

**ST. PHILIP'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
NEWSLETTER**



Edition: Easter

15 April 2023

Priest-In-Charge: Canon Nancy Beale



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

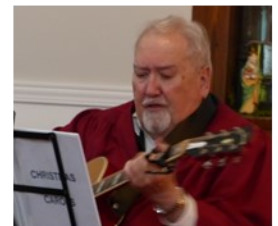
WE AIM TO BE A CHRISTIAN CENTRE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD, BRINGING MEMBERS CLOSER TO CHRIST, PROCLAIMING THE WORD AND MAKING HIS LOVE KNOWN TO ALL.

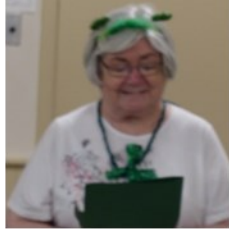
WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT: WELCOMING EVERYONE, HELPING THOSE IN NEED AND SUPPORTING THE ENDEAVOURS OF OTHERS.

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**Lessons &
Carols
Dec 10**





St. Patrick's event
Mar 09



Sheep, wool and sustainability event Mar 16



Easter
Sunday
Apr 5



Minister's message

What's up - Up in Waupoos? We Shall See.....

So, a funny thing happened in March. The bishop stopped by for a visit and we got to talking about St. John's, Waupoos. Over the course of our conversation, he told me he had never seen this lovely little gem in our diocese. When I suggested he ought to take a look at this property that is on the agenda to be sold, he agreed. Off we went for a drive to Waupoos. Upon entering the building, it was clear he was quite taken by this sweet little church... and by the time we had entered the parish hall, you could see his excitement. Very quickly the two of us began a conversation about the possibilities for St. John's, rather than simply selling it. It very much felt like this conversation may have had the nudge of the Holy Spirit behind it.

We have begun to explore the possibility of re-opening St. John's as a "summer parish." Converting the parish hall into a 2 bedroom cottage, and having the summer ministry of June to Labour Day lead by a seminary student each year. In the spring and fall, the "cottage" could be used by clergy for a 6 day retreat in exchange for leading the worship on Sunday morning. Wouldn't it be a fabulous blessing to be able to re-open that lovely little church and provide ministry for the cottagers and residents through the spring, summer and fall?

There are so many decisions and potential road blocks to this project, so we are very much approaching it in a step-by-step manner. I truly believe that if this is God's path for Waupoos (and not just an interesting conversation the bishop and I had), then we will be able to re-open. To that end, I ask your prayers that we hear God's call and answer faithfully. We shall see what God has in store.

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

Wardens' report

At the time of the Christmas Newsletter, St Philip's was gearing up to celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus. Our little choir was in great form as we sang our way through the carols; our faithful readers fulfilled their roles to make the annual Carols and Lessons Service another joyful event. The time of fellowship and good food following the service was a lot of fun.

Preparation for the Annual Vestry Meeting began early in the new year and plans were made to guide us through 2024. These plans were then discussed and approved by consensus at the Vestry Meeting which was held on February 11th. The proposal to continue holding St Philip's

regular Sunday services at 9 a.m. was a difficult one, knowing that the early hour is not easy for some parishioners. It was accepted after much discussion with the deciding factor being the benefit of having Archdeacon Nancy lead services three out of the four Sundays each month.

The Reports submitted by each committee leader summarized the work and contributions made by them to our shared life at St. Philip's. A copy of the Vestry Report can be found on our website (www.stphilipchurch.ca).

A considerable amount of the Vestry Meeting work takes place in the planning and preparation of documents for the meeting. Following the meeting, financial reports, statistics, meeting minutes, etc. must be collated and forwarded to the Diocese. We are pleased to say that this was again accomplished.

Then came the solemn season of Lent. We met at 5 p.m. each Wednesday night during Lent and were led by Archdeacon Nancy through a quiet, contemplative, prayer-filled service from around the Anglican Communion. Services were shared with South Bay United church on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, a great community sharing of prayer and messages. Both of these services can be found on the St Philip's website. The Maundy Thursday service led by Archdeacon Nancy at St Philip's was once again a deeply moving event commemorating the Washing of the Feet and the Last Supper.

The joy of the season was most evident on Easter Sunday. St Philip's was beautifully adorned with memorial flowers, we welcomed visitors and friends, and the choir provided an anthem, "He Lives" proclaiming the message of the resurrection.

All activities and services at St Philip's are well promoted through information posted locally, in our column in the Marysburgh Mirror, on our website, by signage on Milford's Main St, and by word of mouth. We are grateful for everyone's help in promoting and supporting our activities and welcoming visitors to events and to worship services. A secure future for St. Philip's depends on everyone's help in bringing others to our midst and exposing them to the wonderful work we do and to our strong faith in God revealed through our work and service.

Respectfully submitted

Deb Sawle People's Warden

Sally Cowan Rector's Warden

ACW report

Spring has arrived bringing lots of birds, some sunshine and warm weather, some rain and some snow and also a Solar Eclipse – isn't the world we live in wonderful!!

Our planned ACW Sunday and brunch was postponed due to a heavy snowfall back in January and we are looking forward to it taking place on April 14th. The St. Patrick's Potluck and Party night was a success with lots of good food and good fellowship. We had a little talk and trivia about Ireland and then an Irish singsong accompanied by Rosemary Cihlar on the keyboard.

The Diocesan ACW Annual Meeting will take place in Kingston on April 17th. Unfortunately, this year none of our ladies will be attending but we have sent in our Thank Offering of over \$300 and our choices as to how we'd like the funds spent. Our Thank Offering is divided five ways – one fifth goes to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund and one fifth to the Council of the North. The remainder is divided into three categories – World, Canada, and Diocese. Our members have chosen for World, Water Aid Canada (Africa); for Canada, Anglican Sisterhood of St. John the Divine; and for Diocese, Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory (language and cultural programming).

Our ACW is taking part in the World Day of Prayer being held on Friday, April 19th at Wellington United Church. This year's event was planned by Palestinian Ladies (preplanned a few years ago but Palestine is now very much in the news) and we are pleased to say that most of the County churches are taking an active part in the program.

Please note the following dates for special events: June 22nd Yard & Rummage Sale; August 7th Pork & Corn Roast; December 15th Carols & Lessons Service, followed by a potluck dinner and Christmas party. Our ACW will next meet on May 16th at 10 o'clock in the church hall and all ladies are welcome. Until then, God's blessing to us all!

Alfie Deyo, President

Outreach report

In January, February and March we held outreach meetings. Our next meeting is set for Thursday, April 11. Agenda items will include our Canoe/Kayak trip to be held on Monday, May 20, upcoming potluck supper movie nights and further actions related to the backpacks for migrants program. Everyone is always welcome to attend the outreach meetings.

We hosted a potluck supper movie night in January and another in February. Our next one is set for Thursday, April 4 and the movie will be "The Secret Garden". These too are announced in church and in the bulletin and everyone is welcome to attend the dinner, the movie or both and so are our friends!

In February on Shrove Tuesday the men took charge of a pancake supper and \$774 was raised for Diocese of Ontario Refugee Support (DOORS). We are grateful to Patti and Paul Guernsey for their delicious local maple syrup and for all donations that were made that evening.

On Saturday, February 17, Mary Ann Barrett, from Emmanuel Baptist, told us about the work she and her husband Bill do every year for their Migrant Worker Backpack Program here in the County. We had the opportunity to discuss how we might get involved. Since then members of our congregation have been collecting needed items and money has been donated. The backpacks were filled on April 6 and we have agreed to connect with the workers at Apple Dabble Orchards, Waupoos Winery and Hughes' Blueberry Patch.

On March 16 we cohosted a Saturday Talk "Sheep, Wool and More" with the County Sustainability Group. Elizabeth Johnston spoke about the operation of the Waupoos Island Sheep Farm run by her and her husband Matt Fleguel. Lesley Snyder of Rosehaven Yarn Shop talked about sustainable fibres including wool.

Our next Saturday Talk will be held on April 27 with a guest speaker, Lindsay Nash of Quinte Conservation. Lindsay will talk about the programs Quinte Conservation has to offer the public within the watershed and, in honour of Earth Day, she will discuss the ways we can all be good stewards. This talk is again presented in cooperation with the County Sustainability Group. As before, coffee and muffins will be served beginning at 9:30 am and the talk will begin at 10.

We are grateful to Elizabeth Hill for the videos she shared with us from Henry Budd College. Our Lenten collection was again in support of the college and the videos strengthen our connection.

The committee sent Easter cards on behalf of the church. Several recipients expressed appreciation for the maintaining of this connection with St. Philip's.

Thank you to all for the ongoing support of the Picton United Church Food Bank, as the fourth Sunday of the month continues to be food bank Sunday at St. Philip's. Thank you to all who continue to support the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund with monthly donations.

We do appreciate all your support for outreach efforts at St. Philip's.
Paula Walker, Chair

Communications report

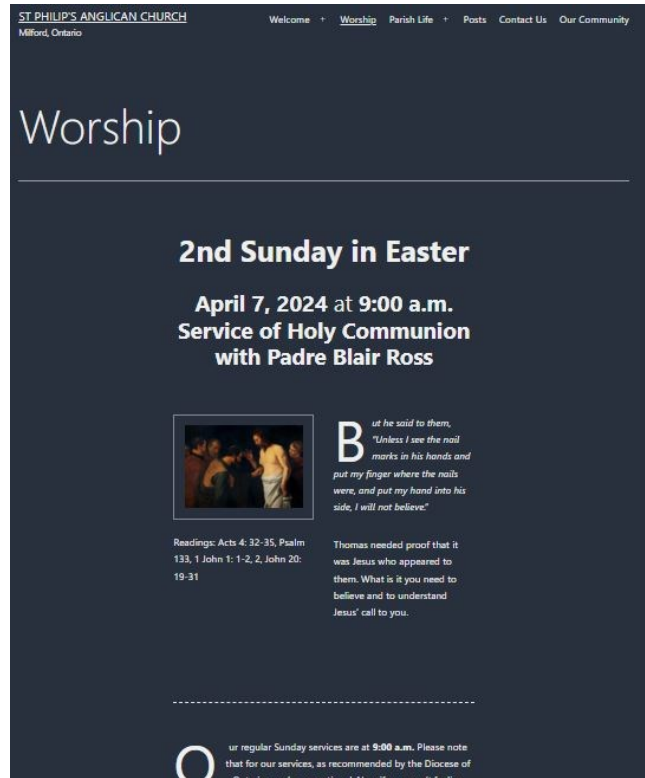
As detailed in the 2024 Annual Vestry Report there are many facets to the St. Philip's approach to communications; the weekly bulletin, newspaper advertisements, some social media, posters and flyers for events, newsletters of course, and then our website. For this newsletter we are going to focus on our website.



I hope you all have had a chance to go to the stphilipchurch.ca website. Our *Welcome* page takes a 2-column format, with the left side focused on current happenings, and the right on broader topics. If you view the website on your cell phone you will see it appears as one column, so scroll down to see all the photos. Our approach is to have our landing page photo-focused, and by clicking on a photo will take you to more information, and of course more photos, from the events and topics we are talking about.

The next page after *Welcome* is focused on our *Worship*. Each week it is updated for the upcoming service, including the time and who is taking the service. We also include the readings for the week, a quote from the Gospel, and something to think about in preparation for Sunday.

The *Parish Life* page describes events that have happened at St. Philip's in the past. This is a great way to see what has gone on in the parish, and maybe plan to attend the next time! There is a nice recap from 2023, you might want to take a look!

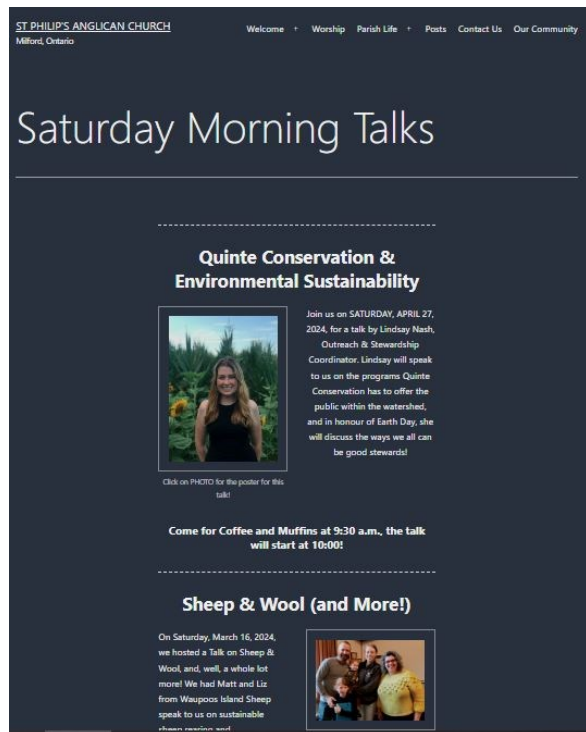


And we would be remiss not to mention the *Saturday Morning Talks* that are hosted by the St. Philip's

Outreach Group and some are in conjunction with the County Sustainability Group. These events are also advertised with flyers and posters, and we always include a recap of the event, plus of course plenty of photos!

There is lots more to see on the St. Philip's website, so we hope this intrigues you into checking it out at stphilipchurch.ca – we promise you won't be disappointed!

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Hill



Bishop George Bruce passed away



Bishop George led us from 2002 until 2011 and we were sad to hear of his passing on March 22. The news brought back memories of his time as our bishop. Many of us are particularly grateful for his support for social and environment justice issues.

A letter he wrote for Dialogue in January of 2006, urged the people of our diocese to watch Al Gore's film "An Inconvenient Truth". Inspired by his plea, several members of St. Philip's did

watch the film. This led to contacting Jim Harris who was trained to give the slideshow from the film. With the help of members of our local community his presentation was made to a packed audience at the Regent Theatre in April of 2007 thereby helping us to raise awareness in our community of the crisis facing our climate.

Creation care continues to be a priority for our outreach committee.

2009 brought Bishop George to St. Philip's to launch the diocesan wide "Parish of Marysburgh 350 letter campaign".

Anglicans across the diocese signed our letter urging our government to use the Copenhagen Climate Conference to set in place policies to reverse the growth of gas emissions. St. Philip's members and guests rang the bell 350 times, the number referring to the maximum carbon dioxide concentration considered safe for people and the environment (it is now 426.25 ...).

Bishop George showed his commitment to the environment in 2008 when he had Green Party leader and Anglican Environmentalist Elizabeth May as the guest speaker's at the bishop's dinner.

In 2007 with his support, Debra Fieguth founded the Diocese of Ontario Green Group. Efforts by this group continue to this day to try to keep our churches mindful of the fifth mark of mission: *to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.*



We have much to be thankful for in Bishop George Bruce's time in our diocese. May God keep him forever safe in his love.

Paula Walker

Rev. Dorothy Lancaster passed away



Our dear Rev. Dorothy passed away this January. From the year 2000 until she retired to Toronto in 2016, Dorothy led the Anglican Ministry to Seniors in the county with much kindness and compassion. She worked hard for her ministry and also served all four of our Anglican Churches. She often led services or assisted when needed. In her time with us, Dorothy led the women's Bible study. She was a great listener and had a gentle way of leading which made us feel safe and cared for, even when we disagreed.

Dorothy supported our church fundraisers and social and outreach events. Even after retiring to Toronto she often returned for visits and to lead services until she suffered a debilitating stroke in 2020.

Dorothy loved the Lord and she served him well. She was a great friend and a fine example of how we are to love one another. We miss her and we thank God for her.

Paula Walker

Editor's note: Bishop George's and Rev. Dorothy's passings away - both good friends, supporters and active contributors to St. Philip's mission - remind us all that we have only a limited time to do what we ought to and while we can, in our church and our lives.

Josef Cihlar < robat58@kos.net >

Photo credits: Alfie Deyo, Elizabeth Hill, Josef Cihlar