

ALL SAINTS' ALIVE
THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH
COLLINGWOOD'S WELCOMING HAVEN OF CARE, SUPPORT, OUTREACH AND INSPIRATION

SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

Welcome back to our church newsletter. After a week's break, this newsletter note only welcomes a new month but also contains important information about the return to "in person" church services.

In our newsletter this week, Father Doug has shared with us a report entitled "Being Church in Southern Georgian Bay".

Susan Scouten and her Community Friendship Team have reported on another successful community dinner last evening. The details are attached but ASA wanted to once again recognize the tremendous on-going support from Cobbs Bread as well as the donations for last evening's dinner from Currie's Country Market. Please read Susan's report for more details.

Please remember the special Vestry meeting taking place this Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Peoples Warden Kathi Wilkinson has information on this and many other important items that our wardens have been addressing over the summer. Her comprehensive report is attached.

Warden Elaine Cunningham has provided information on the return to "in person" church. Our first service will be "Back to Church" Sunday on September 19th at 9:30 a.m. Please read the report to find out the registration protocol to attend church.

Also taking place this Sunday is the All Saints' Annual Golf Fun Day. Jim and Elaine Cunningham are once again organizing this event. If you do not wish to golf, there is the opportunity to come and have dinner. This year Susan Scouten is preparing the dinner! For more information, please contact Jim or Elaine at 705-293-7477.

BEING CHURCH IN SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY

A bit of humour.....the haircut

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss the use of the car. The father offered his son the following deal..

"If you bring up your grades from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little and get your haircut, we then will take about using the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment and decided he would settle for the offer.

After about six weeks his father remarked, "Son, I see you have brought your grades up and I have observed you studying your Bible, but I am disappointed you haven't cut your hair."

The boy replied, "You know dad, I've been thinking about that and noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair and there is strong evidence that Jesus also had long hair."

To which his dad replied, "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere!"



In your prayers this week, please remember those on our Parish Prayer list. We pray also for their care givers and all who assist others. This week we also reflect on the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks in New York City. We pray for our families, our friends and for all whom we love. Lord, help us to live each day for your pleasure.

“Please pray for these people during the week” Ayako Yoden, Gord M, Dave Foster, Brenda Teeter, Bob Teeter, Michelle A, Sandra Girdle, Ruth Wallace, Kathy Martin, Mary Ratensperger, John Crust, John Heinrich, Margaret Godwin, Pam Muir, Mike, Chris, Winona Waring, Shirley Normore, Bob Normore, Bob, Linda Lampman, Ed Lampman, Ann Farrell, Shelly Saunders, Judy Keown, Bev Baxter, John.

Being Church in Southern Georgian Bay

Back to Church Sunday is almost upon us. The third Sunday of September is our traditional 'Welcome back from your summer break' festival. This year we had hoped for an especially spectacular celebration, marking the end to Covid's long constraint of our gatherings. Sadly, that's not yet to be.

We will be returning to in-person services on the 19th of September, but with all the same Covid protocols as before. For those who feel ready, it will be good to gather together again and share the eucharist. But we will still need to socially distance, and wear masks. We will not yet be able to sing together, or share a laugh over a cup of tea or coffee. Those who are looking forward to praying together, reconnecting with their All Saints' family, are eagerly looking forward to next week (remembering, please, to register with Nancy from Monday). But many others have told me they would prefer to wait, and that 'Church at home' continues to be a very meaningful experience for them.

And, if nothing else, Covid has certainly reminded us that 'Church' is something far bigger than any single gathering at any single time or place. 'Church' is a community of God's people, bound together by God's Spirit of love, in a gathering that transcends time and place. Even ten years ago, when I was worshipping with other people halfway around the world, before Collingwood was ever a place I'd even heard of, we were all still part of God's Church together. And that has been many people's experience through Covid: God has held us, wherever we are, and we are one.

With that refreshed awareness in our hearts and minds of the true expanse of God's community, this is perhaps a good time to ponder, 'In this time of reconnecting, is there a vision for Church in southern Georgian Bay which might see us looking to make even more connections with people of faith, sharing in a greater sense of God's family together, than we had before?' This is a good time to be open to the new possibilities for a new kind of deepening of our sense of togetherness.

And at least one such opportunity has recently arisen. The community of St Luke's in Creemore find themselves without a priest. They are a small community, and right now could never afford a fulltime priest of their own. They are our brothers and sisters in faith. Can we help?

As it happens, we are more than simply neighbours. I am the Regional Dean for Nottawasaga, and so it falls to me to step in as Priest in Charge. But because we are neighbours, we can do better than simply have my name be on their paperwork. There are ways we can share ministry, to build and celebrate our common life in God.



And so, with effect from this Sunday 12 September, I will be Priest in Charge of St Luke's Creemore. But the priest who shares liturgical ministry with the parish will be our own Rev Sharon. Twice a month, or three times if it is a five Sunday month, Rev Sharon will celebrate the eucharist in Creemore. So that we can continue to give each other a sabbath weekend in the month, Rev Sharon will preach once a month at All Saints', and I will preach the balance. But Rev Sharon's pastoral ministry will continue to be here at All Saints' with us. So we will continue to see her at our community events; and drop in programmes; and nursing home services; and doing home visits; and whatever else her care for us at All Saints' entails. St Luke's will continue to be cared for pastorally by their own deacon, Rev Lorna May. But all three of us will work together to support one another, and to explore ways of building on these new connections between us.

As we prepare to gather together again, taking to heart the words of one of our regular hymns: Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still; may it be the words of John's first letter that continue to inspire within us an ever growing sense of God's family: Christians, let us love one another... for if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete.

Please keep the people of this parish, and of St Luke's, along with Rev Sharon and Rev Lorna and myself, in your prayers.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,
Fr Doug

WARDENS' MONTHLY UPDATE, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

After a month's break, staff and Wardens resumed their monthly meetings on ZOOM, Wednesday, September 1st.

All staff and Wardens, Father Doug and Reverend Sharon attended including Keiko from Japan and Nancy on holiday at her cottage.

With the summer weather continuing to cooperate, maintenance and repairs have continued on the exterior of the Church building thanks to our hardworking custodial staff.

Jimmy was happy to report that the painting of the Rectory fence has now been completed after beginning this task last summer.

Further repairs to the roof of the storage shed, Elgin Street Church doors and alcove were also recently completed thanks to the efforts of Albert. Our alarm system has also been updated by Huronia Alarm System. Warden Kathi has been assured by AM Roofing and Rainbowmakers window restoration companies that all scheduled repairs will be completed by the end of this summer. It will be wonderful to have the new windows installed thanks to support of the Heritage Committee of Collingwood's Grant. Masonry repairs on the Rectory garage and Church's exterior have been deferred to 2022 as have the replacement of the Ste Marie Street Church doors.



Warden Rob presented the annual snowplowing contract with Modern Arts Landscaping which the Wardens have approved for renewal for the 2021-2022 winter season.

As more vaccinations continue to be administered and COVID restrictions are eased more opportunities to gather again with family and friends has recently been allowed. We all cherish our times together and look forward to when we can safely reopen All Saints' especially for Back to Church Sunday.

As Bishop Andrew Ansil has stated, "As the doors to our churches are reopened to welcome in-person worship, we will gather with the assurance that comes with double vaccinations and the careful observance of COVID protocols."

It is with this hope that we will once again be in each other's presence and able to spend time together again beginning on September 19th at 9:30 a.m.

Our concern for parishioners' health and safety will always be a priority. Warden Elaine has been diligent in her efforts to prepare the procedures needed to ensure our reopening meets all the protocols from the Diocesan office. This will include the revised COVID Screening Questionnaire required for all those attending in person worship services, mask wearing and limited seating due to social distancing. Further details are being shared in this week's All Saints' Alive newsletter.

For those preferring not to attend in person, live streaming of the services will continue online. Parishioners will be asked to pre-register each week for their in- person worship attendance.

Wardens invite all parishioners to the Special Vestry ZOOM meeting on Sunday, September 12 at 11:00 a.m. As previously noted this is to provide the Wardens the opportunity to share detailed information regarding the proposed carpet replacement in the Sanctuary. Quotes prepared by Dean's Carpet One will be available to parishioners who register with Nancy in the Church Office for their attendance at this important meeting. Voting will take place at this meeting.

A link to the ZOOM meeting will be emailed to those who have pre-registered.

Recently, Wardens Elaine, Rob and Kathi attended a review of the air cleaning and ventilation within the Church and received a detailed report from the Air Source Home Comfort company's representative. His report will be discussed at the next Wardens meeting later this month.

We would like to welcome back Reverend Sharon from her vacation break last month and a special note to Keiko who returns from her travels to Japan to spend time with her family.

Until we meet again, please know that we continue to think of all members of our Parish and wish that you all remain safe and healthy.

Respectfully submitted by Kathi Wilkinson, People's Warden

Re-opening All Saints' Collingwood Sept. 19, 2021 9:30

What to Expect

- Please think of this as restarting the covid restricted services we used to have. This is NOT the re-opening we had hoped for. That full re-opening must wait until the Diocese, Public Health and the government give the clearance needed.
- The re-opening of our parish will be very similar to our previous services under COVID restrictions, namely no singing, no choir, no processions or recessions, required masking, social distancing, signing in, pre-registering your attendance.
- At this time there is only one service per week, Sundays at 9:30 am.
- Services will continue to be live-streamed.
- Please call Nancy in the Church Office with your intention to attend the upcoming Sunday service. Call between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday to Thursday. We ask that you only book your attendance for the one up-coming service and not for services in advance of that one.
Church Office: 705- 445-3841
- Those who have not booked can usually be accommodated in the church.
- There is only one unlocked door for entry to services, namely the northern most entry off of Elgin Street.
- The church will open for the 9:30 service at 9:00 am and no earlier. This is because we now know that fresh air is covid's enemy. The wardens will have the high windows open and the fans on high until 9:00 am to ensure the church is as full of fresh air as possible. Once parishioners are inside, fans must be off, because according to COVID rules downward or even sideward blowing fans are not permitted.
- There will no church school at this time. Children are welcome to attend but are required to sit with their parents.
- There will be servers back in attendance to assist with the service and the clearing of the Altar.
- The Diocese of Toronto has provided two revised screening questionnaires. One is for employees, visitors, volunteers and staff (posted just inside the doors at the top of the ramp by the parking lot) and a different one for those attending a service. This one for attending services will be posted in the vestibule entrance off Elgin. Parishioners may also be given a typed version to read for themselves.
- When you "sign" in for the service in the contact tracing log at the back of the church, you are agreeing that you have read and understood the screening questions.
- Exiting the church after the service will be through the west St. Marie doors at the front of the church. Parishioners should proceed from the front of the church to the back. As you exit, please keep social distancing in mind. Do not allow the exit line to get bunched up.
- No refreshments may be served after the service. You may bring your own drinking water to the service if needed.
- For questions, you may call the church or email elainecunningham80@gmail.com

Community Friendship Take-Out Dinner

We were very blessed that the take out dinner was Wednesday September 8 and not the day before while it was storming. We stayed dry and not blown around on Wednesday!

We handed out or delivered 223 take out bags. The menu was Peameal Bacon on a Cobs Bun with Local Tomato (from Currie's), lettuce and local corn on the cob (from Currie's), green salad and a Cobs dessert.

Thanks so much for the generosity of Currie's Farm Market and Cobs Bread for their donations. We are very grateful and enjoyed every bite.

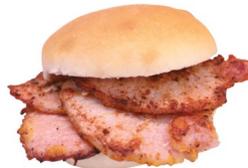
Thank you to the volunteers. This take-out dinner happens because of the volunteers. This month, we had 225 ears of corn to prepare and so many people volunteered to shuck corn. Blessed once again!

Next month's dinner is Wednesday October 13th. The menu will be Ham, Potatoes, Hot Vegetables and dessert. Please pre-order as soon as you know you would like a take-out dinner.

Please help us keep the take-out dinner and Entrées-to-Go running at All Saints'. How can you help? Donations, as the numbers increase, the costs increase. Consider donating monthly through the church or CanadaHelps.org (pick the food ministry option)

Thanks and see you in church!

Susan Scouten
Coordinator Food Programs at All Saints'



**COBS
BREAD**

