

# ASPIRE

AUTUMN  
2018

## BUILDING COMMUNITY: WELCOMING & GETTING TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER

“Growing Together in Spirit, Love and Service”

Building community is a core purpose of any church. With experiences of true community becoming more rare in our society, churches have a vital role in helping society learn to build and practice community.

So how are we doing in our church? I see wonderful signs all around. And, there is always someone new for us to reach out to in friendship and love.

18 months ago we brought 2 congregations together ... we've been meeting lots of new people. Since then, many others have also begun to add their gifts to and shape our community in exciting new ways.

All are welcome here and we are building a hospitable and welcoming church. I want to suggest some strategies to help us as community-builders.

**PRELIMINARY STEPS:  
FOUNDATION-BUILDING** ... If community-building feels new to you, try these things first:

- **Think** about how you want to be present at church, and what kind of church you want
- **Pray** for God to help you discern your role in this

- **Decide** that you would like to help with community-building
- **Be Gentle** with yourself and others if you find it challenging
- **Realize** that this is not only or especially about new people ... it's to strengthen the ties we have with one another ... to build trust and friendship ... to refrain from assumptions or judgments
- **Expect** to meet someone new at church ... be ready for it
- **Rejoice** that you are not alone when you feel a bit nervous or shy about meeting people
- **Doubt** that it's the minister's job to know everyone
- **Wear** a name-tag; if you don't have one, sign up for one

**CONSTRUCTIVE STEPS IN COMMUNITY-BUILDING** ... When you're ready, give these things a whirl:

- **Plan** to be at church long enough on Sunday to meet someone
- **Greet** someone, anyone
- **Avoid** asking, “Are you new here?”
- **Admit** to someone if you don't know their name but would like to
- **Remember** a person's name when they tell you ... If you

forget their name, **admit** it and start again

- **Invite** someone to coffee hour, or lunch
- **Look** for the same person next week ... and the week after that
- **Phone** someone
- **Visit** someone
- **Attend** church regularly so that you can keep building community
- **Accept** that ‘your’ pew is actually not yours – after all, no-one else knows it is
- **Change** seats from time to time

Together, we are making our church a house where love dwells and where new people feel welcome because we make it a practice always to welcome one another.

Your friend in Christ

Graham (Rector)



# WARDEN'S UPDATE

## NEW BEGINNINGS – Chapter two

Seventy three weeks, 516 days, 12,384 hours, 743.240 minutes, 147 Sunday Services, 812 meetings and a bountiful supply of food to nourish us on our journey since the beginning of our new Parish, St. George's Anglican Church.

Blessings abound and surround us.

We are so blessed to live in this beautiful free country of Canada. We are blessed to have the freedom to practice our faith without fear. We are blessed to have fruitful land for our food supply, we are blessed to have Graham and John Paul as our spiritual leaders and we are blessed to have families and friends around us.

At our Special Vestry meeting in June we had an open discussion on where we were at and how everyone was feeling about the amalgamation process. There were many positive comments and still some concerns which we must address. We have a list of all the comments which will be reviewed by Parish Council before the end of the year. A good marriage demands regular open discussions, let us continue to be open with our thoughts and walk gently together.

There is a Wardens box in the Narthex for suggestions, all

comments and blessings are welcome, to date, and we have received one comment. We know there are more. We welcome your suggestions and feedback. It is vital to the work of the wardens and parish council.

Let us be thankful for our many blessings.

Your wardens,

Bill, Betty, Glenn and Norma



### Services in Retirement Homes

- Nov 19 – Summit Place – 10:30 am
- Nov 20 – Lee Manor – 10:30 am
- Nov 22 – Kelso Villa – 10 am
- Dec 5 – Seasons – 2 pm
- Dec 13 – Central Place – 3:15 pm
- Dec 17 – Summit Place – 10:30 am
- Dec 27 – Kelso Villa – 10 am

## PARISH HAPPENINGS

### Habits of the Heart

Tuesdays in the Parish Hall  
7-9 pm  
November 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

### Open Door

Thursdays in the Parish Hall  
3-6 pm

### Family Supper

Nov 13 in the Parish Hall  
5-6:30 pm

### Talent Show

Nov 23 in the Parish Hall  
5-7:30 pm

### Parent to Parent Sale

Nov 24 in the Parish Hall  
**Soul**  
Nov 25 in the Church  
4 pm

### Knitting

Nov 28 in the Lounge  
6:30-8 pm

### Neighbourhood Dinner

Nov 30 in the Parish Hall  
5-6 pm

### Times for Prayer

#### **Centering Prayer**

Tuesdays - 11:30 am

#### **Eucharist & Bible Study**

Wednesdays – 9:30 am

## You Are Invited To Commitment Sunday November 25

8:00 and 10:30 am Services

Please bring your Promise Card.

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Festive Coffee Hour & Advent Logs

December 2

following the 10:30 Service

# Family Ministries Hallowe'en Party

Oct 30, 2018



Our parish hall was dimly lit by (safety) candles as ghosts flew and giant spiders crawled on web-covered windows at the Family Ministries' secular Hallowe'en party presented by the Messy Church team. In attendance were several young superheroes, a skunk, a veterinarian, Robin Hood & Maid Marion, and many other costumed kids and adults. A snack table, three craft tables, a hidden selection of "creepy" stuff to touch, extra costumes, board games, and a pumpkin-carving contest were offered to an enthusiastic crowd of about 50 people.

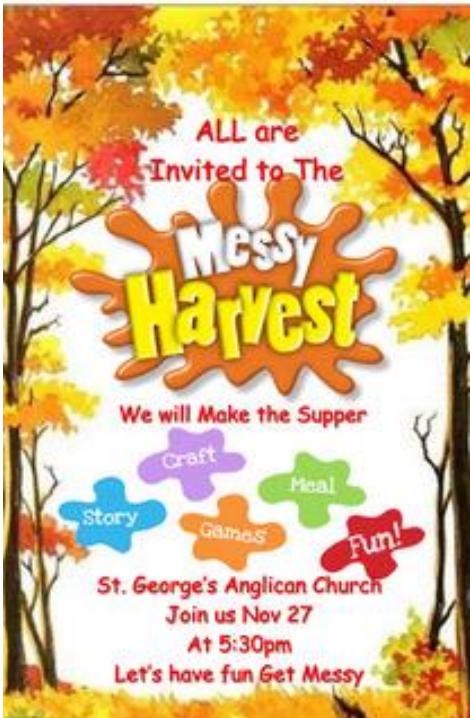
The craft I supervised was the making of a spooky Hallowe'en glove with inexpensive stretchy gloves from the dollar store and craft supplies. Every child's glove was unique and I was inspired by their creativity. I like working one-on-one with children and was impressed by the parents who took their children around from station to station. They all seemed very happy to be there.

My heart is drawn to Messy Church because it takes me back to my childhood; to the full classrooms of Sunday school where the cornerstone of my life was laid. Maybe it is a way of saying thank you to all those faithful teachers, and also to my parents for raising me in the Christian faith. Sunday morning church attendance may be difficult for young families today, but if Messy Church can provide an option to learn about Jesus, I'm all in. And although at this particular event there was no discussion of Jesus, there was certainly a lot of love and hospitality in the air.

The night ended with a trick-or-treat handout as the kids walked down a line of volunteers handing out treats. It was very satisfying to be part of the crew that helped stage this event for anyone who wished to attend, including neighbours both near and from the greater Owen Sound area, and also the young families of our congregation.

Margie Blender

Our Church has joined the phenomenon known as Messy Church. A youth program designed to introduce families to church activities – but not via the traditional Sunday route.



For adults & children alike, Messy Church is designed for people who often don't manage to attend a church already. Many of these people have other activities such as sports, at times when traditional church services take place. Church may not have even been a priority for them growing up. Messy Church's laid back and interactive style of worship allows them a glimpse of life in the church community.

It invites youngsters throughout the Owen Sound community, encouraging them to come along for a fun evening of food, craft & play, as well as an introductory message to a biblical value, through story, prayer, songs and games.

Adults are not left out. They remain with their youngsters throughout the session, sharing a meal & involvement in activities. Messy church is also modelled around the family, encouraging friendship & fellowship.

John-Paul Markides OSF

Pastor of Family Ministry

[johnpaul@bmts.com](mailto:johnpaul@bmts.com) <http://stgeorgesos.ca/> (519) 376-3287

## SAUGEENS DEANERY DEVELOPMENT DAY

On Saturday, October 27 over 70 clergy and parishioners throughout the Deanery including St. George's attended two workshops in the Parish Hall.

The workshops 'Congregational Vitality' led by The Rev. Canon Dr. Duke Viperman and 'Becoming a Missional Church' presented by The Ven. Perry Chuipta were helpful for churches in enriching their missional plan. Bill Sipprell presented the Diocese Draft 2019 Budget and invited churches to submit questions to Paul Rathbone at the Diocese. A delicious lunch was prepared by members of St. George's Stewardship Committee with help from our own parishioners.



## **My feelings about “HABITS OF THE HEART”**

For the past several years we have been blessed with this series. It has taught me many things about the lives and challenges of many people and groups.

It has opened my mind and heart to a larger world and to a smaller world, because we have in our own neighbourhoods and communities a richness of many people whom have experienced life changing and life shaping events.

I have learned to be a better listener to others and more importantly to my own thoughts and how they shape my own character and agendas. I'm convinced that the more of these series we have in communities the more compassionate our world would become.

Please attend as many as you can.

John Hull your Faith Development team member.



## ***Habits of the Heart 2018***

### ***Agents of Hope: Visions of an Empowering Future***

*We have only begun to know  
the power that is in us if we would join  
our solitudes in the communion of struggle*

Denise Leverton

**November 13<sup>th</sup>**

### **Blue Collar Ballads**

***Rob Rolfe and Larry Jensen ... Owen Sound's former Poets Laureate cast their vision in poetry and song***

**November 27<sup>th</sup>**

### **Empowering Community**

***Esther Gieringer ... "My experience is my expertise"***



# **COOKIE WALK**

## **Annual Community Event**

**8 December 2018**

**9 :00–11:00 a.m.? (or until sold out)**

*held at*

**St. George's Anglican Church Parish Hall  
1049 - 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, Owen Sound**



**All cookies freshly baked**

**Pre-orders welcome**

Call 519-376-0913 or 519-376-3525

*(evenings only)*

Betty 519-373-1441 or [badair@bmts.com](mailto:badair@bmts.com)



**Dead line for Pre-orders  
Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**



Boxes supplied or you're welcome to bring your own special tin



**All proceeds go to  
Community Charities**



The original idea for the annual Cookie Walk came from Texas via the United Church in Mindemoya, Manitoulin Island. St. Thomas Church held the first one on December 9, 2004. It began as a church/community project with the proceeds shared between the church and the community. Over the past 14 years, approximately \$14,000 has been donated to local community outreach projects. This project would not have been possible without the love and support of the many generous bakers in our church community. It has evolved over the years into an exciting and anticipated Christmas season event, in 2017 we welcomed three gentlemen into our list of bakers.

A sign up sheet for volunteers for bakers and helpers will be on the table at the back of the church. The Cookie Walk will be held in the Parish Hall on December 8<sup>th</sup>, doors open at 9.00am. Last year there was a line-up of over 40 people waiting at the door.

We welcome everyone who enjoys baking to participate in this special event.

**"Winter is Coming"** is a phrase that has taken on new meaning in recent years but it is an ordinary fact for members of the Garden Committee and other volunteers who give of their time to beautify the grounds and gardens at St George's during the other seasons of the year. Gloria Sykes and her husband David took over the organization of the committee in recent months and a noticeable difference can be seen. They have gone to Connecticut to be near their family until spring but we thank them for their huge contribution.

When you see the following volunteers, please thank them for the many hours of work that they have given for this Ministry of Outreach to the larger community: Jean and Bob Wilson, Ruth Tomkins, Susan Morison, Carol and Bob McKee, Marlene Burns, Howard Critchley, Lynn Sunstrum, Geoffrey Rowell, Jane Wood, Betty Fellows Eleanor Kyte, Vernon Caswell, Ann Jones, Nigel and Cindy Coe and Jason Karn. I was unable to do as much this year and appreciate all of your assistance. If I have missed your name, I thank you even if it was only picking up a piece of paper on the grounds.

Take a well-earned rest as..... "winter is coming."

Ruth Henderson

## Friends of Mudtown

*An invitation into a way of being!*

**Weekly** - The Open Door - Lower Parish Hall - 3-6pm

**Monthly** - Neighbourhood Dinner - Nov 30 & Dec 28

**Events** - Celebrations about togetherness and unity

**Find us on Facebook-----Friends of Mudtown**

**Contacts-----Carol McCurdy & Marion Little**

## Talent Show & Finger Foods!

**Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**5 – 7:30 pm      Parish Hall**

If you wish to perform that evening,  
please call.....

**Pat Dickie 519 376 7870 or  
Elaine Paton 519 372 9722**



**St. George's Anglican Church**

**1049 4th Ave. E.**

**[www.stgeorgesos.com](http://www.stgeorgesos.com)**

**Rector: Graham Bland**

**Church: 519 376 3287**

**Cell: 519 379 7992**

**[grahambl@bmts.com](mailto:grahambl@bmts.com)**

**St. George's Anglican Church**

**Email: [sgac@bmts.com](mailto:sgac@bmts.com)**

**Office Hours:**

**Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs**

**9 am-4:30 pm**