The Spirit of St. John's

Easter 2018

Every issue of the **Spirit of St. John's** is published with the hope that we can bring readers both inspiration and invitation to participate more fully in the life and work of St. John's. If you would like to share your story, you may do so by emailing communications@stjohnsunited.ca

Stained Glass Window Restoration



Another of the major projects initiated in 2017 and slated for completion this year is the refurbishing our historic stained glass windows. The ongoing work of repairing the leading, fixing and painting the window frames and installing thermo pane coverings to reduce moisture damage to the woodwork on the exterior windows will enable ourselves, and future generations to draw inspiration from their timeless beauty. A professional evaluation last year indicated that the work needed was urgent, to circumvent further damage. The cost of the work when completed will be approximately \$28,000, of which \$20,000 was paid for in 2017 from our Trust Funds.

In February a letter was sent to you asking for an extraordinary financial contribution to the cost of the window refurbishment. The hope is that we will be able to pay for the balance of the work, as well as return last year's investment to the capital of Trust Funds.

Just as was arranged for the Piano Campaign, you may make a one-time donation or spread it over three years. Our Memorial Book in the sanctuary will be updated with a section for the names of donors to **Window Restoration Project**. Please mark your gift "Window Fund", and either put it in the collection plate, or mail to the church at your earliest convenience. E-transfers can also be sent to St. John's Office with the email address: office@stjohnsunited.ca (please use the name "St. John's Office" as the contact). The website Canada Helps may also be used. Just look for the correct St. John's United! Take note that only 96% of your donation reaches us as there is a 4% administration fee through this site. If you would like to pledge an amount over three years, either email Jennifer at the office or fill out the blue pledge form that is available at the church.









LIFE & WORK of st. John's

Holy Week Reflection and Worship :

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, March 25th. On Maundy Thursday, March 29th at 7:00pm, all are welcome to a short reflective Taizé service in the Sanctuary as we remember Jesus' last hours.

Good Friday Worship at Maple Grove United Church:

We have been invited this year to Maple Grove United church at 346 Maple Grove Ave in east Oakville. Together with ministers and members of St. Paul's United and Trinity United Churches we will reflect on the sacrifice of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We will be welcomed for fellowship and hot cross buns following worship. The service begins at 10:00am. on March 30th.

On Easter Morning the darkness of the week will be left behind, beautiful flowers will enhance our sanctuary and we will rejoice on our way to new life and light offered by the resurrected Christ. St. John's Youth Group will lead the service with a presentation of **The Tale of Two Beams:** a moving contemporary drama that illustrates the humanity and sacrifice central to our faith and our service will conclude with Holy Communion.

Lord's Supper and the Breaking of Bread:

During Holy Week you will have two opportunities to share in communion; on Maundy Thursday we will gather informally around the table to share glasses of juice and a variety delicious breads, and on Easter Sunday communion will be served as we come forward to the Lord's table, and receive the elements by intinction.

Faith and Fellowship:

Breakfast at Dawn continues every other week on Friday mornings at 7:00am April 6 and 20, May 4 and 18th. Intriguing discussion on spiritual questions and timely topics – and is a wonderful way to share breakfast and ideas in a comfortable and relaxed setting. All are welcome.

Food & Fellowship:

Mother's Day, May 13th marks the occasion of our annual Christian Family Breakfast. The men of our congregation prepare eggs, sausage and English muffins. Friday night Community Dinner will be served at 6:30pm on May 18, punch and fellowship begins at 6:00pm. Full course home cooking with dessert and treats for only \$15, children under 12 eat free. Tickets are available in advance after church, or at the door, but we appreciate a call to the church if you haven't gotten a ticket in advance. It helps us plan for everyone!



Wednesday April 11 and June 13 at 6:00pm consider coming out for our A+ Dinner,

great food and entertainment for seniors and guests, your free-will offering will be graciously accepted. Reverend Jim Campbell will be our special guest speaker at the April dinner and the topic will be: 1945 War & Peace, Hot & Cold.



Euchre Nights at St. John's:

April 10, May 8, and June 12, all are invited for Euchre, prizes and refreshments all for only \$6/person starting at 7:30pm the second Tuesday of every month. New players are always welcome, and all proceeds benefit the life and work of St. John's United Church.





THE POWER OF ONE



The Royal Tea!





You are cordially invited to attend an afternoon tea in celebration of the marriage of

HRH Prince Henry Charles Albert David of Wales to Ms. Rachel Meghan Markle

Come and celebrate a "jolly good time" on

Sunday May 6 at 3 .oopm

There will be High Tea, an organ recital of Royal Wedding Processionals, and an opportunity to wear (or critique) the very latest fashions in tea hats, fascinators, bow ties and spats ! Tickets go on sale April 8th , and will be limited to only 60 guests. \$25 for adults and \$15 for children under 10. Don't miss out! Get your ticket early!

All proceeds go to Power of One Outreach projects.

Canadian Food Grains Bank - Modern Miracle Spaghetti Dinner

On February 25th, Maple Grove United church hosted our annual joint dinner effort. Great food – donated by the Old Spaghetti Factory, amazing volunteers, and a seasoned team of organizers enable both churches to continue support for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Each \$20 ticket sold enables us to feed 40 hungry people. The Canadian government continues to quadruple donations made to Canadian Foodgrains, which in 2015 helped feed over one million people in 40 countries. Your continued support of this dinner, and other initiatives like our "buy a row campaign" make a difference in the lives of so many. Thank you!



Men's Cake Bake-off in January

More than \$1,095.00 was raised for our Indigenous scholarship bursaries. Thank you to all the awesome bakers and buyers! This year cupcakes were added to the sweet treats available for take-home!





FAMILY, YOUTH & CHILDREN MINISTRIPS

Vacation Bible School - Monday July 2nd to July 6th

Time to register for Vacation Bible School! This arrhhsome week will be all about being anchored in the truth that Jesus carries us through all the storms in life! We start off the week on Monday July 2 with an "all hands on deck" barbeque! VBS is for campers aged 4–13 years – and there is a special leadership program for campers going into grade 7 or 8 that includes training for leadership roles in future years. VBS fills up fast – be sure to register as soon as possible, the cost for the week is \$45.00 and includes a T–shirt! We always need lots of volunteers and tons



of snacks and supplies! Sign up sheets for both can be found on the Family Ministries board in the office lobby. Please speak to Kim, or email her at kim@stjohnsunited.ca if you can help out, or have any questions. Registration forms can be emailed to you, or can picked up at the church .



A Tale of Two Beams - Easter Sunday April 1st 10:30 am

Join us on Easter morning for a dramatic production of "A Tale of Two Beams", written by Lance Wright. Our story begins with Creation and concludes with the powerful resurrection of Jesus. Through story, song and drama, a heartfelt sermon comes to life! The youth, and Chancel Choir are working hard to make the music memorable!

Ryerson United Church Camp

Summer 2018 is coming! Are you looking for a great United Church summer camp to send your children and grandchildren to? Or maybe even you'd like to attend yourself?

Ryerson Camp has weeks for ALL ages. Be sure to check out the website at <u>www.ryersoncamp.ca</u> for more information. Perhaps you're not the 'camping' type person—no worries! There are still ways to support the camp through donations, supplies,

labour (painting, fixing buildings, clearing trees, etc.) and more. We are excited that this year

there will be even MORE St. John's people heading off to the shores of Lake Erie for various weeks of the summer. Stayed tuned for more details in the next few weeks. If you'd like to offer your support in anyway please see the Wish List of items that are located on the Family Ministries board.



The long awaited photo directories have arrived and are ready for pickup!

If you or your family had their picture taken in 2016 for the photo-directory, you can pick up your copy after church for the next few Sundays from Cindy, or from Jennifer in the church office during our usual office hours. There are a number of extra copies of the directory available – if you did not have your portrait taken for the publication and would like to buy one, the cost is only \$10.



Worship

Sunday March 25, Palm Sunday 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Psalm 118, Mark 11:1-11

Thursday March 29, Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Rev. Sheila Murray **Communion** Readings and Reflective Taizé music

Friday March 30, Good Friday 10:00 am at Maple Grove United Liturgy of the Cross

Sunday April 1, Easter Sunday Communion - intinction 10:30 am A tale of Two Beams

Sunday April 8 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Acts 4:32-45, John 20: 19-31

Sunday April 15 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Psalm 4, Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday April 22-Baptism 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Psalm 23, John 10: 11-18

Sunday April 29 10:30 am Kim Belanger

Sunday May 6 - Baptism 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Psalm 98, John 15: 9-17

Sunday May 13-Baptism 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Psalm 1, John 17: 6-19 Christian Family Breakfast, 9:00am

Sunday May 20-the day of Pentecost 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Acts 2: 1-21, John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 Communion

Sunday May 27 10:30 am Kim Belanger

Sunday June 3 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Psalm 139, Mark 2: 23-3:6

Sunday June 10 - Baptism 10:30 am Rev. Sheila Murray Psalm 130, Mark 3: 20-35

Weekly at St. John's

Tuesday: Prayer Group, Terry Chapel 10:00am

Thursday: Henderson Bell Choir practice: 5:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal: 7:30pm Youth Group: 7:30pm

Faith and Fellowship

Breakfast At Dawn: Friday mornings 7:00am April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18 and June 1

Women's Fellowship Group: Wednesday afternoons at 1:30pm April 4, May 2, June 6

Community Communion: Delmanor: April 24, May 22, June 26, 2.30pm Churchill Place: April 26, May 24, June 28, 1.30pm Trafalgar Lodge: April 26, May 24, June 28, 2.30pm

Food and Fellowship

A+ Dinner - Wednesday April 11, Guest Speaker: Rev. Jim Campbell "1945 War & Peace, Hot & Cold" June 13 6:00pm

Christian Family Breakfast - May 13, 9:00am

Community Dinner- Friday May 18, 6:00pm, tickets in advance or at the door.

Soup Lunch - June 3, following worship

Events

Euchre Tuesdays - April 10, May 8, June 12, 7:30pm Board Meetings - March 28 & May 23, 7:30pm Oakville Chamber Orchestra - May 5, 7:30pm Royal Tea - May 6, 3:00pm Annual Rummage & Plant Sale - May 26, 8:30am Golf Tournament - June 15, 12:00pm St John's www.stjohnsunited.ca

EVENTS upcoming

Annual Rummage and Plant Sale: Coming up soon on Saturday, May 26th. Keep us in mind as you embark on your spring cleaning. We will accept your donations of gently used home and garden decor items, small electronics and appliances in working condition, clothing and shoes in good repair, housewares, dishes, china and collectibles. We will also gladly accept your divided perennial plants. Your donations can be brought to the church after May 19. We also will need your help, if you would be willing to sort, price, and set up on May 25, or work the day of the sale we will be asking for volunteers to sign up in the first week of May. Please speak to either Shirley Krug or Cindy McCuaig.



Bookmark in your browser **www.stjohnsunited.ca**, and look for regular updates on events, worship services, links to recent sermons, readings and reflections. There is also an on-line calendar feature that will help you keep track of what's going on! We are also on Facebook – like us at **stjohnsunitedchurchoakville**.

262 Randall Street (at Dunn), downtown Oakville L6J 1P9 Reverend Sheila Murray - sheila@stjohnsunited.ca Kim Belanger, DLM - kim@stjohnsunited.ca Svetlana Kotliarenko, Director of Music - svetlana@stjohnsunited.ca Jennifer Bath, Administrator - office@stjohnsunited.ca Ken Plante, Custodian