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*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.*

## PAST HIGHLIGHTS

### *Lenten Programs*

During Lent several programs were offered to help strengthen our understanding of our faith. Led by Fr. Suren, *Faith Lessons in the Dust of the Rabbi* provided an insight into the life of the disciples and how their journey with Christ closely matches that of our own.

Marilyn Metcalfe led *A Joyous Walk Into Easter*, offering a retreat of peace and solitude traveling the prayer paths of Jesus.

### *Newcomers' Evening*

On March 29<sup>th</sup> a *Celebration of New Members* service was held in the afternoon followed by a wine & cheese social. Attended by approximately 50 people, members old and new enjoyed getting to know one another.

### *Easter*

We were very fortunate to have had Bishop Linda Nicholls as our celebrant and preacher at this year's Easter services. Both services were extremely well attended.

### *Special Guests*

On April 26<sup>th</sup> we had the pleasure of enjoying the musical talent of *The Saints* as they took part singing inspirational pieces during the 10:30 a.m. service.

### *International Night*

A great time was had by all on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> as we sampled the wonderful foods from a great variety of countries including Jamaica, England, France, Guyana, Pakistan, India, Canada and many others. The musical entertainment was provided by 'SO NICE' – a duo DJ group that

catered to the Caribbean vibe with a strong emphasis on Reggae and Soca as well as a mixture of contemporary hits.

### *Confirmation*

On Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> St. George's took part in a joint service of Confirmation with St. Martin's Anglican Church, Pickering. Two members of our parish and four members of St. Martin's, were confirmed by Bishop Linda Nicholls.

## THANK YOU

Winbourne Park: is one of two long-term care facilities at which St. George's Pastoral Care Team provides support and visitation to residents, as well as Eucharist services. We have received a letter of thanks from the program coordinator at Winbourne. She writes, "This is just a simple note to let you know that all you do here at Winbourne Park is valued and respected. The residents, family and staff are grateful for all of you and have approached me time and again, thanking me for your support."

The Scott Mission: sent a letter of thanks for our contributions of food and baby supplies you all provided recently. David J. Smith, Executive Director states, "...please do thank everyone and accept our very best wishes for a vibrant ministry."

We continue to receive regular thank-you letters from Oxfam Canada for the stamps we send in. A recent letter states, "...our 'Stamp Out Poverty' project is completely dependent upon donors like you." Please keep bringing those stamps in!

## WORSHIP

### *Summer Services*

During the summer months we will continue with our usual service times as well as a new Wednesday evening service:

#### Tuesday

Meditation 7:30 p.m.  
in the Worship Centre

#### Wednesday

(July 8 – Aug. 26 only)

7:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
in the Worship Centre

#### Thursday

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
in the Worship Centre

#### Sunday

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
in the Heritage Church

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
in the Worship Centre

### **Taize Prayer Services**

The Taize service is an ecumenical prayer service, meditative in character promoting peace and serenity in all who take part. It includes music and singing interspersed with scripture reading, prayer and periods of silence. The service takes about 45 minutes ending with a brief silent time to embrace the candlelit ambience and sacredness of the gathering. The evening concludes with light refreshments. Our next service will be June 19 in the Worship Centre at 7:30 pm

### Labyrinth

St. George's Labyrinth is a 7-circuit modified Chartres design consisting of inlaid tile and metal strips on the floor of the Worship Centre. The Labyrinth is a sacred path to our inner being. Walking it is the rediscovery of an ancient spiritual tool that functions as a metaphor for our spiritual journey and inner transformation. It is an ancient pathway of contemplation, meditation and spiritual renewal. Participants journey along the path – toward the centre and back out again. Many experience the labyrinth as a tool to guide healing, deepend self-knowledge, gain peace and ignite creativity. The labyrinth is open the second Tuesday of every month from 1-3 p.m. and again in the evening from 7-9 p.m. Upcoming dates:

June 9, July 14, August 11

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### St. George's Golf Tournament

Our golf tournament date of June 7<sup>th</sup> is fast approaching.



There is still room for additional players. If you would like to take part, call the church office as soon as possible to register. The cost is \$125 per person (\$450 for a foursome) and includes green fees, driving range, power cart, prizes and a reception dinner. The dinner can also be booked on its own at a cost of \$40, however, pre-booking is necessary. The golf tournament will be held at Whispering Ridge Golf Course, 1355 Brawley Rd., Brooklin beginning at 12:30 p.m.

#### St. John Ambulance First Aid Course

After having postponed our May date, we hope to offer Emergency First Aid with Level A CPR through St. John Ambulance on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. This program will be held at St. George's from approximately 9 am to

5 p.m. The cost is \$85 per person and registration is necessary. A certificate will be given upon successful completion of the course. Please call the church office and let us know if you are interested; or sign up at the 'What's Up' table during coffee hour.



#### Youth Car Wash

Our Youth Group will be holding a car wash in our parking lot on Saturday, June 13 from 1 – 3 p.m. Everyone loves a clean car so come on out and support our Youth!!

#### Funeral Planning

McEachnie Funeral Home will be offering an information session on Funeral Pre-planning here at St. George's on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. Come out and learn what is involved in arranging a funeral, the cost, and the importance of pre-planning.

#### "African-Inspired" Drumming Workshop

Intergenerational – all parishioners welcome – Sunday, June 28, 2009. Two sessions available: from 4:00-5:00 p.m. or 5:45 – 6:45 p.m...Come join your St. George's community for this fun-filled, creative gathering and feel the drums in your body, mind and soul. We have a limited number of drums available per session, so call early to guarantee your spot. Call Lynda Major to register at 905-686-8250.

#### Strawberry Social

Plan to come out on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> following the 10:30 a.m. service for an afternoon of sandwiches and *delicious* strawberries with lots of whipped cream! Fr. Suren has graciously agreed, once again, to allow us to hold our Strawberry Social in his backyard. Donations of sandwiches would be most appreciated. A freewill offering toward our outreach programs would be appreciated.



#### Moms' & Babies' Group

Beginning July 8<sup>th</sup> for four consecutive Wednesdays we will be running a program for moms and babies aged newborn to 12 months. This will be an opportunity for moms to 'get out of the house', meet other new moms and enjoy coffee and social time and possibly enjoy a guest speaker. Please contact the church office for further information and to register. This is open to both church members and non-members – so bring a friend!

#### Wine, Cheese & Conversation

On Wednesday nights at 7:30 pm starting July 8<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting evenings of "wine, cheese & conversation" about the church and the relevance of our faith in the world of today. We will use as a basis six 20-minute videotaped segments of five recently retired bishops sharing their thoughts about the life of the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The bishops take up subjects such as the risks of fragmentation in the worldwide Anglican communion, the opportunity multiculturalism offers our own diocese, our relationship with Canada's native peoples, the challenges of the spiritual life in a globalized world, and Jesus' proclamation of the Kingdom. Sharing glimpses of their own struggles as people of faith, they offer, from their experiences, ways that parishes and individual Anglicans can make a difference.

We invite you to join us for these exciting summer evenings of conversation over wine & cheese. Space is limited! Please call the church office or speak to Fr. Suren to register.

#### Calling all

'Weekend Warriors'  
– Cottagers, Campers, etc! -  
Have we got a service for you!! Join us on Wednesday evenings for a brief service of Holy Eucharist at 7:10 p.m. in the Worship Centre.

We know you're home...!!

***Parish Picnic at Bowmanville Zoo***

On Tuesday, August 18 we are planning a trip to the Bowmanville Zoo – come face-to-face with the animals and wander among the deer – take a ride on an elephant and splash in the water zone. Bring a picnic and enjoy dessert and drinks provided by St. George's. A wonderful way to spend the day with your St. George's friends and family. Check out their website at [www.bowmanvillezoo.com](http://www.bowmanvillezoo.com). Watch the Sunday bulletins for further details and call the church office ASAP to say you are coming.

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*“SOME DAY, AFTER WE HAVE  
MASTERED THE WINDS,  
THE WAVES, THE TIDES,  
AND GRAVITY,  
WE WILL HARNESS FOR GOD  
THE ENERGIES OF LOVE,  
AND THEN,  
FOR THE SECOND TIME IN THE  
HISTORY OF THE WORLD, MAN  
WILL HAVE DISCOVERED FIRE.”*

*- Teilhard de Chardin -*

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**PARISH LIFE*****Bazaar***

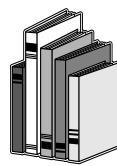
Our 2009 bazaar will be held on November 14<sup>th</sup>. A huge part of the bazaar's proceeds come from the raffle ticket sales. We are once again asking for *donations of raffle prizes*. In the past we have had donations of restaurant gift cards, mall gift cards, small appliances, and quilts. Donations for this year would be very much appreciated and can be dropped off in the church office, or contact Isabelle Beaudet at 289-240-5221.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

Young music enthusiasts are invited to join the newly-formed chamber choir that will add beauty and glorify God in the liturgical setting for Holy Mass on Sundays at St. George's Church. You will study proper voice technique, music theory, and gain a joy that will last a lifetime as you master choral and sacred music of some of the great composers of our time and the past. With willingness to learn and a commitment to music, you will acquire proficiency and be part of a great choir. All are welcome. Practices are held Friday afternoons at 5:00 p.m. For information, please contact organist and choir director, Surinder S. Mundra, at 416-731-4485 or the church office at 905-683-7981.

***Women's Fellowship***

On Wednesday, June 17 at 7:30 p.m. we will enjoy a *Garden Party* where coffee and dessert will be served. This is open to all women of the parish. Our guest speaker will be The Rt. Rev. Linda Nicholls, Bishop of Trent-Durham; and Marilyn Metcalfe will lead a brief meditation. Please contact the church office for location and to RSVP, or visit the 'What's Up' table during coffee hour.

***Book Club***

Our women's book club met on April 29<sup>th</sup> for a very interesting and insightful discussion of *"The Shack"*. Our next 'read' will be *"Eat, Pray, Love"* by Elizabeth Gilbert – one woman's search for everything across Italy, India and Indonesia. We will meet to discuss this book on Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Space is limited so please call the church office if you would like to join.

***Women's Retreat***

We have booked an overnight stay at St. John's Convent for March 6 – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The cost is \$80 per person plus the cost of a leader. The fee covers room, meals, snacks. We will be discussing the retreat at the June 17<sup>th</sup>

meeting of the *Women's Fellowship* Group at which time we ask that you bring a \$30 deposit as well as your commitment if you wish to attend. This will be an opportunity for fellowship & friendship, peace, serenity, prayer and time to yourself.

***Historic Church Committee Update***

In 2008 the Historic Church committee recommended and the corporation supported hiring the services of architect Spencer Higgins at a cost of \$2,500 to do design and costing. Spencer Higgins recommended a very conservative 2009 budget of \$86,000 to include lead sill flashing repairs; brickwork repairs; window and stained glass repairs including the removal of safety coverings: fleche stability; and the installation of a lightening rod system plus access scaffolding.

A 2009 budget of \$30,000 has been given to the Committee to prioritize the lightening rod system, which we are pleased to announce has recently been installed.

The Committee further recommended to the Corporation to next prioritize limited brickwork, flashing and window repairs. Spencer Higgins has been given a letter of intent from the Corporation to proceed with the above repairs, at a cost not to exceed \$24,500. It should be noted that both the Committee and Corporation are in agreement not to remove the stained glass window coverings.

Pertinent electrical repairs have been completed, and a rain water trough system will be installed early summer.

The fleche support and corresponding scaffolding will be postponed until 2010 as well as any remaining window repairs.

*A fall Art Auction will be held to raise funds for the ongoing Historic Church maintenance and repairs. Watch for details in our fall newsletter. If anyone is interested in helping with the committee please contact Lynda Major at 905-686-8250.*

**Monthly Bake Sales**

Our next bake sale will be held on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – *Bring & Buy* and take home some goodies to try!



**OUTREACH**

**Soup & Sandwich Lunch**

Our monthly *Soup & Sandwich Lunch* continues in 2009 on the third Thursday of each month.

This outreach program of a free nutritious lunch and social time has steadily grown in attendance over the past six months, and we are now serving approximately 25 people each month from both within and outside our congregation. All food is made and donated by our parishioners. The lunch runs from 11:30 am to 1 pm. All are welcome. Our next lunch will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Gift Trays**

We will be putting together gift trays to be distributed by LOFT



(formerly Anglican Houses – one of our Faithworks partners offering shelter primarily to women and children.) Contributions of new small items such as socks, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, pens and candy would be very much appreciated, and will be accepted until October 31<sup>st</sup>. While on your summer travels, please remember to collect the free shampoos, conditioners and soaps as they are ideal for the trays.

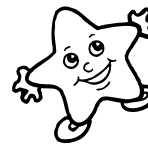
**Spirit Care Library**

“Helping you take care – and give care.”

Have you visited our *Spiritual Care Library*? A display of leaflets on various topics are available at the Meditation area near the west doors of the parish hall. Topics will change over time.

**St. George's School & Day Care News**

Summer is just around the corner and we can't wait! We will be having our Family Barbecue and Interview Night on June 18<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a raffle table set up to raise money for our wish list items. The summer camp program is booked for school-age and kindergarten children, but we have some space in our preschool program. We have several visitors booked for the summer and also some off-site trips planned.



**Wishing You All  
A Wonderful Summer!**

**The End Of The Road  
Is But A Bend In The Road**

- Helen Steiner Rice -

*When we feel  
we have nothing left to give  
And we are sure  
that the "song has ended"-  
When our day seems over  
and the shadows fall  
And the darkness of night has descended,  
Where can we go to find the strength  
To valiantly keep on trying,  
Where can we find the hand that will dry  
The tears that the heart is crying –  
There's but one place to go  
and that is to God  
And, dropping all pretence and pride,  
We can pour out our problems  
without restraint  
And gain strength with Him at our side  
And together we stand  
at life's crossroads  
And view what we think is the end,  
But God has a much bigger vision  
And He tells us it's Only A Bend –  
For the road goes on  
and is smoother,  
And the "pause in the song"  
is a "rest",  
And the part that's unsung  
and unfinished  
Is the sweetest and richest  
and best –.  
So rest and relax and grow stronger,  
Let Go and Let God  
share your load,  
Your work is not finished or ended,  
You've just come to  
"A Bend In The Road".*