

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

JANUARY 13, 2021

Welcome to our weekly newsletter! We hope your winter is off to a wonderful start, albeit with the current restrictions. Please remember that if you are in need of assistance for groceries, access to receive medical assistance, or any other necessity, there are volunteers within the Parish who will assist. We will get through this pandemic—perhaps later than sooner but we will prevail! We must keep the faith, despite how negative it seems some days.

Reverend Sharon has given us a very special message for this week. She has called it “Pandemic Purgatory”. I encourage you to take the time to read this as Reverend Sharon helps us work through those things that have affected our way of living for the past two years.

Peoples' Warden Kathi Wilkinson has provided an important update on behalf of the Wardens and staff. Please remember that, until further notice, all church services are being livestreamed each Sunday morning. Please access the services through our church website.

Susan Scouten reports that last evening's Community Friendship dinner provided meals for over 260 individuals. Susan and the team provided recipients with dinners of scalloped potatoes, baked ham, vegetables, rolls and desserts. Thank you to all who assisted. Please remember that this outreach into our community cannot happen without donations. In her report, Susan shares information on how you can assist.

Susan has also included an update on the Entrées-to-Go programme. This past week was a very busy week for it as well!

Keiko and the All Saints' Chamber Choir have commenced rehearsals once again. Her report and photograph follow. For more information on how you can get involved in our music programme, please contact Keiko through the church office.

A bit of humour.....

Every Friday night after work, Jack would fire up his outdoor grill and cook a moose steak. He was an easy going fellow and born and raised in a Protestant family but not really a church goer.

All of Jack's neighbours were Catholic and at this time of the year, they were celebrating Lent, and were forbidden from eating meat on Friday.

The delicious aroma from the grilled moose steaks were causing such a problem for the Catholic faithful, that they finally talked to their priest.

The priest came to visit Jack and as a way to help his parishioners out, he suggested Jack become a Catholic.

After several classes and much study, Jack attended Mass, and as the priest sprinkled holy water over him, he said, “You were born a Protestant and raised a Protestant, but now you are a Catholic.”



Jack's neighbours were greatly relieved, until Friday night arrived and the wonderful aroma of grilled moose once again filled the neighbourhood.

The neighbours called the priest immediately, and as he rushed into Jack's backyard, clutching a rosary and ready to scold him, he stopped and watched in amazement.

There, stood Jack, clutching a small bottle of holy water which he carefully sprinkled over the grilling meat. He chanted, "you wuz born a moose, you wuz raised a moose, but now you is a codfish."

In your prayers this week, please remember those on our Parish Prayer List. We also pray for their helpers and caregivers and for all who assist those in need.

"Please pray for these people during the week" Ayako Yoden, Gord M, Dave Foster, Brenda Teeter, Bob Teeter, Michelle A, Sandra Girdle, 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, Ann Bye, Jim Milner, Paul Reid, Ann Pope, Cheri Kelly, Dan, George Daniels, George, Eric Vignola.

This week a monetary donation has been made to the All Saints' Gardening Guild by Mary and Barrie Lennox, given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Natalie Wheatstone whose 100th birthday would have been today, Sunday, January 23rd.

We also remember the words of our friend, Sandra Girdle, "Don't forget, God is available 24/7."

And as a special prayer, as we start 2022, I share this link to a very inspirational video.

<https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/Rtajxo8d7js?rel=0&controls=0&showinfo=0>

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS RESIDES ON THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE ANISHAABE AND WENDAT PEOPLES. THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REMINDS US OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO OUR RELATIONSHIPS AND THE ANCESTRAL LANDS ON WHICH WE PRAY, LEARN, SHARE AND LIVE.

God is available 24/7



Here we go again.....

With the announcement that we were heading into yet another lock-down, my first response was to say along with the Psalmist...How long, O Lord! Part of me wants to shout – enough is enough! The problem is that it hasn't been. With the numbers on the rise, we all need to do our part to keep each other safe. That doesn't mean it is easy!

I subscribe to a psychology journal and the issue that came out last week had an article that resonated with me. There was a term that really caught my eye – pandemic purgatory. Of course, I have heard the term purgatory in relation to the church and the afterlife, but to combine it with the stress and frustration of the pandemic seemed to make a lot of sense. Purgatory is a time of transition and transformation as the in-between for life on earth and life in the Kingdom. Developed around the year 1200, it was a Christian concept which claimed there was a time of cleansing in preparation for salvation. We are in the transition between life as we knew it, but not yet at the point where we know what life will look like post-pandemic. We also thought that the development of vaccines would bring salvation quickly and a return to normal life in short order.

Instead, we find ourselves two years later still with the anxiety and stress of isolation, along with the fear we face just going for groceries. We have become aware that ordinary activities might place us at risk. The question arises – what skills can we use to keep ourselves healthy? Are there things we can do to reduce the frustration and angst? We have all faced difficult situations before. We do have coping skills and experience to draw on.

Something I have been intentional about is to find joy. I have set aside time each day for an activity that I enjoy, be it reading, watching movies, listening and playing music, or doing other creative things. I have been trying to teach myself calligraphy – it doesn't matter that I have not mastered it, because I am having fun just trying. It has also helped to remain flexible. Plans have changed at a moments notice, but sometimes it has been possible to adapt and find a way to carry on anyway. It has also helped to step outside of myself and find ways to connect and be a support to others and share experiences and strategies. I have found that It has been important to keep my brain active – doing word puzzles is a new one for me!

But above all, I have taken time to pray and meditate. We have a God who loves us and cares for us. A God who is with us in thick and thin. A God who chose to share our human experiences by becoming one with us. As we remember God's hand at work throughout history we remember that we do live in hope. God walks this path with us. We can get through each day and this time of pandemic because of our faith.

Life is different. And we don't know what it will look like next week or next year. But we have the assurance that there is hope in our world, now today, and tomorrow, and in all the tomorrows to come.

Reverend Sharon

WARDENS MONTHLY UPDATE, JANUARY 5, 2022

All staff, Wardens, Father Doug and Rev. Sharon were present for the monthly meeting held on ZOOM, Wednesday, JANUARY 5, 2022.

With the current colder weather arriving, Albert Scouten reported he had been notified by the tenant that there was an issue with the Rectory's heating. After investigation by BonMech it was determined that the Rectory boiler couldn't be repaired. BonMech's estimate for replacement was presented to the Wardens and approved. The new boiler has been ordered and installation will occur ASAP.

Wardens thanked our custodial staff, Albert Scouten and Jimmy Kelly for their ongoing monitoring of the property especially during recent windstorms and freezing temperatures ensuring the heating (boiler), roof (shingles), and windows were properly inspected for damage.

Warden Kathi Wilkinson is awaiting the decision for the application to the Town of Collingwood's Heritage Committee for a grant which will assist with the costs of replacing the Ste Marie Street Church doors in the Bell Tower and the Elgin Street Fire Exit door. The approval from the Town's Heritage Committee is necessary for this project scheduled for 2022 to proceed.

Keiko Kuepfer updated staff and wardens on the success of the music ministry during the Christmas worship services. She was pleased that the chamber choir was able to provide music in small groups until COVID restrictions were put in place. Thankfully the choir had had their musical contributions recorded prior to Christmas. With the restrictions on live choral performances, Father Doug and the All Saints' Recording/Production Team were able to include these recordings during the worship services and provide the music to the congregation and those viewing the livestreaming at home. Keiko was also very pleased with the Lessons and Carols service and considered it one of the highlights of the Christmas music ministry. The Wardens applaud the efforts of Keiko and the chamber choir and all those involved with the recording for the wonderful musical contributions provided.

Due to the increased provincial and local cases of the Omicron variant, and the Diocesan's move to the Red Stage of COVID procedures and protocols the decision was made to close the Church to the public and once again provide our worship services solely online (for the month of January). All music will continue to be prerecorded. Further updates will be shared with Keiko as to when live soloist performances can resume and the Church re-opens for in person worship once again.

Nancy updated the Wardens that she is preparing information for the upcoming Vestry meeting, scheduled for Sunday, February 27th.

An Advisory Council meeting is to take place prior to that date and Migs Baker, Chair will confirm that date with Wardens and Nancy and also share that information with the leaders of the Cluster Groups for submission of their reports.

Also, it was noted that whilst the Church is closed to the public (staff only) all applications from groups wishing to rent the Church have been put on hold until further notice.



The Outreach Food Ministry including, Entrées-to-Go will continue but with a limited number of volunteers whose proof of vaccination has been provided to Warden Rob Potter. All volunteers assisting with the Food Ministry will continue to follow Diocesan COVID protocols: “wear masks, sanitize and social distance” at all times. Albert was asked to move the air purifiers to the Library and other areas in the Church where the volunteers would be preparing for the monthly Takeout Friendship Dinners.

Après Ski services are postponed until further notice. Further information and updates will be posted in the weekly All Saints’ Alive newsletters as to when they can resume. As outlined previously, pre-registration with Nancy for attendance will be necessary and proof of vaccinations and photo identification will be required to be shown at the door to the greeters. This vaccination policy will enable immune compromised people to attend. Following current Diocesan COVID policy there will be no refreshments provided.

Reverend Sharon noted that she was most pleased with the how well the Christmas services worked out and how everyone adapted on short notice to the revolving COVID procedures and protocols. Father Doug explained that in December two local parishes, Prince of Peace, (Wasaga Beach) and St. Luke’s (Creemore) began sharing a deacon, and revolving ministerial leadership. Scheduling for the ministerial leadership including Reverend Sharon has been arranged for the next few months including planning of programs into Lent. Father Doug will continue to be the Priest in Charge of all three parishes.

The Wardens are looking for a new tenant at the Rectory beginning February 1st, 2022. If you know of anyone or a local business that might be interested, please contact John Kirby or Rob Potter.

Until we meet as a full congregation again, please know that we continue to think of all members of our Parish and wish that you all remain safe and healthy and look forward to gathering again for worship in 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Kathi Wilkinson, People’s Warden

Music Alive

The Chamber choir met in Zoom on Wednesday - they enjoyed socializing, singing hymns and toast to the New Year. Rehearsals will be continued on-line, everyone is welcome to join from their homes! For those who are interested in singing in the group, please contact the director Keiko Kuepfer keikokuepfer@gmail.com



Community Friendship Take Out Dinner Wed Jan 12 results

As the days lead up to the take out dinner, I kept receiving orders up until about 12noon on Wed Jan 12 culminating in handing out 247 take out bags at the door or by delivery and 12 meals went to Out of the Cold. Grand Total 259 this month. The menu was Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Hot Vegetables, Cobs Bun, and Cobs Dessert. Some people received an extra treat in their bag of cookies and/or a chocolate.

Thanks to those that donated various food items especially the yummy chocolates. A nice surprise for the guests. Thanks to the volunteers! The take out dinner would not happen without YOU!

Next month's dinner is Wed Feb 9. Menu is not confirmed yet. Please pre-order now or asap, so I know how much food to prepare.

Donations continue to be the reason, the food programs at All Saints' can continue. Thanks so much for your continued support.

Happy Healthy New Year

Susan Scouten
Coordinator

Entrées-to-Go Food Program & Cobs Bread

Over 100 Frozen Single Serve Entrees plus all the donated Cob's Bread. Please reply any time during the month if you would like Cob's Bread. We have lots of bread products donated every week. Maybe you have a neighbour or friend that would like a donation of Cob's Bread Products.

Next Community Friendship take-out dinner is Wed Feb 9. Pre-order early please! This take-out dinner is for YOU!

Thanks so much. There is an information page for the Food Ministry on the church Website www.allsaintscollingwood.com Click on Ministries, Then click on Food Ministries.

Here's how it all works: email sscouten1@gmail.com or call or text 705-441-1419 (Susan). Please keep donating! So appreciated and needed.

Vestry Reports

All Vestry reports must be submitted to the office by Wednesday January 26th by 10am. Please review your report before submission. Vestry is a recap of the year 2021; this was a different year by far, however there is still lots that took place we would like to hear.

Offering Envelopes



Are here please contact the office 705-445-3841 or allsaintschurch@bmts.com to arrange for pick up.