



# NewsLetter

## The Anglican Church of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Summer 2019

### Welcome to Pentecost



Welcome to the season of Pentecost! The longest season of the church year, it begins on the day of Pentecost and continues until late fall with the Reign of Christ at the end of November. It is marked by the colour green and roughly lines up with the growing season in the northern hemisphere. It is a time when we consider stories and teachings from the min-

istry of Jesus and “grow” as disciples.

We marked the Day of Pentecost at the church with dramatic story telling, song, decorations and vibrant colours. It’s something of a tradition to invite people in churches to read or pray in languages other than English and a number of people took part in this way again this year.

Hearing the mixture of languages stresses one element of the miracle of Pentecost. That when the Holy Spirit came, all were given voice and all spoke. The other side of the miracle is that all understood. All understood the words even though they were in a different language. The message was received across barriers and divisions. All spoke and all heard.

What would you say if you were sure your message could be heard and understood? When Peter gets that chance he quotes from the prophet Joel. Saying that in those days, God will pour out God’s Spirit on all people. On sons and daughters. On young and old. On slaves and free. And that people will prophesy. That is, people will speak truth to the present times.

If you had a similar opportunity, what truth would you speak? About yourself, about your experiences, about God and the God we know in Christ? If you knew you would be heard and understood, what would you say?

This season of Pentecost, we have several opportunities to learn more about the God we know in Jesus and we have the opportunity to learn about historic barriers and divisions in our church. On June 23, we welcome back elder Sandra Campbell to lead us

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in elements of Indigenous Spirituality and we will hear her speak about Church and Indigenous relationships in the context of her work with Toronto Urban Native Ministries. And we will consider some important truths and learn about how barriers and divisions are being broken down.

On June 16, we have the opportunity to view Images from the Holy Land and hear a first hand account of the places where Jesus lived and taught from Susan Smandych. And throughout the summer months of July and August, our BBQ and Bible Study group will gather on Wednesday evenings (6pm) in the carousel area of the lawn. We'll share a meal together from the grill and then enter into stories from the life and ministry of Jesus.

I invite you to lean into this season of Pentecost. To grow as disciples, learning more about the life and teachings of Jesus and imagining how we might continue to remove barriers and divisions among all people.

*The Rev'd Megan Jull*





The Day of Pentecost



# Warden's Quarterly Report

## Capital and Maintenance - Bill Empey

At the annual Vestry meeting we began the implementation of a Capital and Maintenance Budget process. A first step involved members choosing among a set of three large and distinct capital (renovation and repair) options;

Option 1; Masonry work on the tower and exterior repair

Option 2; Interior renovations on the flooring, lighting and other repairs

Option 3; A more limited set of interior repairs

In March, we used a voting procedure, where each person was given three votes, to prioritize these options. 34 people voted and the results were: 47 votes for Option 1, 32 votes for Option 2 and 23 votes for Option 3. Following this result, the Capital and Maintenance Committee has begun gathering detailed quotes from three contractors. We hope to have all these details in by the end of June and then make a decision over the summer.

In the meantime, routine maintenance work is continuing on the rectory and in the church itself. As part of the budgeting process, the Wardens are setting aside a contingency fund that will be held in a reserve to be used in the event of an emergency capital need.

## Financials - Mike Rapson

The graphs below cover January to April 2019. We did not have the final May financials at the time of writing.

Income was lower than budget for the period. Pre-Authorized Remittances (PAR) were exactly on budget. However, we were looking for an average of \$4,500 per month from Regular envelopes in 2019. While there has been a pickup from the very low January number, the average so far for Regular envelopes is \$3,250 per-month.

On the other side of the ledger, Total Expenses are almost exactly the same as last year at this time.

After transfers into the capital Fund, our deficit at the end of April was \$11,472.82.

*Your Warden's—Mike Rapson, Bill Empey, Tom Wong*





## Reach Grant Update

In the Easter Season, we hosted two more events from our Reach Grant funding. On Holy Saturday, we welcomed some 60 kids and their families for an Easter Egg hunt at the church. It was pouring rain, but we were able to move the event indoors and still accommodate a big group. We were also able to welcome a teenage volunteer from North Toronto CI to help out and so a number of new connections were made with the neighbourhood.

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our first ever Blessing of the Bikes event. Megan offered prayers and blessings for a safe and healthy cycling season. Toronto Police community safety officers participated, offering free safety checks and advice. We welcomed Cynthia from SwitchBack Cyclery to offer complimentary tune-ups and adjustments. SwitchBack is a wonderful community partner. Their mission is to train and employ individuals that are recovering from homelessness and are difficult to employ. They offer meaningful employment opportunities and contribute to the health and wellness of Toronto residents. Please consider visiting their shop on Queen St E. for your cycling needs.

Looking ahead to the fall season, we have funding for one more Reach Grant event. In early October, in connection with the Feast Day for St. Francis of Assisi, we'll host a Blessing of the Animals event. Thanks to everyone in the parish who has helped with these events and supported them with your participation.

*The Rev'd Megan Jull*

## Blessing of the Bicycles



# Switchback Cyclery Harvest Ride

On Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup>, join us for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Harvest Ride on some of the most beautiful, rolling roadways in Ontario in support of [Switchback Cyclery](#).

There will be 3 different guided, scenic rides for 3 levels of riders - 15km, 25km, or 60km - through the idyllic countryside of Northumberland County, followed by a farm-fresh lunch at [Headwaters Community Farm & Education Centre](#) just 75 minutes east of Toronto.

Check-in starts at 8:30 a.m.

Plus there's FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY! We'll have kid-friendly activities at the farm in the morning for those who aren't riding, and activities into the afternoon for the cyclists. This includes a Farm Tour and Axes & Arrow activity (age minimums), as well as massage therapy to recover from the ride. Baby sitting will be provided upon request. So bring the whole family for a wonderful day in the country!

## About Switchback

Switchback Cyclery is a local, non-profit bike shop in Toronto's East End. Our mission is "**propelling community**" and it's our way of serving this wonderfully diverse community. We are committed to:

- Training, mentoring & supporting people who experience barriers to employment due to poverty and/or addiction. We embrace marginalized individuals and bring them into the heart of community, both within our shop and our neighbourhood.

Contributing to the grassroots biking movement, and helping our community get moving on two wheels, by providing quality bikes, accessories and repair service. We've discovered that our lives become so much richer when we move into the slow lane and get to know and work with some of the people who make our city unique.

## Activity Details

**Pizza Lunch**—Enjoy gourmet authentic Italian pizzas from our wood-burning oven. This includes salad, home-made sweets, and homemade herbal iced tea. FREE FOR RIDERS. Non-riders: \$17 for adults (12+), \$12 (6-11), under 6 free.

**Farm Tours**—Join farmers Tony and Linda for a 90 minute tour of our organic gardens, pastured livestock areas and bee hives. Meet our goats, feed the horses, pick some veggies and collect the eggs.

**Axes and Arrows**—If you've ever had a hankering for throwing sharp objects, here's how to do it safely! Learn the basics of shooting an arrow and throwing an axe and aim for the bulls-eye in our custom-made target range. Axe-throwing open for ages 12+. Archery for ages 8+

**Massage Therapy**—Give those muscles a break with a 20 minute massage session, a pay per use service that ranges from \$15-30 per session.

**Live Entertainment**—To be announced.

**We hope you can join us for a wonderful ride in the country and celebrating the arrival of Fall.**



## Support your local non-profit

Slow and Steady (15km)  
Cruisers (25km)  
Road Warriors (60km)

All levels of riders welcome! These routes have some challenging hills, so choose your level appropriately.

To register, visit our website:  
[www.switchbackcyclery.ca](http://www.switchbackcyclery.ca)

Registration fee includes a farm-fresh lunch  
and live entertainment!  
\$50 - Individual  
\$135 - Team/Family of 3  
(\$45 for each additional member)

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## Welcome for Shiraz

On May 26<sup>th</sup> we gave thanks for the recent arrival of Shiraz, the brother of the Syrian family that we co-sponsored. He was with us at the 10:30 service along with Teresa, his mother. This provided an opportunity to welcome him after his six-years as a Syrian refugee in Lebanon. He did not pass the interview in late 2015 so was not able to join other members of his family when they came to Toronto from Lebanon in January 2016.

We offer special thanks for all those who worked so hard to clear the many hurdles. For AURA, the Anglican and United church refugee organization that pushed this forward under the leadership of Ian McBride. For Rob Oliphant's office, specifically Shifa Tauqir, who assisted with information gathering and government connections. For St. Matthews for sponsoring him. And for the combined efforts of our church working with St Matthews and the Berberian family to put together the strong case for approval. AURA then successfully took the case to the Canadian government. This was a team effort for which we are eternally grateful and we were pleased to have Ian McBride and Shifa Tauqir worshipping with us on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

*Gina Davidson & Peter Shepard*



IMAGES FROM THE

*Holy Land*

Wednesdays  
at 6pm  
July & August

**Summer BBQ and Bible Study**

Join us on Wednesdays beginning at 6:00pm for a meal on the grill and time to consider stories from the life of Jesus with particular attention on the locations and places that shape the events.

We need your help to produce the meals. The main course will be provided by the church. Participants are asked to contribute salads, sides, or desserts. Sign up sheets available at the church



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# The Groove Room

The next Groove Room is on Friday July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. We take August off and return in September. All future Groove Room dates are on the calendar on our website. Come on out and support live music and the Flemington Park Food Bank. Admission is only \$5 and includes a beverage and homemade desserts.

*Mike Rapson*



## "Many Hands" Garden Party

On Sunday July 7<sup>th</sup>, after the 10 am service, come and enjoy an afternoon of gardening at St. Augustine's! This is an opportunity to wear your gardening clothes to church and enjoy a couple of hours of gardening in good company. This is our 2nd year to help maintain our lovely church garden and to take the pressure off of just one or two individuals. A BBQ lunch will be provided for all workers. If possible, please bring your own gloves and clippers.



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