



ST. PHILIP'S ANGLICAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



Edition: Pentecost

27 August 2023

Priest-In-Charge: Canon Nancy Beale

Growing on the Vine: Rooted in Christ, Nourished by Prayer, Maturing in Faith

WE AIM TO BE A CHRISTIAN CENTRE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD, BRINGING MEMBERS CLOSER TO CHRIST, PROCLAIMING THE WORD AND MAKING HIS LOVE KNOWN TO ALL.

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT: WELCOMING EVERYONE, HELPING THOSE IN NEED AND SUPPORTING THE ENDEAVOURS OF OTHERS.



Apr 09: Easter 2023 celebration



**Spring
Cleaning
Apr 27**



**Planning
flower
garden
Apr 27**



**Canoe trip
May 02**





**Baptising
Olive
May 09**



**StP Congratulates
Canon Nancy and
Lay Reader Paula
for Diocese awards
11 Jun**



**Planting StP Memorial Tree
(Autumn Brilliance
serviceberry, *Amelanchier
laevis*)
11 Jun**

Good-bye and best wishes to Maryjane
Jun 25



Congratulations on your
promotion, **CANON** Fran!
Jul 02



Pork & Corn Roast 2023 Aug 09



Minister's message

The other day, I pulled out of the closet one of my favourite T-shirts. It's a bright happy red, with a picture of a dog on it. The words underneath the dog read "The Dog Days of Summer."

For us, here in the County, August has not given us a whole lot of lazy, hazy dog days of summer. Rather, it has been quite a blend of beautiful warm days, and very rainy days. I can't believe how lush our lawn are for late August!!!! But as you all know, this rather unusual weather pattern is an indication of something that weighs on the hearts of so many of us - the climate crisis. Of course, we have folks in our congregation, like Paula, Bruce & Josef, who are far more knowledgeable about our climate situation... and I am more than sure they would be happy to talk with you about it... but I simply want to reflect on it all in terms of our faith.

In July, we had our own taste of the smoke and air quality issues from the wildfires. Now, as we watch people from the western provinces and territories having to evacuate their homes, it certainly helps me realize that the air quality issues we faced were so small in comparison to these communities that are facing into fleeing for their lives, and probably losing their homes.

To that end, I would like to ask all of us to do three things. First and foremost, our job is to pray. We need to pray for our brothers and sisters who are in danger. Pray for the firefighters and emergency service workers who are putting their lives at risk to protect others and minimize the damage caused by these fires. Pray for those who are so very afraid as they seek safety. Pray for those whose homes will be lost, and their lives turned completely upside down. Pray for "this fragile earth, our island home," that is in crisis.

Secondly, we each one of us, must do our part to do what we can to learn more about the things that we, as individuals, can do to alleviate the pressure each one of us is putting on the planet. Every tiny thing we do makes a difference. Not sure where to start, or what more you can do? Again, a conversation with our Diocesan GreenGroup representatives would indeed be helpful.

Finally, once we know what to do.... we need to roll up our sleeves and do it. One of the five marks of mission for the worldwide Anglican church is, "To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.' These words are also part of our baptismal vows.... We are called to be good stewards and care for this beautiful planet we have been blessed with. As we slide from summer into fall, may each of us take the time to pray, learn and act.

Your sister in Christ,
Canon Nancy Beale+
Anglican Churches of St. Andrew's and St. Philip's

Wardens' report

Although this summer has been a wet one with lots of rain and cloudy days, things at St. Philip's have been just as busy as ever!

One big change at St. Philip's is that we moved our Sunday Service time from a 11:00 a.m. to a 9:00 a.m. start. We've had two congregational meetings asking everyone for their feedback to ensure that we are all able to continue to worship together. So far, so good! We will have a last chance to discuss this at our Annual Vestry Meeting in 2024 where we will vote on whether or not to make this a permanent change. Be sure to participate in that vote!

With the new Service time, Canon Nancy is only able to be with us for coffee time on the second Sunday of each month, so we are going to trial moving our traditional Fifth Sunday – Sandwich Sunday – to the Second Sunday of each month and calling it Muffin Sunday. Our first

Muffin Sunday will be September 10th and we hope you can join us. Stay tuned for an update on how that's working out!

Here at St. Philip's, we take our relationship with & responsibility to our Indigenous brothers & sisters seriously so to that end, on the second & fourth Sundays of each month, we begin our Service with our response to the *Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action* for Churches with this land acknowledgement:

"We acknowledge that we gather on the unceded territory of the Mississauga people, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Algonquin and Huron Wendat People."

"May we honour the Indigenous stewards of this land, and work to grow in right relationship with all Indigenous peoples and we recognize that our Creator God moves us forward together in healing, respect, and unity."

We have found this to be a very moving pause before we begin our Service of worship.

Canon Nancy will be taking some well-deserved time off and we were able to work with St. Andrews (Wellington) to invite the Reverends Brent & Lisa Brant to serve with us on the Sundays Canon Nancy will be away from the two parishes. We continue to enjoy the ministry of both Canon Fran Langlois and Padre Blair Ross once a month in each Parish.

We want to give a special thank you to the members of the Building Committee who work so hard to keep up the maintenance on our 103-year-old building, making sure that we can worship and offer a beautiful & safe place to worship and serve our Community. Thank you everyone!

The members of our Grounds team have done a wonderful job cleaning up the beds and getting them ready for the summer. A lot of time has been spent weeding & planting to make sure things continue to look beautiful throughout the summer, and several planters and a new flower bed at the base of the lawn cross have been added.

Our Memorial Garden is one of the gardens that are so beautifully and tenderly cared for by our Grounds team. This year we will be adding another plinth to those that are already there and memorial names will be added. If you would like more information on how you can add the name of a loved one to this Memorial, please email stphilipsmilford@gmail.com. Our thanks to you all!

We were very pleased that on Sunday, May 28th our very own Paula Walker received the Diocese of Ontario's Medal of Merit. Here's what the Bishop said when he presented Paula with her medal: *"Paula Walker of the Parish of St. Philips in Milford is a long-standing member of the Diocesan Green Group, warden of her parish and Lay Reader within our diocese. Paula's commitment to the cause of environmental stewardship ensures that we consistently have the latest and best information at hand as we seek to put our responsibility to be faithful stewards of the creation into action through the decisions we take and the efforts we undertake at both the parish and diocesan levels."* Congratulations Paula!

Finally, mark your calendar for the Feast of St. Francis on October 4th at 5:30 p.m. and the Blessing of the Animals.

For a small congregation, we accomplish an amazing amount of good work and provide meaningful weekly worship services, made possible by the action of every member in their own way – by leading or contributing to a group such as Outreach, Meditation, Building or ACW, by supporting our music during worship, by beautifying our altar with fresh flowers and a new

hanging, by keeping our website up to date and our grounds well maintained, by participating in our social and fundraising events, but most of all by caring deeply for each other.

We look forward to an exciting and busy Fall.

God bless you & all those you love.

Sally Cowan, Rector's Warden

Deb Sawle, People's Warden

ACW report

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over with crops being harvested and the trees beginning to show their wonderful autumn colours! We are so very fortunate to be living here in Prince Edward County, especially when we hear the news of catastrophic floods and fires and loss of life happening all around the world, and even here in Canada. As a person who originated nearby but still elsewhere, living here is something for which I give thanks every day.

A Yard & Rummage Sale was held by the ACW in June, based much more on the pre-pandemic way and it was a success with lots of favourable comments from our "shoppers". Thank you – all of you who donated goods for the sale and who helped during the day and the clean-up afterwards.

The Pork & Corn Roast was also successful thanks to Diane Walker and Sally Cowan who organized everything so well, and again thank you to all who donated pies, and to all who worked and cooked and packaged the dinners. Although we had rain on Tuesday and on Thursday, the sun shone all day on Wednesday so lots of people stayed to enjoy their meals at tables set up outside.

Upcoming dates to make a note of – on **Thursday**, September 21st our ACW meeting will be held in the hall at St. Philips; on **Wednesday**, September 27th, The Rev. Margaret Johnson-Jones (Chaplain for the Dioceses ACW) is presiding over the Retreat in Gananoque; and on **Thursday**, October 5th the District Annual General Meeting will be held at Christ Church, Belleville.

I am hoping that all of us have continued blessings from above!

Alfie Deyo, President

Outreach report

We have held three meetings since the Easter newsletter and the next one will be on Thursday, August 31 at 10:00 a.m. in the hall. Everyone is welcome!

By the end of April over \$1,100 was raised for the Anglican Communion forest project. Some of the money was used to pay for the 175 seedlings and for the serviceberry commemorative tree. The seedlings have been planted on several properties belonging to parishioners. The serviceberry tree was planted at St. Philip's in the memorial garden. It was blessed by Canon Nancy following our service on June 11. We are currently discussing using the remaining funds to support tree planting efforts in Africa. If you have planted seedlings please consider giving us an update on how they are doing. Thank you to all who contributed so generously to this effort.

The annual canoe/kayak trip was held in May on the Monday of the long weekend. Thank you to Harley and Karen Guernsey for once again allowing us to use their property for launch and return. Hot dogs and lemonade were served at St. Philip's. Kayaks far outnumbered canoes this time, with about 30 kayaks and 4 or 5 canoes. We plan to host this event again next year with an effort to encourage more local participation - especially young people. We wish to extend an

invitation to the local high school, and Canon Nancy has offered to have a blessing of the boats prior to launch. We appreciate the support of the entire Cowan family at this event!

In June the outreach committee agreed to donate \$1000 to the Mustafa family of Wellington, who had suffered a devastating home fire. The leadership team gave their support and the donation has been made.

We continue to plan for Saturday morning talks. At this time we are working to set a date in the near future for a seniors online safety presentation by the OPP and possibly a representative from a local bank. Once we have that date, we will plan for one talk a month. Josef has eight potential sustainability speakers, as we wish to carry on with the series we began in March with the cooperation of the County Sustainability Group. Other candidate topics/speakers include reconciliation, the Recreation Outreach Centre (ROC), the Picton food bank, housing issues, the homeless shelter, crafts(quilting and knitting), and the drowning prevention group (before the next canoe trip). Upcoming talks will be promoted in the bulletin, on the website, and in Sunday announcements.

Potluck movie dinner nights are being held once a month. One is set for Thursday, August 31 with dinner at 6:00 p.m. and “The Blues Brothers” at 7:00 p.m.. You are welcome to come for dinner, the movie, or both! You are always welcome to bring a friend too.

Food bank Sundays are the fourth Sunday of the month and monthly donations are also received monthly for the Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund.

Thank you to everyone for your generous support of our outreach programs.

Blessings,

Paula Walker, Chair

Building Committee Report

A number of actions has been completed this spring and summer, including removal of dead shrubs; repairing and painting the west/east window; painting the tower woodwork; replacing a section of the eavestrough; tearing down the old, damaged shed and replacing it with a new one; and repairing the vacuum cleaner and the alter rail. In addition, a contractor replaced the roofing on the tower that had been damaged and was leaking.

Ted Foy, Chair

Prayer Circle

Have you been wondering what your St. Philip’s Prayer Circle prays for? Well, it is all sorts of things! You can see from the topics in this Word Cloud* below, we take a deeper dive into the sorrow that surrounds each of us and our world. And we pray to The One who knows our care and concerns.



*(*Ed note: this Word Cloud was derived from previous prayers and represents their content through keywords; it is obtained using a statistical procedure).*

As Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew “Your Father knows what you need before you ask him” and then teaches how to pray through the Lord’s Prayer.

So please consider joining the Prayer Circle. We get together in guided prayer on the second Thursday most months, at 10:00 a.m. No preparation is required! See the Weekly Bulletin for more information, and our next gathering is September 14th.

Elizabeth Hill, Organizer

Editor’s note:

Thank you to all contributors, it has been a busy year; and the Season of Creation just coming!

Josef Cihlar < robat58@kos.net >

Photo credits: Sally Cowan, Josef Cihlar