



Tidings

*the newsletter of Christ Church, Meaford
& St. James', Fairmount*

May 2017



Dear Christ Church Parishioners,

We are at the season of the church year that calls us to be active, to be active in our communities doing our part to make the reign of God a reality felt by everyone. The season is called Pentecost. At the first Pentecost, the frightened disciples were gathered together in a room, when all of a sudden they were embraced by the Holy Spirit and empowered to go into the world and proclaim Jesus' message of the Kingdom of God. This they did, and the world has not been the same since. We are called to carry on that tradition

which is a balance between prayer, social action, advocacy and friendship.

Over the next number of months we are going to be very busy. From May 25 to June 3 we are participating in the Pledge-2-Pray initiated by the Archbishop of Canterbury and promoted by our own primate. We are being asked to pray at the same time for our community of Meaford and particular concerns addressed by our primate. You are invited to pray for 15 minutes at noon every day for 10 days. You can pray wherever you are or you can join us at the church for 15 minutes. Please pass on this message to anyone who you think may be interested. We will have flyers on May 21st.

On June 4th we will have a vestry meeting to make a decision about our sanctuary. We have been talking about for a long time and the time has come to make a decision. Our hope is that by making the table friendship more accessible for all, we can create a space that is more conducive to community building, friendship and a sense of the community gathered around the table for spiritual nourishment that empowers us for discipleship.

On June 25 we will have our community BBQ, with the addition of a boot sale. This follows our 10:30 service. Please invite your friends to come!

We are well on the way to bringing another Syrian refugee family to Meaford. Hanan, Rajab and the children have settled into Meaford and we are happy to be able to bring Hanan's sister and her family to the area. The required funds have been raised and our application is at the diocesan office. We will continue to fund raise to cover unanticipated events. The youngest member of our family has cancer, which is of course a serious concern.

*Through the work of the green team we continue to work towards zero waste. As we become more aware of the interrelationship between all things in the universe it inspires both awe and an added responsibility for the care of creation. We are presently engaged in a DVD series called *Painting the Stars*. It is a series celebrating the communion of science and religion. It explores the promise of evolutionary Christian spirituality with leading evolutionary theologians and progressive thinkers. We meet Thursdays from 7-8 pm. All are welcome!*

Our bishop has asked each church in the diocese to make a ministry plan by the vestry meeting in 2018. We are to have a plan around our baptismal promises to participate in table friendship, the breaking of bread, telling the story of Jesus and in prayer. We are to have plans for making disciples, for the care of creation, for social justice and advocacy and for reaching out in love to others. We have a busy time ahead as we engage in this Pentecost time, the time of the Holy Spirit enlivening our hearts and our lives in Jesus' name.

Cathy +

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Website Submissions

Please leave items for the parish websites, <http://christchurchanglican.ca/> and <http://stjamesfairmount.org/> at the church office. Submissions for Tidings may be emailed to me at lbknaana@yahoo.ca. If they are handwritten, please leave them at the church.



PRAYER PLEDGE

At our recent congregational council meeting, we agreed to take the pledge to pray that was suggested by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The pledge was endorsed by our primate, with suggestions for what we would pray for each day. We have decided to try a 15 minute worship service at noon at the church each day from Ascension Day on Thursday, May 25 to Saturday, June 3. There will be a short liturgy and music. If you are unable to make it to the service, you are asked to pledge to take 15 minutes to pray at home or wherever you are.

The following are the dates and suggested prayer topics.

Date	Prayers
Thursday, May 25 Ascension Day	Let us pray for congregational health and vitality in the spirit of the Marks of Mission embraced by Anglicans worldwide; and for all the churches and church-goers of Meaford.
Friday, May 26	Let us pray for initiatives in evangelism nurturing people for lifelong discipleship, for our schools for ministry, for Indigenous catechist programs, for our theological colleges.
Saturday, May 27	Let us pray for the protection and nurture of children, for youth and young adult ministries; for suicide prevention programs, especially among Indigenous youth; for ministries that celebrate the minds, hearts, voices and works of young people in devotion to Christ; and for the schools, pupils and teachers in Meaford.
Sunday, May 28 7th Sunday of Easter	Let us pray for all our partnerships in the gospel—within our own church and with other churches; for companion diocese relationships across the world; for our church's companionship with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.
Monday, May 29	Let us pray for healing and reconciliation within our church and our country, for integrity in living out the Primate's Apology (1993), in honouring the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in responding to the Calls to Action from Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
Tuesday, May 30	Let us pray for the work of the Anglican Healing Fund and for community-based projects for recovery of language and culture, for celebrating Aboriginal identity; and for Meaford businesses and tourists and for our Council.
Wednesday, May 31	Let us pray for all efforts in partnership with Indigenous elders, youth, bishops and clergy in building a truly Indigenous church within the Anglican Church of Canada.
Thursday, June 1	Let us pray for ministries with those caught in the grip of poverty, for programs addressing its systemic causes and for initiatives to eradicate poverty.
Friday, June 2	Let us pray for ministries devoted to addressing violence of every kind—domestic and societal, gender-based, ethnic and religious-based; and for all ministries grounded in commitments to dignity and justice for all people.
Saturday, June 3	Let us pray for ministries focused on the care of creation, for our calling to be healers of the Earth; and for our Meaford hospital and all who work in it.

"This call to prayer will be answered in a variety of ways. Some will respond through the daily round of morning and night prayers, some in a round of prayers in the early evening of these nine days.

Some may be in the quiet of a chapel or the chancel of the church; some in the space of a circle of friends gathered in prayer in one of their homes. Some may choose to walk a labyrinth; others may organize walks in the community with prayer at various locations.

I have every confidence that in taking up this call you will be creative in the way you pray. The most important thing is that like those very first followers of Christ, "we devote ourselves to prayer" for the church and our faithfulness to God's mission in the world."

Archbishop Fred Hiltz (primate of the Anglican Church of Canada)

AROUND THE CHURCH....

Knitting News – Sue Parent

Some of our knitters have been involved in knitting "pea pods" over the last two months. These are little bunting bags for tiny preemie babies or babies who have been stillborn. They will be sent down to Credit Valley Hospital to the Hospital Auxiliary who look after the distribution.

Our next project will be "Trauma Blankets". These can be knitted or crocheted and any pattern is acceptable. They can be any size, but are intended as a "security" blanket for children who are experiencing a trauma, so don't need to be big. The blankets will be delivered to the fire department where they will be distributed as the need arises. This is a good way to use up leftover wool. Happy knitting (or crocheting).

Vestry Motion

There will be a special vestry meeting after the June 4 service. "Be it resolved, that Christ Church remove the dais and floor in the present sanctuary and install a new floor consistent with the floor in front of the altar rail; move the altar forward and install the communion rail at the present steps. Further we will create a ramp on the south edge of the present sanctuary leading to the sacristy."

Farewell Barb Liotskos & Gordon Light

As most of you will have heard, Barb and Gord are leaving us for the more moderate BC climate. Their last Sunday with us is May 21. The coffee hour following the Sunday service will be our chance to say farewell.

JUNE COFFEE HOUR ROSTER

If you are unable to do the date for which you are scheduled, please call one of the others on the schedule and arrange a trade. *Linda Emptage has kindly offered to look after set-up. July & August – lemonade on the lawn.*

June	Name	June	Name
4	Donna Thompson	18	Muriel & Doug Armitage
11	Gail & Gene Latour	25	BBQ & Car Trunk sale

BAC REPORT - Christ Church, Meaford & St. James', Fairmount Chapter

BAC Diocesan Conference in Windsor on Saturday, April 22nd

Every year the Diocesan BAC holds a conference in one of the deaneries. This year it was in Essex Deanery at St. Mary's, Walkerville and Church of the Ascension. Because of the distance to travel, I was the only one who was able to attend from Christ Church. I brought a report back to our members at our meeting on April 30th.

Bishop Linda attended in the afternoon and was our banquet speaker. As she has been doing in all the parishes, she spoke about the challenge of mission & ministry in our modern church.

During the day, we had 3 speakers. One was the chaplain at Canterbury College and the University of Windsor as well as a rector in LaSalle. He described the challenge of getting university students interested in service. He found that if he took it to them, spoke with groups and conducted a service at the pubs or Tim Horton's he had more success! These get-togethers were multi-denominational as well as multi-faith– the Way of the future.

The second described a project that involves St. Mary's and the Windsor Flying Club. You will have read about it in the E-blast that Viv has sent out over the past weeks. St. Mary's collected food, especially perishables, and the Windsor Flying Club delivered it to a community at Kingfisher Lake in Northern Ontario. Over 600 pounds was sent! This year they want to deliver even more. As you know, the cost of travel makes food incredibly expensive. They showed a picture of a cabbage on the shelf at the grocery store. The price tag was \$28.00!!! The flying club donated their aircraft, time and fuel so these foods were at our prices. As I listened, I thought, "We have a small airport & private planes in Meaford." I wonder if we could do something like that for another community. It is being explored.

The third described the prayer shawl ministry they are doing in one of the Windsor churches. We do that here in Christ Church. I brought back a new idea for Simy and her group to try.

These conferences bring together men who are doing exactly the same thing in their parishes as our men are doing in Christ Church. Getting together is a wonderful way of sharing this ministry.

Francis Richardson – secretary/treasurer

PROFILE - In this issue we get to learn a little bit about Viv Baker – our Office Administrator

Viv Baker was born Vivian Lynne Shepherd on March 21st, 1955, in Toronto, Ontario. She lived with her parents, Ted (a musician) and Phyllis (a homemaker) and her sister Virginia in Scarborough. She attended George Peck Public School and then Wexford Collegiate, School of the Arts. Viv's grandmother, Annie Shepherd, was a deacon and a missionary in the Anglican Diocese of Toronto. As a child she attended St. Jude's Anglican in Scarborough. After high school she went on to study at Sheridan College, School of Design where she majored in textile design. She worked briefly in graphic arts in Toronto, before meeting the future love of her life.

Viv met Simon Baker when he came to Toronto on a rugby tour in 1980 and again when he came back in 1981 to be usher at a friend's wedding. They got engaged on April fool's day in 1981 after which Viv went to England to live. They were married on December 22, 1981 while home on a visit to Canada over Christmas. They lived in England for 13 years, where Viv took courses and became a legal secretary and an addictions counsellor.

Simon's best friend tells the story of when they were to dine on steak and kidney pies that Viv was cooking, and they exploded in the oven, blowing the oven door off its hinges. Despite thorough searches only one of the two tins was ever found. At the time, Viv was in secretarial school but working as a chef in the local pub!

In 1994 they moved back to Canada because Viv's dad's health was deteriorating and they wanted to be closer to him. Sadly, he passed away the day after they arrived. They settled in Toronto where Viv worked as a legal secretary for a major law firm in the city.

In 1999, they decided to move to Meaford because they were tired of living in the rat race of Toronto. Simon was a Chartered Geologist, and could work from anywhere in Canada and Viv had spent summers in Craighleith, so this area was familiar to her. She became very involved in the Meaford community, eventually becoming a co-director of Smile Animal Society and the Beautiful Joe Heritage Society. She has also been an animal rehabilitator and rescuer for many years. She and Simon share their home with their two beloved and very spoiled dogs; and although they have no children, they are Godparents to 10 in Canada and England. As part of her assimilation into things Meaford, Viv decided to join Christ Church and continue the journey of faith that started with her grandmother.

MULCHING IN THE LANDSCAPE – John Howard

Well the warmer weather is just around the corner according to the latest forecast and people are out in their gardens preparing for another, all too short gardening season. One activity I have noted over the past several weeks is people applying mulch. There are many reasons and benefits of applying mulch including;

- Mulches insulate the soil providing a buffer from heat and cold temperatures
- Mulches retain soil moisture for plant roots.
- Mulches can prevent weed growth and avoid competition.
- Mulches prevent soil compaction and erosion
- Mulches around the base of trees can reduce trunk damage by lawn mowers

Recently I have noted communications on social media from horticulturists expressing concerns about mulching, specifically about the mulching of newly planted or young, established trees. The discussions have been about the amount of mulch, its placement and the type of materials used as mulch.

The main concern I, and many others have, is the way that some landscape companies apply woodchip or bark mulches. The issue is with what many are calling "mulch pyramids," or "volcanos." This is where the mulch is mounded around the base of the tree, over the top of the root ball and extending several inches to a foot up the trunk of the tree or shrub. Volcano mulching, or piling mulch up against the trunk or stem of a tree, creates a cool, damp hideaway that attracts fungus, disease and pests. This practice has also encouraged abnormal root growth in the mulch layer that can lead to a condition known as "girdling root." Spread 2 to 4 inches of organic mulch evenly over the area at the base of the tree trunk, but the key is to follow Mother Nature. Trees growing in nature are not covered up to their trunks, so keep mulch back from the base of the trees or shrubs trunks.

How often should we mulch? Research has proven that a thin layer of mulch is necessary only every two or three years. Can we over mulch? Again, research has proven that repeated applications of some hardwood mulches can result in certain chemicals, such as manganese building up in your soil, to the point it becomes toxic for your plants. If your mulch is tired-looking, revive it by scratching it with a cultivator.

Happy gardening!

St James' Fairmount Turns 150 this year!

In the Beginning Some St. James', Fairmount History – Dennis McCalla

Like Canada, St. James Anglican Church Fairmount, which was dedicated on Sept. 16, 1867, turns 150 this year. This will be celebrated with a series of events through the summer culminating with a special service of Evensong on Sunday, September 10 with the Right Reverend Linda Nicholls, Bishop of Huron, presiding. At this time it is appropriate to remember the early history of St. James'. Fortunately the late Marjorie Alderdice left us an account of the events from 1866 to 1992. The first selection adapted from these histories appears below, others will follow in future issues of Tidings.

Fairmount & The Beginning Of St. James - 1866

As the early settlers arrived and the population grew in Euphrasia township, Fairmount Village became its capital. The need for the ministrations of the church was increasingly felt. Initially, services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Mulholland in homes and schools. He was a veteran missionary, who travelled by horseback helping the settlers. Sunday offerings in 1866 totalled \$4.30, but the wardens had also collected \$67.06 for the minister, still leaving \$20.00 owing to him.

In 1866, for the consideration of One Dollar, paid by the Church Society of the Diocese of Huron to John B and Caroline Winter, a 1 acre portion of lot 27, 4th Concession was bought. This small parcel of land, located just one mile north of the village, was known as "Winters Plot". The site for the first Fairmount Church and burial place was herewith established. Plots in the new Graveyard sold for \$5.00, but new graves were not permitted to be opened till paid for or promissory notes signed. In times of distress, neighbours would help each other, hand-making coffins from wooden wagons or sleigh boxes. Prior to the erection of the first church, a vestry meeting was held on April 23rd, 1867 in the schoolhouse SS No. 6 Euphrasia.

A Church was built for "the performance of Divine Worship according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church of England and Ireland." It was built with clear glass windows and a box stove provided the needed heating in the winter. There was no basement. The small frame structure known as "The English Church, Fairmount" was opened by Rev. Mr. Mulholland on September 16, 1867. (And no doubt a pot luck lunch followed the service!) The first incumbent, the Rev. Thomas Watson, was appointed.

At a vestry meeting, held on September 20 1867, it was resolved, that "the 14 long pews be rented at \$6.00, half pews at \$3.00 and short ones at \$5.00". The first Sexton, Wm. Guthrie was to receive \$10.00 per annum for his services. At another meeting in 1868, a vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. Quinton for raising, \$30.00, which enabled the congregation to acquire a table, tablecloth and carpet for the chancel and a surplice for the vestry. Expenditures for 1868 included: \$4.00 for cleaning the graveyard; \$10.00 for underpinning the building; 30 cents for lime; \$1.20 for board-wood, brush and ink and \$8.30 for a new stove.

Thirty five people had their names on the pews or were supporters from 1867 to 1870. Many must have walked to church services, for there is no mention of a shed until 1869. At times Services were held only two or three times a month - the foundation perhaps for the "Sunshine Christians" nickname. However, there were 46 in attendance on a stormy Sunday in November 1867, 65 attending on a rather wet day and 124 were packed into the pews on a July Sunday. Also in July, the record shows that 170 faithful were in attendance, making us believe that it was uncomfortably hot in the small building. Yet offertories were never very large and varied from 27 cents to a record of \$1.01 per Sunday.

Stay tuned for more St. James' history in future Tidings issues ...

AND ... A BIT OF HUMOUR

Moses And The Red Sea

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School.

"Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements.

They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his Mother asked.

"Well, no, Mom, but, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

