

THE LOOP

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Volume 2, Issue 3

St. James' Anglican Church Newsletter

December/January 2011-2012



Happy New Year! Although it may sound strange being said at the end of November, Advent marks the beginning of another Christian Year.

It is so great to be here with you. My transition and move to St. James has been filled with friendly faces and such great help and support.

I would like to thank you for your warm welcome and for your encouragement and support as I begin my ministry here with you.

I am thrilled and excited to join you in this parish family. I have already discovered that this church is full of wonderful treasures and talented people. I am here as your priest; to love you, to challenge you, to worship and pray with you.

Most importantly I am here to be with you.. And if there is anything that I can do for you or with you, please don't hesitate to talk with me. You will be able to find me in the office most mornings and in the community in the afternoon.

On January 8th 2012 at 4:00 pm we will be having a service of induction, where I will officially become your Rector. I hope that you will be able to come out and celebrate our ministry in this parish.

With the season of Advent, comes the busyness of preparing for Christmas. The shopping malls have been displaying Christmas decorations and playing carols since just after Halloween. Children have already watched the Christmas parade. Parents and grandparents have been stocking up on the perfect Christmas gifts for months. But I send out this message, not to talk about the latest gift idea or the hustle and bustle of the malls, but rather about the preparation for the season of Advent. It is important for Christians to recapture the season of Advent as a time for preparing for Christmas. It is a time for self-examination and asking for forgiveness as the church is preparing for Christ's Second Coming even as it prepares for Christmas. "Stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:28)

It is important to remember that Jesus not only has come to us, and not only will come to us; Jesus continues to come to us in the here and now. We celebrate the great fact that Jesus *has come* at the moment we glide from Advent into Christmas; we look forward to the end of the age, when Jesus *will come again* to fulfill God's saving purposes in the redemption of the world, every time we recite the creeds. It is vital to our understanding of the Christian faith, that we affirm that Jesus comes to us *now*, in our daily lives. His coming makes a world of difference *today* to those who receive him.

Many Blessings
Meghan+

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Stuff the Bus Report

Submitted by Sharon Gillett



Thank you to the bus stuffing volunteers and to those who shopped to stuff the bus. Mark Heerema and the volunteers from InterChurch send their blessings and their thanks to you. We collected enough food to fill 8 grocery carts, right to the top of each cart. Rev. Meghan, Mark Heerema and Betsy Coleman all had their work-out for the day, lifting the carts over the curb and step to the sorting center.

If any of you know Betsy, say thanks to her for her time. This is the third year that Betsy has volunteered to help us. Elgie Bus Lines is also in line for a "Thank You". They donated the use of the bus to us.

Thank you to Robin, Heather Needham's daughter, for making the "Stuff the Bus" signs for us.

Thank you also to Dale Hurley for allowing us to hold this event at his store. Hurley's had pre-packaged bags available for people to purchase.



More Outreach News

Inter-Church Christmas Cheer Hamper Registration

Registration for families to receive a Christmas Hamper (which you helped fill), will be held at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Monday, November 14th and 15th. Registration begins at 9 am and continues until 1 pm.. An afternoon registration is available on Thursday November 17th, between 1pm and 4pm.

Thamesford residents can register on Wednesday, November 16th between 2 and 4pm at Green Manor, 111 Brock St. Thamesford.

**It is important to remember that all applicants must bring proof and source of income, and health cards for ALL family members.

The Salvation Army Thrift Store WILL NOT take applications.

The hampers will be available to be picked up on Tuesday, December 20th, between 10am and noon. The old Collins and Aikman building on Ingersoll Street is the pick-up site.

Last year the Inter-Church group helped approximately 260 families!



Inter- Church Kettles

As part of our commitment to Inter Church, St. James is responsible for staffing the Christmas Kettles on 2 separate occasions. Saturday December 10th we will be out front at the L.C.B.O. On Wednesday December 21st we are responsible for the kettle at Hurley's.

The sign-up sheets will be in the hall.

Collections begin at 11 am and finish at 6 pm. The time slots are in 1 hour sections. A one hour slot can be filled by 2 people if you can find someone to share it with you.

The kettles are secured in place at the beginning of each shift by an Inter Church member and cannot be moved until the end of the shift by the same people. It is imperative that we have staff for the day! The kettles cannot be left unattended and we cannot move them because we don't have a volunteer for a shift.

Bring out your teens if they need community service hours!

Nursing Home Services

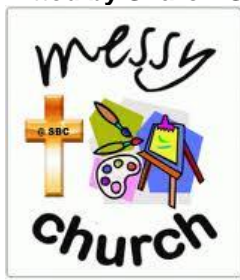
Oxford Manor and Leisure World were closed to us in November. Sickness had both of these facilities in lock-down. We were able to hold a service at Woodingford Lodge.

Thank you to Kristy and Jim for the music.
Thank you to everyone that volunteers at these services.

January 15th, 2012 is the next scheduled service for the Nursing Homes.

Messy Church Update

Submitted by Sharon Gillett



Messy Church is awesome! Held on the first Thursday of each month it is a time of crafts, celebration and a sharing of a meal for families on the go. Messy Church is open to the community. The program is designed for families who cannot attend traditional church and for those who do not wish to be part of a traditional church. Each month celebrates a story or theme from the bible.

Volunteers are still needed to help. All crafts are prepared in advance. This can be a time consuming project and you know, more hands make light work. The Clean Up group could use a couple of extra hands as well. This group arrives about 6:30 pm. They are responsible for doing dishes and putting tables and chairs away.

Messy Church opens its doors at 5:00 pm and we are usually cleaned up and on our way home before 7:30 pm.

Altar Guild Report

Submitted by Andrea Cryderman

Thank you (in advance) for the donations of poinsettia and monetary contributions towards the purchase of poinsettias to beautify St. James' for the Christmas Season. Also thank you to all parishioners who assisted in decorating the church for advent and Christmas.



Turkey Dinners - Follow-up

Submitted by Convenors ~ Shirley Prouse,
Pat Shaddock and Bob Hunter

THANK YOU!!!!

Another successful year for our annual turkey dinners! Thank you to everyone who supported us by buying tickets and to everyone who worked so hard to make it successful before, during and after the meals. We, the B.A.C & A.C. W. would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to all of you!!

Financial Report

Receipts **\$6,666.00**

Expenses **\$3,235.12**

Net Proceeds **\$3,430.88**

The A.C.W. and B.A.C will split the proceeds ~ \$1,715.44 each.

Anyone interested in joining the B.A.C. please contact Scott Naisbitt at 485-5816 or the A.C.W. please contact Barb Westman at 485-4856.



Anglican Church Women Update

Submitted by Barbara Westman

The ACW purchased "Frosty Fern" plants from Floral Occasion, and regular and diabetic candy. These gifts were given to the nursing homes and housebound parishioners.

We will be catering a Christmas meal for a seniors' bowling league group on Dec. 9th.

Also we will be touring the Fusion Centre here in Ingersoll on Thursday December 8th at 10:00 AM.

All ladies are welcome to join us at our regular monthly meetings – the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM.

Games Night December

Please join us on Monday December 5th at 6 PM for potluck and fellowship. Games start at 7 PM.

Hope to see you there!



Our Praise List

Turkey Supper Volunteers – As our convenors' reports indicates, we had two very successful dinners. And... we owe it all to our wonderful volunteers who contributed supplies, kitchen and serving talents, and all kinds of additional support! Special thanks to our take-out delivery drivers, as well as Eleanore Wardrop who coordinated many aspects of the take-out dinner.

The Needlecraft Group - whose Silent Auction was again a huge success. The many beautiful pieces that the group and individuals worked on brought in many bids and the group raised over \$650.00 for the church.

Mike Watson - for being our "lead" contact for the repairs on the tower project. Also, thanks Mike for the repair work on the underside of the easy access ramp.

David Douglas & Tim Blyde - for looking after our repairs to the fan in the church ceiling. We have experienced difficulty with the fan since June so we are happy to have a couple of experts look at it!

Michelle Whatley – our office administrator for looking after so many details both in and out of the office. Michelle and her family were instrumental in getting our offices painted.

Heather Needham – for lining up the capable tradespeople who have cleaned and carpeted some of our hall areas that were in need; and, for being the "super" shopper for The Lunch Bunch.

Pam Petrie - for being the representative for St. James' at the Inter-Church meetings.

Handy Helpers – from the Property Committee for the various small repairs and alterations needed around the hall.

Happy Gang – under Joan Leibold's supervision – again have been busy making those delicious pub pies!

Kristy & Jim – for organizing a choir for our Christmas Season; if you would like to come out and sing with them practices are on Wednesday nights at 6:30 PM for one hour!

Sharon Gillett – Ms. Energy Plus – for looking after Stuff the Bus; Messy Church; the sign-up sheets for the Kettle Campaign; &, the schedules for volunteers for our church services.

Altar Guild – for our wonderful Advent and Christmas decorations.

Pot Luck Volunteers – those individuals who have helped to set up and clean up for our monthly potluck luncheon. (Sharon tells us that we are looking for NEW volunteers for the upcoming months. Do consider helping out – the sign-up sheet is on the hall bulletin board).



Shirley Prouse
People's Warden

Veronica Jackson
Rector's Warden

**(Contact info available
through the Church
Office)**

Wardens' Updates

Many parishioners and friends of the parish contributed funds in their Thanksgiving/Harvest envelopes for needed painting and cleaning projects around the church and the hall. We are pleased to announce that the rector's office and the main office have been freshly painted and carpeted and reorganized. Some additional furniture was purchased that was also required. What a huge improvement from the outdated look of 15 years ago!

The entrances to the front and back of the parish hall were professionally cleaned and the carpets in the hall areas and the Ladies' Lounge were also cleaned. Thanks to the ACW for assisting with the funding of this project. The Ladies' Lounge will be painted prior to Christmas so this will give the area a bright new look.

Also, the entrance to the church off of Frances St. has been spruced up – lots of cobwebs removed and a thorough cleaning took place!

The Tower work has been completed by Hazen Masonry. The brickwork has been repaired, the tower was capped, and the roofing was made secure so no more leaks!

All four pinnacles were removed from the tower as they required significant and costly repairs if they were to remain safely in place. The parish council endorsed their removal and three of them were sold to be used as landmarks in private yards. The fourth will be placed in the St. James' Church gardens in the spring of 2012 and a plaque will be attached to it summarizing its historical significance.

New mailboxes have been installed inside the office for each church group. (Thanks, Phil). Please store any information for that group in its respective mailbox. If you need to leave some correspondence at the office and no one is there, a mailbox has also been located on the main office door.

Finally, thanks to Mike Watson's leadership and the Vision Committee, and Parish Council for their efforts in reviewing the structural draft report from the firm of POW Engineering and Alan Arvis Architects.

Parish Council News

It was proposed and passed at the November meeting of the Parish Council that the church embark on a Capital Campaign in 2012. This will be necessary to raise the necessary funds for the first part of "The Restoration Project" of the main church building.

We are looking for three members from the St. James' congregation to act as members-at-large on this committee. The committee will also be composed of the rector, the wardens, and two to three representatives of the Parish Council.

This committee will meet in January to formulate our Capital Campaign Plan and review all the necessary steps of implementing and successfully delivering it.

If interested please speak to Rev. Meghan or one of the Wardens. No previous experience is required - only a desire to assist with the future of St. James' Church.

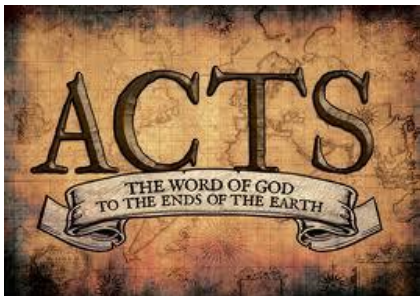
Please prayerfully think of your gifts of time, talent and treasure as we embark on our Capital Campaign for 2012.

"Giving is more than a responsibility—it is a privilege; more than an act of obedience—it is evidence of our faith." — William Arthur Ward (1921-94), American educator

"If I cannot give bountifully, yet will I give freely." — Arthur Warwick, English essayist (1604-1633)

"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving." — Mother Teresa (1910-97), Roman Catholic missionary to India

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." — Jesus, in Acts 20:35



Recent Happenings in Our Parish

Burials: Barbara McBeath

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

December 4th – Second Sunday of Advent –
10:30 AM - Holy Eucharist

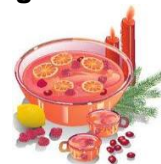
December 11th – Third Sunday of Advent –
"White Gift" Sunday (donations to Food Bank)
8:30 AM – BCP Service followed by B.A.C.
Breakfast – all are welcome to attend
10:30 AM - Holy Eucharist

December 13th – Joint Parish Council &
Vision Committee Meeting - 7:30 pm –
presentation by Allan Avis

December 18th – Fourth Sunday of Advent –
10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist - The Soulmates and
Children's Christmas Presentation followed by
Potluck Luncheon



7:00 PM – "Lessons in Carols" Service
followed by a Reception in the Parish Hall
hosted by Rev. Meghan



December 24th – Christmas Eve Services

6:45 PM – Carol Sing 7:00 PM – Family Service

11:00 PM – Candlelight Service



December 24th – Christmas Day Service
9:00 AM – Holy Eucharist

January 8th – Service of Induction –
4:00 PM - The Rev. Meghan Nicholls is officially
inducted by The Venerable Dr. Jim Sutton,
Archdeacon of Brant/Oxford/Norfolk
Reception to follow in Parish Hall.

January 29th – Annual Vestry Meeting –
10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist in the Hall followed
by Lunch & Vestry Meeting

**From the pages of
"The Ingersoll Times"**

Chamber honours year's best

By JENNIFER VANDERMEER INGERSOLL TIMES



Wilson McBeath received the Citizen of the Year award at the Ingersoll and District Chamber of Commerce Business and Industry Awards of Excellence Thursday, Oct. 27 from Rotarian Darryl Anderson.

JENNIFER VANDERMEER/INGERSOLL TIMES/QMI AGENCY

"May the best you've ever seen, Be the worst you'll ever see. "

Those words led the Scottish toast Wilson McBeath gave to the crowd at the annual Ingersoll and District Chamber of Commerce Awards of Excellence evening after he was announced as this year's recipient of the Citizen of the Year award.

The long-time (now retired) businessman and community volunteer was lauded for his contributions to such local organizations as the Ingersoll Pipe Band where he's been a member over 70 years, as well as the Masons and Shriners. McBeath has been active in raising funds for community events and charities at the local, provincial and international levels. He has also been a member at St. James' Anglican Church for more than 80 years.

McBeath described it as a privilege to be a volunteer in Ingersoll.

"You have to give to get back again," he said. "

(Foot note: Wilson's name was put forward to the Chamber of Commerce for this honorary award by your Wardens and Parish Council. We wanted to see him honoured by the community for his many years of service to Ingersoll and surrounding area).

Also, Wilson was selected to be the Honorary Parade Marshall of this year's Ingersoll & District Santa Claus Parade.



Radio Show 2011 Update





Seen above the cast of "The Shadow" and "Fibber McGee & Molly"

We are happy to report that "The Radio Show" held on Oct. 30th was a huge success. Thanks to all the actors, musicians, soundmen and refreshment committee members. We raised just over \$1000 and half of that will be donated to the Parkinson Society of Southwestern Ontario. The remainder goes to our Restoration Fund. A job well done!

DECEMBER 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 5:00 pm – Messy Church	2	3
4 Advent 2 10:30 am – Eucharist and Sunday School	5 6:00 pm- Pot Luck Supper followed by Games Night	6 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group	7 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am – Lunch Bunch 6:30 pm – Choir Practice	8 10:00 am – ACW Tour of the Fusion Centre with ACW Meeting and Pot Luck to follow	9	10
11 Advent 3 8:00 am – Communion 8:30 am – BAC Breakfast 10:30 am – Eucharist and Sunday School White Gift Sunday	12 1:30 pm - Healing Study & Prayer Group Meeting	13 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group 6:30 pm- Vision Com. & Parish Council Pot Luck followed by meeting 7:30pm	14 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am – Lunch Bunch 6:30 pm – Choir Practice	15	16	17
18 Advent 4 10:30 am – Eucharist with The Soulmates, Sunday School Presentation & Pot Luck Lunch 7:00 pm – Lessons in Carols Service followed by Rector’s Reception	19	20 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group	21 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am – Lunch Bunch 6:30 pm – Choir Practice	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Services 6:45 pm – Carol Sing 7:00 pm – Family Service 11:00 pm – Candlelight Service
25 Christmas Day 9:00 am – Holy Eucharist (No Sunday School)	26	27	28 10:00 am – Eucharist	29	30	31 

January 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 The Naming of Jesus 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist (No Sunday School) New Year's Day	2	3 10:30 am – ACW Meeting 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group	4 10:00 am – Eucharist	5 5:00 pm – Messy Church	6	7
8 The Baptism of the Lord 8:00 am – Eucharist & BAC Breakfast 10:30 am – Eucharist and Sunday School 4:00 pm – Service of Induction	9 6:00 pm- Pot Luck Supper followed by Games Night 1:30 pm - Healing Study & Prayer Group Meeting	10 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group	11 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am – Lunch Bunch	12	13	14
15 2nd After Epiphany 10:30 am – Eucharist with The Soul Mates Sunday School Pot Luck Lunch 1:30 pm – Nursing Home Services	16	17 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group 7:30 pm- Parish Council	18 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am – Lunch Bunch	19	20	21
22 3rd After Epiphany 10:30 am – Eucharist and Sunday School	23	24 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group	25 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:00 am – Lunch Bunch	26	27	28
29 4th After Epiphany 10:30 am – Eucharist and Sunday School VESTRY Meeting to follow	30	31 1:30 pm – Needlecraft Group				

IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY, DON'T FORGET TO GIVE US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS! Contact the church office or e-mail Veronica Jackson at veronicastjames@gmail.com Church Web Site – www.stjamesingersoll.com