bequest. The executor for your estate can then claim a tax credit for up to 100% of your net income in your final tax return. Any unused credits can be applied against your previous year's income, again claiming up to 100% of net income.
- If you make a designated bequest

for a specific area of ministry, make sure you give Holy Saviour the authority to change the designation if the ministry you have stipulated becomes obsolete or no longer needs funding.

**Example: A Bequest in Your Will.** Stan and Barbara want to leave a lasting legacy beyond their lifetime. They also want tax relief on their estate. They decide to leave \$50,000 to Holy Saviour in their will. This bequest is eligible for a charitable donation receipt, and this tax benefit reduces the tax payable by their estate. This gift in their will provides exactly what they wanted— tax relief and a lasting legacy.

- Richard Blumenauer, *People's Warden*

### THE UNCOMFORTABLE PEW

With the wardens' blessing, I have moved the email version of our What's New to Mailchimp, a social media marketing platform. It hopefully makes for a more attractive "read" and allows more length than the six-page limitation of the print version we were using. Of course, the print edition is being mailed to those without internet access. The PDF is still to be found [on our website](#) and the print version at the back of the church. I welcome your [feedback](#).

A follow-up to last issue. The profile was of Robert Kruse, choir member and founder of a charity in Kenya. The web page for KEDHAP is at [www.devxchange.org/kedhap](http://www.devxchange.org/kedhap) if you wish to support his work.

Prior to the Vestry meeting on Feb 3, I met with the Rector to ask about some topics that I feel we ignore at Holy Saviour. Things like climate change, the Truth and Reconciliation process with indigenous people, divesting fossil fuel stocks, same-sex marriage at General Synod, what was happening with Mennonite -Anglican dialogue?

Here's some of what I learned. Truth and Reconciliation education has happened somewhat at the diocesan and deanery level but not in our parish. This is clearly a gap. A recent resource from the national church on this history of the [Discovery Doctrine is this video](#).

Victor has been working with the pastor of W-K Mennonite Church, at the start of an effort by both national churches to begin ecumenical dialogue. There is a workshop to that end taking place at W-K and our church on [Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>](#). [More details here](#). (University of Waterloo/Anabaptist Learnig Workshop)

The diocese handles all of our endowments and while they strive for an ethical focus, have not fully divested from fossil fuel companies as that would reduce the level of returns they strive for. You can learn more about why we need to divest from [divestwaterloo.ca](http://divestwaterloo.ca).

As you may have seen in the *Anglican Journal*, this July's General Synod will be voting on the marriage canon amendment. There is an extensive [background report here](#). Victor is planning a series of sermons in June on this topic.

**CLIMATE CHANGE** is another big topic, perhaps the biggest. Ever since [the IPCC's latest report](#) last fall, I feel an ongoing dread about the future, both for what's coming in my lifetime and even more so for my children and grandchildren. That sense of dread increased when I read a

small book by Robert Bringham and Jan Zwicky called [Learning to Die](#) - Wisdom in the Age of Climate Crisis. (Zwicky is a poet and philosopher whom I knew when she taught at UW in the nineties.) Their thesis is that the world has passed the tipping point in being able to prevent climate catastrophe so we should learn from Socrates how to die with dignity.

More doom get spelled out on a new book called [Uninhabitable Earth](#) by David Wallace-Wells.

"The earth has experienced five mass extinctions before the one we are living through now, each so complete a wiping of the fossil record that it functioned as an evolutionary reset. [...] The most notorious was 252 million years ago; it began when carbon warmed the planet by five degrees Celsius, accelerated when that warming triggered the release of methane, another greenhouse gas, and ended with all but a sliver of life on Earth dead. We are currently adding carbon to the atmosphere at a considerably faster rate; by most estimates, at least ten times faster. The rate is one hundred times faster than at any point in human history before the beginning of industrialization. And there is already, right now, fully a third more carbon in the atmosphere than at any point in the last 800,000 years—perhaps in as long as 15 million years. There were no humans then. The oceans were more than a hundred feet higher."

What should we as humans, and as Christians, be doing? How ironic that some fundamentalist Christians are also climate-change deniers who scoff at the link between fossil-fuel consumption and rising temperatures. Like their view that worsening warfare in the Middle East is a herald of

the end-times, they regard increasing climate catastrophes as another sign of the Apocalypse. We as Anglicans seek authority from three streams: scripture, tradition, and reason. All three need to be examined in search of how to cope with the changes we need to make, and the changes in our environment that will unfold regardless of what we do differently. Which is material for future columns and discussions. In the meantime, here are some resources that friends helped me discover when I raised my concerns via the internet. [Michael Northcott](#) is an Edinburgh professor of ethics with a focus on theology and climate change. Margaret Bullas-Jonas is an Episcopalian priest with website called [Reviving Creation.org](#). And Rowan Williams, who recently visited Huron College in London, has [written about the school students](#) beginning a worldwide protest of government inaction on climate change.

Tricia and I spent three weeks in Victoria, our annual snowbird escape from winter. The weather was cooler than normal for Victoria but fortunately there was no snow and we had many sunny days to walk along the ocean and through our favourite neighbourhood. Each year we go back to [Christ Church Cathedral](#) on Sundays, also on Ash Wednesday and for an Evensong on Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> honouring the poetry of Mary Oliver, who died in January. The large turnout outnumbered the congregation at the two services that morning. Oliver's poetry, always focussed on nature, was recited between the musical parts of Evening Prayer. I am hoping we can do something similar at a future Evensong at Holy Saviour.

Organist and music director Jeff Enns has been touring in the Ottawa region with The Canadian Chamber Choir, where he is composer-in-residence. On March 23 they performed in the National Gallery of Canada. Jeff returns to our choir on March 31<sup>st</sup>.



## WORSHIP IN HOLY WEEK

- **Sunday of the Passion** (Apr 14) 8:00, 10:00 (BAS & Sunday School)
- **Maundy Thursday** (Apr 18) 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist and stripping of the Altar
- **Good Friday** (Apr 19) 11:00 am The Solemn Liturgy
- **Easter Day** (Apr 21) 8:00, 9:00 (BAS & Sunday School) 11:00 am (BCP) - Holy Eucharist