

News and Views from All Saints Westboro

www.AllSaintsWestboro.com

Welcome to Fresh Bread for the Saints

Thank you to everyone who contributed thoughts and suggestions for our revived parish newsletter. Our new title reflects what we are trying to achieve with this missive:

- It is **fresh** and new, with updates on the many happenings around our parish.
- **Bread** nourishes and sustains, and we hope this newsletter will feed the soul.
- We join together in communion with all the **Saints** in love, fellowship and community.

6

Marking National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

A heart frame with orange ribbons in the courtyard help us to pray.



Photo by Helen Norman

4

Advent Activities and Reflections

Keep this list handy to know when our special worship services will take place.

6

Walking at Mud Lake

A reflection by Marcie Taylor, member of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee



Photos by: (above) Barb Gillie and (right) Anne Doorly.
Top: Music Director Marg Stubington and First United Ensemble. Right: Calm before the feast in Steacy Hall.



Housing with Heart raises funds and awareness

On November 16, our church hosted a timely fundraiser in support of Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI).

More than 130 people enjoyed beautiful music and delicious food at the Housing for Heart concert and reception, all in support of an important cause.

The statistics can be overwhelming. In 2023, more than 12 thousand households were on the wait list for affordable housing in Ottawa. That same year, less than ten per cent came off the list and moved into reliable long-term homes.

MHI is trying to change those numbers by providing safe, affordable, supportive housing in Ottawa. Its latest project involves building 133 units in a new development under construction beside the city's new main public library at LeBreton Flats. ASW's fundraiser was raising money specifically for 30 units designated for Indigenous households.

If you missed the concert and would like to find out more about the initiative or make a donation, you can find more information at www.multifaithhousing.ca.

DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS...



Images by Anne Doorly.
Clockwise from top left: Barb Gillie and Marcie Taylor (MHI Fundraiser Organizers), Ugochi Atasi (volunteer), Julie Newlands (Reception Coordinator) and Lamar Mason (photo missing, Reception Coordinator), Peter Robertson, Julie Cross, and Marcelle Gareau (volunteers), Connie Howe-Davidson (volunteer), Barbara Robertson (volunteer)



Advent and Christmas 2024

December 1st - Advent 1

- 11:15 am Feast of Saint Nicholas (Steady Hall)
- 4:30 p.m. Jazz Vespers

December 8th - Advent 2

- 7:00 pm Sung Eucharist

December 15th - Advent 3

- 5:00 pm Lessons and Carols (Sanctuary)

December 22nd - Advent 4

- 7:00 pm Sung Eucharist

December 24th - Christmas Eve

- 4:00 pm Family Service with Eucharist -
Christmas Story
- 10:00 pm Sung Eucharist

December 25th - Christmas Day

- 10:00 am Sung Eucharist

December 29th - Christmas 1

- 8:00 am Said Eucharist
- 9:30 am Sung Eucharist

Sinter Claus

Photo credit: Chris Dunn

For many years, Bishop Eric Bays enacted the role of St Nicholas for children and families in celebration of St. Nicholas Eve (December 6).

The supposed originator of the idea of giving gifts at Christmas time, it is believed that Nicholas was a monk born near Myra in modern day Turkey who travelled the countryside helping the poor and ill. According to one legend, he saved three poor sisters from slavery by giving them each a marriage dowry.

In modern times, the jolly and generous Santa Claus has emerged from this saint of the church. Thank you Eric for bringing his story to us.

— Barbara Robertson



Help Mary and Joseph on their Advent journey

Photo credit: Larry Chop

Las Posadas is a Mexican tradition which helps people commemorate the journey made by Joseph and Mary as they travelled to Bethlehem, looking for safe haven each night. ...Posada” means ...inn” in Spanish. In our iteration of this custom, we carry the figures of Mary and Joseph



from house to house around the parish in the days leading up to Christmas. Each household keeps the carvings for 24 hours, then moves them along. On Christmas Eve, a family returns them to the church where they are joined by the baby Jesus in his manger.

All Saints Westboro’s nativity figures were commissioned by the parish some years ago as a memorial gift from a grieving family. We found a sculptor who had just come across a downed beach tree in his woods and used it to create our beautiful nativity scene. In all, he created seven figures, making sure that they were sturdy enough to be handled and moved without damage. In fact, he assured us that the more they are handled, the more beautiful they become.

Watch for the invitation to sign up for a Las Posadas visit of Mary and Joseph at your home. Your time with the Holy Family provides a rare opportunity during the hectic season before Christmas to sit and ponder, to share some quiet reflection, and to remember people on the margins of society.

— Barbara Robertson

Reflecting on the legacy of residential schools

Photo credit: Larry Chop

On September 29, ASW marked the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation — also known as Orange Shirt Day. Some children and youth took the opportunity during church school to stroll in the autumn sunshine in our courtyard. They added ribbon hearts to the grape vine heart that pays tribute to the children who experienced residential schools. Next, they inspected the Indigenous garden on the southeast corner of the courtyard, noting the sage (for



smudging) and the tobacco (a sacred plant used during ceremonies). Finally, they rejoined the congregation for communion and the closing hymn. It was a wonderful experiential learning session.

— Amy Castle



Photo credit: Larry Chop

On a beautiful September day, a few members of All Saints Westboro met for a guided walk at Mud Lake. Led by Larry Chop, the outing was part of the ASW Summer Social Swirl. Mud Lake is a gem in our community with its plants and wildlife. Some have referred to a wilderness walk as ...Forest Bathing” or ...Nature Therapy.”

As it is said that ...a picture is worth a



thousand words,” the pictures here capture the walk.

Much to our surprise, Rhondda McKay joined us.

At the end of the walk, participants enjoyed chatting over coffee and a scone or ice cream at The Beachconers Microcreamery. A wonderful time was had by all.

— Sharon Chop

...Walking is one's best medicine.” – Hippocrates



Image by congerdesign from Pixabay

The Idea of Giving

When I was first ordained and newly married, Kathleen and I sat down and made up a household budget. We allotted amounts for various things and the last item was church offering. The amount that was left to give to the church was very small. We knew that was

not enough and resolved to increase the amount.

How often we forget that God is the source of all that we have, beginning with the gift of Jesus. ...For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” (John 3:16).

Most of you will have noticed the mistake in our budgeting process. God reminds us in the Book of Deuteronomy, Chapter 26, that we are to make an offering to God of the first fruits of the harvest. Our budget should have started with the church offering instead of being the last item or the left overs!

The other side of giving is

receiving. Many of us have difficulty receiving a gift, especially when we feel undeserving of the gift. We need to remember that God gives His gift of love to all people, not just Anglicans, or Christians, but to All People.

God's love is given freely and is not dependent on anything we do or say. It is up to us to receive that gift of love and pass it on to all whom we meet. If you are given a gift, receive it graciously with thanks. If you are unable to use it, pass it on to someone else graciously. Remember always that we are not worthy of God's gift of Love to us. Receive it graciously with thanks.

— The Reverend Canon Michael Farr



Advent Events for Children and Youth

Sunday December 1st – Feast of Saint Nicholas

- Children’s Church will learn about St. Nicholas
- Hospitality time in Steacy Hall will include St. Nicholas craft tables, hot chocolate and apple juice table, and packing treat bags for the Food Bank.

Sunday December 1st to 24th join in on Las Posadas

- Take home the Holy Family and share with other All Saints' parishioners. It's a great way to get to know other members

of the ASW community as you receive the Holy Family and pass them on to the next household. Watch for the sign-up sheet.

Wednesday December 10th

Youth Group Christmas party 5:30 – 7:30 in Steacy Hall

Tuesday December 24th

Family Service with pageant – 4 p.m.

— Janet Currie-Kelk
childrenandyouth@allsaintswestboro.com

A warm welcome to our new Music Director: Lauren Saidon



I'm delighted to begin my music ministry at All Saints'!
Raised in Ottawa, I completed my music studies as well as a Bachelor of Education at the University of Ottawa. Not long afterwards, I embarked on a series of musical adventures which included moving to Toronto, touring as the Associate Musical Director of the US National Tour of Mamma Mia!, and singing as a vocal soloist for Disney with the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra. After beginning to have kids, my husband and I moved back to Ottawa where we keep ourselves

busy with family life with 3 elementary-school aged children. In addition to working in music ministry, I run a busy piano teaching studio and direct music theatre.
A life-long church musician, I love using music to connect to worship and liturgy while considering how to meet the needs of a congregation. I look forward to both learning your old favourites and bringing new ideas. Please come see me if you enjoy making music and would like to become involved in our ministry. Thank you for your warm welcome. I'm happy to be here!

— Lauren Saidon

Meet our very own All Saints' Westboro Holy Troublemakers!

EILEEN WOODSIDE & SUE WISE

Always be kind to Animals

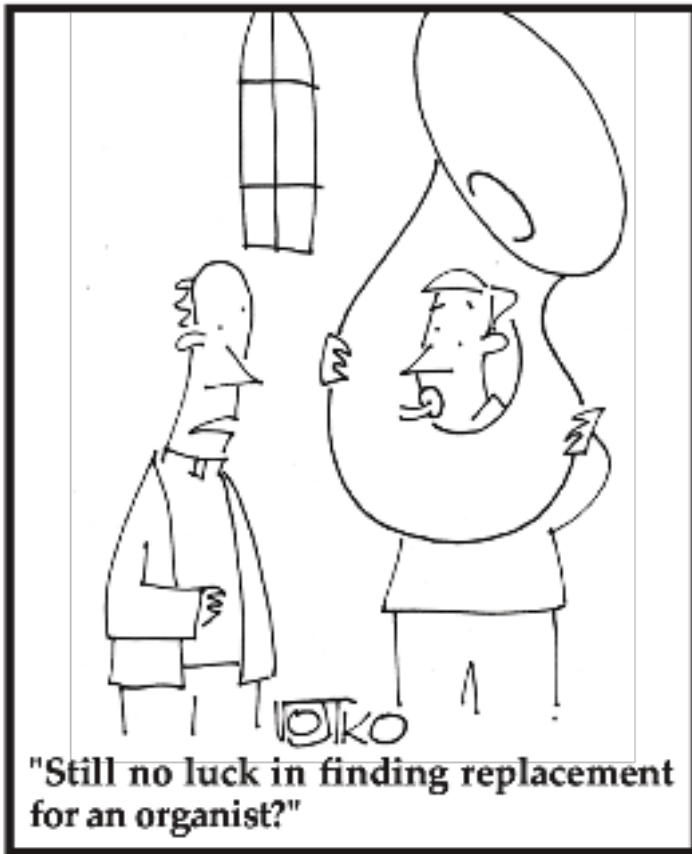


In 2011, Sue and Eileen went to help some very sick animals that were rescued from a property from a rural Quebec property; a puppy mill. After helping out at the shelter, and when all of the dogs got adopted into wonderful loving homes, they started PAWS.



All Saints' Westboro Holy Troublemakers & Unconventional Saints

They gathered thousands of names and brought together Humane Society International, reputable dog breeders, local veterinarians, business owners, puppy mill dog adopters, and Ottawa Humane Society. They met with every single City Counselor in an effort to gain their support. Our goal was to ban the sale of cats, dogs and rabbits from Ottawa pet stores (mostly sourced from disreputable breeding facilities). And they were successful.



from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
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Kids' Corner

Image: is there a free clip art that can be used of someone laughing?

Q: What is the easiest building to lift?
A: A lighthouse.

— Chris Kirch

**Saint Paul University
 Practicum Student
 2024-2025:
 Pastor Augustine Mgala**



My name is Augustine Mgala. I am Malawian and I came to Canada in 2019. I am a theology student at Saint Paul University. I also an ordained pastor, I serve as an assistant pastor at a Malawian church here in Ottawa called Living Waters Church. I am placed here at All Saints Anglican Church for my practicum class. I chose an Anglican parish for my placement because I admire the tradition and history of the church. I am particularly intrigued by its unique position as a

protestant church, yet still closely aligned in tradition to the Roman Catholic church. I believe immersing myself in the Anglican tradition will enrich my understanding and experience of the Christian faith. I must also confess, however, that my choice to be placed at an Anglican parish was slightly biased because of family ties. My father was trained to be an Anglican priest in his youth. Somehow, I believe this is my footsteps meeting his.

— Augustine Mgala



Early Christians continued the Jewish custom of prayer at the time when the daylight faded and lamps were lit. Originally called *Lucernarium* (lamp-lighting time), this service is now called *Vespers* (evening prayer).

At All Saints, we adapted the old tradition by featuring jazz music during our vespers service. We are grateful to Elizabeth Brown, a talented musician herself, who has been the co-ordinator of Jazz Vespers for many years.

For the 2024-25 season, our new director of music, Lauren Saindon, has worked with our clergy to prepare an excellent schedule of services. This year, the music will be more varied with the addition of Sung BCP Vespers, Holden Vespers, and Taizé.

Vespers Schedule Fall 2024 and Early 2025

- October 6 Jazz Vespers: Elise Letourneau, Tim Bedner (Thanksgiving)
- November 3 Sung BCP Vespers
- December 1 Jazz Vespers: Yves Laroche, Charlie Gordon, Tom Denison (Advent)
- January 5, 2025 Jazz Vespers: Mike Mullin, Tom McMahon (Epiphany)
- February 2 Jazz Vespers: Mike Tremblay, Mark Ferguson (Presentation)
- March 2 Holden Evening Prayer
- April 6 Jazz Vespers: Peter Woods (Lent)
- May 4 Taizé Prayers

The Lighter Side



A truck loaded with thousands of copies of Roget's Thesaurus crashed yesterday losing its entire load. Witnesses were stunned, startled, aghast, taken aback, stupefied, confused, shocked, rattled, paralyzed, dazed, bewildered, mixed

up, surprised, awed, dumbfounded, non-plussed, flabbergasted, astounded, amazed, confounded, astonished, overwhelmed, horrified, numbed, speechless, and perplexed.



BOOK REVIEWS

***From the Holy Mountain: A Journey Among the Christians of the Middle East* by William Dalrymple**

In A.D. 587, two monks set off on a journey that would take them in an arc across the entire Byzantine world, from the shores of the Bosphorus to the sand dunes of Egypt. John Moschos and his pupil Sophronious the Sophist stayed in caves, monasteries and remote hermitages, collecting the wisdom of the stylites and the desert fathers. More than a thousand years later, William Dalrymple's pilgrimage takes him through a civil war in eastern Turkey, the ruins of Beirut, the tensions of the West Bank, and a fundamentalist uprising in southern Egypt.

Dalrymple meets Archbishop Hosam Naoum at St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem. ... The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa is in a cherished partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem," states Bishop Shane Parker. ... Archbishop Hosam Naoum and I first met in 2004 at Nablus. Our

friendship has been integral to the partnership between our dioceses. It has comprised pilgrimages, visits, courses, exchanges, advocacy, a women's conference, parish partnerships and financial support for health care institutions operated by the Diocese of Jerusalem." In March 2023, Bishop Shane appointed Archbishop Hosam Naoum to the Canonry of St. James of Jerusalem in Ottawa's Christ Church Cathedral, marking the long relationship between Ottawa and Jerusalem.

From the Holy Mountain is a rich and gripping blend of history and spirituality, adventure and politics. Karen Armstrong recommends the book as ...an elegant, poignant, and courageous account of a journey." You can borrow it from the All Saints Learning Resource Centre located in ASW's lower hallway. The catalogue number is 915.604 DALRY.

— Peter Robertson

A Year of Living Generously: Dispatches From the Front Lines of

***Philanthropy* by Lawrence Scanlan**

Canadian author and sometime CBC producer, Lawrence Scanlan lives in Kingston, Ontario. His writing style is fresh and lively, filled with absorbing anecdotes of his encounters with people around the world whom he met through his volunteer work. He chose twelve different charitable organizations and during his year of observing and working with them, he explored the satisfactions and perils of philanthropy. You will enjoy this book.

— Barbara Robertson

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. — Mahatma Gandhi

Do all the good you can In all the places you can In all the ways you can To all the people you can As long as ever you can. — John Wesley

An imbalance between rich and poor is the oldest and most fatal ailment of all republics. — Plutarch



Question Box *

How do contemporary Christians understand Genesis 1:28 in view of our understanding of our relationship to Creation?

Answer

Genesis 1:28 — God blessed them and told them, ...Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth; subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the seas and over the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves upon the earth.”

The Bible is a collection of stories written at different times and places. Written originally in Hebrew or Greek, the words have been translated into most of the world's languages. When they come to us in English, it is our job often to wrestle with the words to uncover layers of meaning. Genesis 1:28 is a text that raises questions for us. In both the English and French translations, it uses the words “have dominion” (“dominez”) over every living thing. When the word

is taken literally, it has the seeds of destruction in it, and we can see the devastation, loss of species and habitat, and threats to the health of the natural world that result from human selfishness and greed. So what are we to make of this text? Bishop Mark Andrus, writing in *The Creation Care Bible Challenge*, points out that “dominion” and “domicile” come from the same Latin root “domus” or house. And the great “dome” that God made to separate the waters from the waters (Gen. 1:6) comes from the same root. God has created a great house. And we are the householders, to care for all creatures that live under our roof.

One thing to note is that there are many places in Scripture, in Psalms, in prophetic writings and other texts, that refer to God's

dominion over the world. Humankind is made in the image of God. Perhaps then we are to be in relationship to the created world as God is. God sustains the universe in being, and tends and nurtures the earth and all that is in it. God's reign, God's kingdom, is both here and hereafter, both now and still to come. Our job is to help that reign be manifest throughout the world. So we are to care for and respect the world as God would. We are placed here to do God's will and to steward God's creation.

“Dominion” can mean oppression. But it can also mean the respect and care of all the others who live in the same house.

— Patricia Bays

**Send your questions to the office, and we will find someone to answer them.*





THE CANADIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
LE CONSEIL CANADIEN DES ÉGLISES



Come Celebrate 80 years of Unity and Diversity!

Come meet our ecumenical neighbours

Meet general secretary, Peter Noteboom

Learn about upcoming ecumenical events in Ottawa

Light refreshments will be served

Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024

6:30-9:00pm (doors open 6:00 pm)

.....
St. George and St. Anthony
Coptic Orthodox Church
1081 Cadboro Rd, Gloucester

Register at

<https://bit.ly/CCC-80>





From The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) to Alongside Hope

After almost two years of listening together and planning, PWRDF has chosen a new name. The new name was approved at a Special Members meeting held Tuesday, October 15, 4 p.m. ET, in accordance with our corporate bylaws.

In 2022, we selected a Task Team of staff, board members and volunteers from across Canada. This team gathered on Zoom with the goal of identifying a compelling name – **a name that better reflects our work**, and one that would sustain our work into the future. In these and other discussions with stakeholders and staff, one dominant theme emerged: partnership.

This **theme of partnership or accompaniment** is woven throughout the Bible, but the task team was drawn to the story of the road to

Emmaus. Days after Jesus died, the disciples were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus, still grieving their loss. As Luke writes, the resurrected Jesus came alongside them, but they did not know it was him. Jesus travelled with them and then accepted their hospitality to dine with them. In the breaking of bread, their eyes were opened and they recognized him. When we walk alongside one another, Jesus accompanies us. We are strengthened and comforted and recognize Jesus when we share in his feast.

As we **walk alongside each of our partners**, supporting, listening and sharing with one another, we embrace and embody the hope of a better world. Thus was born our new name:

**Alongside Hope:
Anglicans and partners**

**working for change in
Canada and around the
world**

**Auprès de l'espoir :
Anglicans et partenaires
œuvrant pour le
changement au Canada et
à travers le monde**

Alongside Hope conveys the concept of partnership in a simple and uplifting way.

It is easy to understand and to pronounce.

It requires no lengthy or clumsy acronym.

It de-emphasizes the colonial, top-down approach of giving and emphasizes a more collaborative approach.

It is a name that will carry us forward into the future.

– Excerpt from PWRDF website





Gran Aid Program

The Cornerstone Connection Holiday Gift Program is requesting \$10 gift cards. The Gran Aid order on November 1st has added 20 x \$10 cards and an additional 13 cards are also available.

We also added extra \$25 and \$50 cards which would make excellent gifts for stocking stuffers and the Food Bank.

These will be available each Sunday until the 22nd December.

Soup for the Soul: Grief and Loss Support Circle

A bowl of soup, gentle conversations, compassionate community gathered to care for one another through the ministry of presence.

That is Soup for the Soul in at its core.

It is a space intentionally created to support all who are processing grief and loss.

If nothing else, a bowl of soup and a smile can warm you up, body and soul.



Monthly 3rd Tuesdays at 7 pm.



2024 Women's Retreat: "Tender Hearts, Resilient Spirits"

The women of First United and All Saints' Westboro gathered at The Galilee Retreat Centre for our respective Women's Retreats the weekend of November 8th to 10th.

We shared meals together, and worshipped together on Sunday morning. Some of us

joined together for activities as well.

The women of All Saints' Westboro explored the stories of Sarah and Hagar, the prophet Huldah, and the circumstances of Naomi and Ruth.

Through the voices of biblical women, we connected with our own stories and where God is speaking through them. It was a sacred time together.

The participants found the topics so intriguing that we will gather online to study nine women in the Bible for the Season of Advent.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact the Parish Office.



Bible on Tap: What are we studying now?

After spending three sessions on the Book of Jonah, as a group, we decided to study The Slave Bible. Many of us have not heard of this compilation of a Bible for the usage of slaves.

“The Slave Bible is a rare artifact with an exceptionally powerful story. Unlike other missionary Bibles, the Slave Bible contained only “select parts” of the biblical text.

Its publishers deliberately removed portions of the biblical text, such as the exodus story, that could inspire hope for liberation. Instead, the publishers

emphasized portions that justified and fortified the system of slavery that was so vital to the British Empire.”

While The Slave Bible exhibit has closed, you can learn more at motb.me/uw5sfr.

(Excerpt from The Museum of Bibles)

Our group will take our time to study especially the removed parts of the Bible, reading anew what the texts could speak to the liberating aspects of the biblical texts.

Bible on Tap gathers monthly on Wednesdays at 7 pm in Room 5/6.

— Chung Yan



Celebrations, Commendations, Compliments

Another Successful Bazaar - November 2nd

Once again, we opened our doors to Westboro, and they came in! Browsing in our renowned book room, marvelling at the handiwork, snapping up the jams, stripping the bake table, and relaxing over a good cup of tea with lunch, patrons renewed friendships and got good value for money. Congratulations go to Helen Norman and her many teams of volunteers who made it happen.

A Very Special Event - Housing with Heart - November 16

In a leap of faith, Marcie Taylor and Barb Gillie teamed up to produce a unique event for the parish and community with the aim of raising money for much-needed housing. A concert featuring Deirdre Piper on organ, The First United Ensemble with Marg Stubbington, and the Yves Laroche/Peter Turner Jazz Duo was followed by conversation around the charcuterie board. Kudos to Marcie and Barb!

Newsletter Editorial Board office@allsaintswestboro.com

Amy Castle, Larry Chop, Chris Kirch, Helen Norman, Catrina Tapley, Barbara Robertson, Graham Robertson, The Venerable Kathryn Otley.

Please send all questions and contributions to the church office with heading: NEWSLETTER