

HONEY & LOCUST



**St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church,
Bright's Grove**

Church Services

Reverend Dave Hewett will preside over an 8:30 am Zoom church service and 10:30 am Facebook Live Service this Sunday, November 22 – The Last Sunday after Pentecost – The Reign of Christ. Please see the last page of this edition of Honey & Locust (after the warden signatures) for the schedule up until December 20; this also contains details on how you are invited/reserve a spot depending upon the type of service involved.

Please continue to pray for Reverend Shaun's well-being and return to work. I continue to deliver your cards and well wishes.

For those folks without a computer, I encourage you to call the Lambton-Kent Deanery free phone for a prayer line:

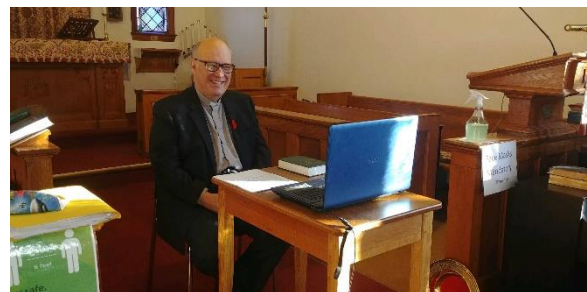
A free phone line for prayer, reflections, worship and a reminder you're not alone.

1-888-229-5422

With love, from the Anglican Churches of Lambton-Kent



You will be greeted by our Archdeacon Kristen Aikman and she will direct you through the options. Frankly, I love listening to Option 2...Reverend Gord Simmons' silly joke of the week. If you select St. John in the Wilderness, you will hear Archdeacon Kristen's sermon. Feel free to call back to select various options. Thanks very much to St. Bart's for paying for this for our Deanery; they pay a flat rate regardless of the number of calls received.



Reverend Dave Hewett presiding over his first Zoom service (November 8) – The service was as magical as that smile of his.





Hello from the 8:30 am November 8 Remembrance Sunday Zoom Service. Peter Langille went off line to shield Dave from the sun gloriously shining in the North East window of the church (It does so now that the fir tree was trimmed to protect the building - see the [September 25 edition of Honey & Locust](#)).



Reverend Paul Woolley presided over our Holy Eucharist service November 15. He sang a magnificent and moving "It is Well with My Soul" and dedicated it to Mike McAlpine. Janice felt the completion of Mike's funeral with this. God bless.



Jean Dennis says hello from last week's service. Janice McAlpine read. Thanks to both.



Christmas Eve Service: The tentative plan for Christmas Eve is a 15-minute outdoor service behind the church, where the Christmas story (Luke) is read, we sing Silent Night led by choir master Brenden Fraser (Wow we sing together... with masks on and socially distanced... still... what a blessing). Feedback on this approach has been incredibly positive so far. We are investigating if we could Facebook Live from the back as well.

Peter Langille is looking for a small committee to help...please contact Peter via e-mail at langille5@bell.net to volunteer.

Fundscrip In-Person Orders – Our November Fundraiser

We are raising funds for our church via hard-copy/in-person sale of Fundscrip Gift Cards in the month of November...each year we have done this successfully with your support. We need \$5000.00 in sales to

eliminate shipping charges. Sandra Fraser must place the order November 29 for you to receive your cards on or after December 6. Please see the email you received from St. John in the Wilderness today to get Sandra's contact information. This also contains an order form.

Here is a [link to a printable order form](#) so you may view the multitude of cards available... for various grocery stores, pharmacies....you can give cards to buy gas and encourage folks to come visit you....several restaurants, including takeout (Swiss Chalet...mmmmmm), tons of retailers such as Dollarama, Hudson's Bay, Walmart, Marshalls, Chapters, Coles, Lululemon (if you are feeling optimistic you could even get movie passes in the hope of a vaccine coming soon 😊), Lowes, Canadian Tire, Molly Maid (the gift of cleaning...wow), Sport Chek....the cards you purchase may be used to shop locally, important for our community these days.

Support of a Family in Need in Camlachie at Christmas (Joy!)

Each year we/you support a Bright's Grove/Camlachie family in need at Christmas. Sandra Fraser will work with the Errol Village school principal to identify a family this year. Please contact Sandra Fraser to make a donation, or leave your name and a brief message on the church telephone or email so she may contact you....essentially Sandra will purchase gift

cards for the familywhich is why we would be grateful for your donation by November 28....as this will help get us over the \$5000.00 target we have above for Fundscrip....while bringing joy to a family in need. Note, these donations are not eligible for a tax receipt.

As Christmas approaches, we hope for you and your's peace, goodwill, meaning, and joy.

Vestry Meeting Preparation

We are in the early stages of preparing for our mid-January 2020 Vestry Meeting, which will likely be conducted via Zoom. Please get Zoom up and running to participate in Vestry.

All committees who submitted reports in 2019 should have their reports for 2020 submitted to Heather Holbrook, our church secretary, by mid-December. So, despite Covid...let us all report on our year...it sure has been an interesting year. It is preferable to submit via email, but if you are submitting in beautiful cursive script...just contact Peter Langille so he may arrange to obtain your report (Deb Walker will be away for a bit in December)

[Here is a link to the 2019 Vestry Report](#) on our church's website.

Bible Study in December WHOO WHOO!

Archdeacon Kristen Aikman is welcoming people from St. John in the Wilderness to join St. Paul's Bible Study which she leads on Wednesday mornings via Zoom. Topic is typically the gospel for the coming Sunday.



If you wish to participate, please send an email to our church at stjohninthewildernesschurch@gmail.com so that you can be added to the list of invitees to Zoom meetings.

You Fed Over 65 People at The Inn – Thank You!

On November 7, our church fed over 65 people at the Inn of the Good Shepherd. Thanks very much to so many of you who cook and serve during the year. You are an integral cog in The Inn's mission to provide services with dignity to local people who need food, shelter, and other essentials. Thanks for helping folks in need.

Here are folks from the November 7 team. Sandra, Karine and Mike (great seeing you again!), Leslie and Bruce, Pat and Don, Susan, Fran and Al, Ken, Deb and Haley.



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Financial Update

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, our church remains financially healthy. Envelope offerings are on budget and with the money received from the Canadian Employment Wage Subsidy (CEWS) our total revenue is just below plan. This government funding has replaced our inability to fundraise due to the current environment. Our total expenses are currently below budget, thus resulting in a projected total yearend deficit of about \$5000 which is an improvement from the vestry approved budget.

Dave Hains, Treasurer

Outreach

In November we donated \$2000 to St. Clair Child and Youth. Sue Barnes, executive director, commented to Dave Hains, our Treasurer:

“Families have already been reaching out for help over the Christmas season with increasing anxiety. The funds will be used to support our families with grocery vouchers for Christmas. Thank you for your support. God bless.”

Coats for Kids

Leslie Grieve dropped off your wonderful donations for the Inn of the Good Shepherd

“Coats for Kids” program. Among the coats Leslie found these marvelous hand-knitted hats that we believe one of you made...Thank you all!



Great Family News from Pauline



Pauline Walsh

Jon (my husband) and I would like to share some wonderful news about our Daughter Katherine and her husband Terry.

They recently received The Bluewater Award of Excellence at the virtual graduation of their youngest son Zayden from elementary school.

Also, an award was created in Kathy and Terry's name titled, The Terry & Katherine Arnold Award of community engagement. Which will be handed out to a student every year starting in 2021. We are very proud of them.

Thank you for the Honey & Locust. I have enjoyed every issue. I really enjoyed the story of the Bees. I didn't know bees only produce a single tablespoon worth of honey in a lifetime. Also, the article about Sylvia and Shalleen and their quilting.

Pauline Walsh

(From Deb: Pauline...Thank you for sharing - Congratulations to Zayden and Thanks Terry and Katherine! Great to see bright folk and folks engaged in making a wonderful community. P.S....you got on email!)

Share Your Joy/Journey in the Honey & Locust

If you have a paragraph or two you would like to publish in Honey & Locust, perhaps an update for a church group you are part of, a favourite project or memory, or a favourite prayer you would like to share...whatever is on your mind that might be meaningful/joyous for your congregation to hear...please craft the words and send them to debwalker@cogeco.ca

Order Your 2021 Anglican Church of Canada Calendars Today

Today is the last day to get your order in for a 2021 Anglican Church of Canada calendar. They are \$5.00 – if you want one please

send an email to Heather Holbrook at the church's email address or telephone the church and leave a message.

Our Altar Guild

The Last Supper would have been very different if the table had been bare when Jesus and the apostles arrived. Today, the altar team continues the unseen work of physically preparing for our parish family to be able to share communion.

The Altar Guild is a group of generous and aesthetically sensitive parishioners who work to ensure the presentation of the church is everything it should be for the worship of Almighty God and His Son.

The guild is entrusted with the filling of candles, care of the linens which they take home to launder and iron. Great care is taken with the silver, brass and furnishings of the altar to keep them looking their best. The team arranges and maintains the flowers week by week, as well as flowers for memorials, weddings, and decorations in the sanctuary for major festivals. They are responsible for ordering wine, wafers and new linens as needed. The dossal curtain and seasonal banners are creations of the Guild.

As part of their outreach ministry, the Altar Guild also ensures that altar flowers, given by our community members, often in memorial, find their way to members of the

community to remind them that our thoughts are with them in times of need or absence.

Current members include Ann Hitchins, Mavis Schmid, Jean Dennis, Lyn Kidd, Sandra Fraser, Brenda Clingersmith with a warm welcome to Leslie Chekan. Members consider it a privilege to serve and recognize the trust placed in them.

Prayer for Altar

Guild Members

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, you have desired to be worshipped in spirit and truth, and in the beauty of holiness: I humbly ask you to fill me with your bountiful Spirit and bless the work of my hands and the thoughts of my heart; that I may serve you in holiness as I prepare your Altar for worship; that the congregation may know you through your Word and Sacraments; and may your Name be exalted in this place; through Jesus Christ, my Savior and Lord. Amen.

...Janice McAlpine

hole in the back of her right eye which was successful. But, (that word, of course, indicates a problem) the surgery caused a cataract to form. There was a wait to remove the cataract due to Covid and there was no distinction in her view and very little colour.

Diana recently had the cataract removed and a new plastic lens added. Diana is absolutely thrilled; the results are far better than expected and she was in tears the day of the surgery. She was part of an assembly line with 24 others due to the backlog from cancelled surgeries.

Diana is safely back on the road again with an eye that's now bluer than it has been in quite some time. As you can see, she had some fun with her eye patch accessorized as a smiling pirate.

This is one of those modern-day miracles when God works through science to care for his children. They happen often, take the time to acknowledge them and Praise God!

...Janice McAlpine

I Can See!



Diana Anderson had surgery in the spring of 2019 to repair a macular

Farewell to Marjorie June Fletcher

On Wednesday, November 4, at the age of 91, Kim Moloney's loving mum Marjorie June Fletcher took the hand of Jesus. Margorie was living at Trillium Villa in Sarnia. Here is a [link to her obituary](#). To Kim

and Mike Moloney and their extended family – God bless.

Lay Reader Janice Reflects



Advent is coming up, and I don't think I've ever looked forward to it more than this year. This has been such a challenging year in many ways, and Advent brings

just the blessing I need. I look forward to Advent's invitation to repent and to focus on Jesus. And I look forward to some of my favorite hymns and scripture readings.

I hope you'll find Advent as life-giving as I expect it will be for me. But this doesn't just happen. We have to make time in a chaotic world for the peace and the reflection of Advent to work in us. Perhaps you'll join me in setting aside some time each day for prayer or reflection. I do encourage you to make some space in your life for Advent. And let us welcome this blessing we so sorely need.

Will you please join me in prayer?

Father God, every word in scripture points to the gift of hope that we have because of Christ Jesus. The Christmas story wasn't the beginning of that message of hope because the old testament is full of glimpses of your plan to redeem your people and restore them into a relationship with you, but we are able to truly begin to see and

understand just how great your love for us is when we read the story of Jesus' birth in scripture.

Help us to see that you are with us. Nothing is too difficult, too messy, or too dirty for you. Jesus came to give us the gift of eternal life through the salvation that only you, our Heavenly Father, can give when we believe in your Son, repent of our sins, and confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

That first Christmas, you gave us the gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you, Father, for your immeasurable gift. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen

Yours in Christ – Janice

Yours in Faith,

Deb Walker, Peter Langille , Janice McAlpine
Wardens and Lay Reader

Postscripts:

1-The church service schedule is on the next page.

2-Kim and Mike Moloney went to the church to investigate WiFi capability (pretty good they say) And they were blessed with



this smiling group of ladies chatting and solving things on a lovely fall day. Blessings all around!

St. John in the Wilderness, Brights Grove
Church Services
(November 16 Update)

Date			Church Service		Time	Location				Leader Presiding
Month	Day	Year	Name	Type		In-Church (1)	Facebook Live (2)	Zoom (3)	Video (4)	
11	22	2020	Last Sunday after Pentacost, The Reign of Christ	Morning Prayer BCP	8:30 am			x		The Rev'd Dave Hewett
				Morning Prayer	10:30 am		x		x	The Rev'd Dave Hewett
11	29	2020	First Sunday of Advent	Morning Prayer	10:30 am	x				Lay Reader Janice McAlpine
12	6	2020	Second Sunday of Advent	Holy Eucharist	10:30 am	x				The Rev'd Paul Woolley
12	13	2020	Third Sunday of Advent	Morning Prayer BCP	8:30 am			x		The Rev'd Dave Hewett
				Morning Prayer	10:30 am		x		x	The Rev'd Dave Hewett
12	20	2020	Forth Sunday of Advent	Holy Eucharist	10:30 am	x				The Rev'd Paul Woolley

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Option 2 for Reverend Gord Simmons' silly joke of the week 😊

- Note (1) In-Church Services - please reserve via the evite you receive 2 to 5 days prior to the service. The evite will come either from the email of St. John in the Wilderness or Peter Langille.
- Note (2) Facebook Live services...just join the Facebook Live service at 10:20 am (a little before 10:30 am) as folks like to chat together via the text commentary in Facebook Live.
- Note (3) Zoom Services - Deb Walker or Peter Langille will issue, via email, an invitation to the Zoom service a few days before the service. These go to traditional attendees pre-covid as well as to people who request invitations (just ask Peter or Deb)
- Note (4) A video on a Facebook Live day is a saved and edited version of the Facebook Live service recording. It will issue within 1 to 3 days of the service with a link going out via the church's email.

Please check your e-mail regularly to see if there are changes – this is a fluid time given both Covid and our interim priest needs.

>((()))*> **Keep wearing those masks, washing your hands, maintain social distance, and.....Blessings;-)**