

THE mini RAINBOW

St. George's Anglican Church, New Hamburg ON
September 2013

OFFICE TELEPHONE: 519-662-3450 EMAIL: SGAC@STGEORGESNEWHAMBURG.COM

St. George's: More than just a building

We hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable summer shared with family and friends and filled with many blessings. While the rhythm of church life tends to slow down in the summer, there have been some notable happenings at St. George's over the past two months. In July, the leaking roofs covering the west side of the church and the vestibule between the church and the parish hall were replaced. Work also began on the kitchen in the parish house, with the stripping of several coats of old wallpaper. In August, we welcomed a number of the Jamaican farm workers employed by Pfenning's Organic Farm for an evening of pizza and music. Some members of Trinity Lutheran were also present, and everyone had a good time as we conversed, ate, and sang together.

As we move into fall, we look forward to seeing you as St. George's will be hosting a number of important events in addition to resuming regular activities. Please take time to read about upcoming services and other events contained in this brief newsletter.

Following discussion at parish council, it has been decided that we will no longer have an 8:30 a.m. Sunday service and that our main service will return to 10:30 a.m. beginning September 8. There will also be a monthly service at Nithview to which everyone is welcome.

Sunday school starts on September 15 with an exciting new curriculum featuring stories, music and crafts designed for children from two to 12 years of age. We hope that young families will take advantage of this opportunity to engage in a meaningful Christian education experience.

Fun for All Ages!

Faith, Food & Fun @5

Trinity Lutheran Church
Saturday, September 14
5pm.

Crafts, Games, Supper &
Eucharist

Over the next two months we will have many important opportunities to welcome friends and family into our midst. They include *Doors Open* on Saturday, September 21 at both St. George's and St. James' Wilmot. These events will allow us to showcase the history of our two architecturally important churches

Helping Those In Need

St. George's Donations to the WFRC
Food Bank

January – July 2013
777 lbs. of food

Keep it coming!



Good News & A Great Opportunity to Give!

The church roof no longer leaks!
We have a new roof on one half of
the church.

\$5,776.00 or 60% of the cost of the
roof has already been raised

You still have time to contribute!
Your donation will be of enormous
help to the parish at this critical time

In Memoriam gifts will be
acknowledged on a special plaque.



Many thanks to all of those who have
already donated!

and their importance to local history. September 22 is *Bring a Friend to Church Sunday* and there will be a parish barbecue following the 10:30 a.m. service. It is a well-known fact that people are more likely to attend church if they are personally invited, so please reach out to family and friends with a warm invitation. At last January's vestry meeting our parish endorsed a plan to recruit at least five new families each year – a successful *Bring a Friend to Church Sunday* can help us accomplish this goal.

Another chance for us to reach out to others and invite them to join us occurs on September 28 when we will be holding a *Blessing of the Animals Service*. Everyone is invited to bring their pets, large and small, to this event for a special blessing by Reverend Margaret. The blessing of animals is an 800 year-old tradition commemorating the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4), the patron saint of animals and the environment who considered all living things to be God's special creatures.

Two other notable events occur in October. We will be celebrating **Harvest**

Thanksgiving at St. James' on October 6 and our **175th Anniversary Dinner, Walk through History and Silent Auction** at the Wilmot Recreation Complex on October 19. We have invited the Lieutenant Governor and various local dignitaries to join us for the anniversary dinner and we hope it will be a gala evening. Please mark these dates on your calendar and show your support by inviting family and friends to attend. We are looking for items for the silent auction and volunteer models (children, women and men) to show off some wonderful vintage clothing we will be highlighting that evening. Please contact us if you are able to help out.

Your rector, parish council and other volunteers have been very busy planning these events and we have an exciting two months before us. However, your support is vital to the success of St. George's. We need your presence in our pews and at our events. As you will see from the Treasurer's Report on the next page, our financial situation is critical right now. We need your financial commitment so that we can continue to do God's work in Wilmot Township and beyond long after our 175th anniversary celebrations are over.

- Kathy Richmond-Cox, Rector's Warden
- Gail Cuthbert Brandt, People's Warden

Bring a Friend to Church Sunday & Barbeque

September 22 following the 10:30 service

Menu
 Spiritual Renewal
 Good Fellowship
 Great Food



175th Anniversary Gala

October 19, 2013

Wilmot Recreation Complex

6:00pm	Reception
	Silent Auction Opens
6:30pm	Dinner
7:30pm	Fashion & Musical Walk Through History
Tickets	Children 1-10 yrs free Children 11-12 yrs \$10 Teens & Adults \$25 Family* \$60

*parents and their children under the age of 18, living at the same address

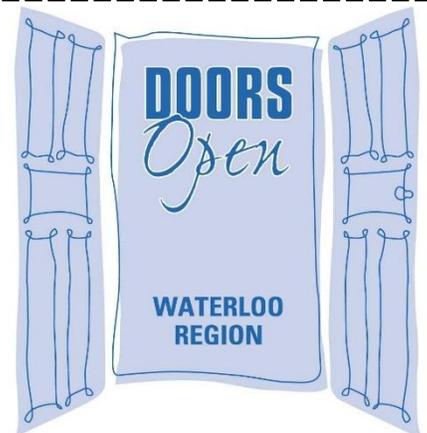
Come Celebrate our History!

Saturday, September 21st

St. James: 10am – 5pm

St. George's: noon – 5pm

For more information contact
 Carol Massel: 519-662-1803 (St. James')
 Bob Kostash: 519-662-4754 (St. George's)





St. George's Church Finances – Help Needed

Gail Kostash, Treasurer

In June of 2012 St. George's began with great pleasure a new phase of our history. We undertook the challenge of becoming a worshipping community with the Rev. Margaret Walker as our priest on a 75% basis. For many years we had shared our priest with Christ Church, Ayr, on a 50% basis.

At the same time as we faced the financial challenges of carrying a 25% increase in the cost of a priest, we were also compelled to deal with the aging structures of our church and parish house. In 2012 a new roof was put on the parish house, and the second half of the parish hall and the vestibule were roofed. By the end of 2012 we realized that the church roof desperately required help. Shingles falling onto the walkway below were a hazard and the roof starting to leak made the necessity very clear. In July 2013, the most seriously damaged half of the church roof was redone.

What do your contributions pay for?

- Mission, Ministry and Outreach
- Payroll for priest, secretary, organist, cleaning
- Additional clergy costs are travel (priests visit the sick, take home communion, are available at the church for meetings, counseling, etc.), cell phone and supply clergy.
- Utility bills – water, hydro, gas for both church and parish house.
- Taxes
- Repairs and maintenance of buildings
- Grounds maintenance – snow clearing, lawn cutting etc.
- Christian education, both children and adult.
- Diocesan Apportionment
- Representation, both clergy and lay, at year Synod of our Diocese of Huron.
- Office expenses including photocopier, paper, telephone, internet.
- Insurance on our buildings and contents.
- Advertising, Special events and bank charges.

What income do we have?

Sunday offerings
Building fund (This year it covers the church roof)
Apartment and Hall rental
General Fundraising (\$5,082 by end of July)
ACW donation
Grocery Cards (\$1,350 by end of July)
HST rebate

Here's Your Chance!

Ever wonder what it would be like to be a supermodel?
You can find out!

Become a Volunteer Model
for St. George's Gala, Oct 19th.

Equal opportunities to shine for
children, women, and men!

Contact:

Gail Cuthbert Brandt
(519-684-7060) or
Kathy Richmond-Cox
(519-634-5764)



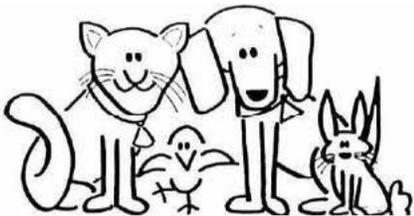
To maintain our current level of ministry costs about \$9,900 per month, and we would like to be able to reach out to more people. From Jan. to May we received an average monthly income of \$8,611. In June and July our income rose a bit thanks to building fund donations. The cost of the roofing has been paid, but 40% of the cost has come from money needed for our regular ministry and bills.

We knew that during this period of growth we would need to monitor the expenses and income closely to ensure that we continue to pay our bills in a timely manner.

As 2013 began and we had to present a deficit budget, it was obvious that we would have to take out some type of bank loan to see us through. The application has been submitted.

Our hope since June, 2012, is that St. George's will grow as it meets the needs of our expanding community. However, growth takes time. By June of 2014 the Diocese will re-assess our current situation with a 75% priest. By then, with God's help, we will be able to demonstrate that we can continue with a priest who has more time to meet the needs of our community.

Please prayerfully consider a contribution, one-time or on-going, to paying for the roof or the growth of outreach and ministry to our community.



Calling All Creatures, Great & Small!

**Blessing of the Animals
Saturday, September 28, 3pm**

St. George's Grounds or Parish Hall
(depending on weather)

Please bring all animals on leash or in a cage as appropriate

Don't Forget!

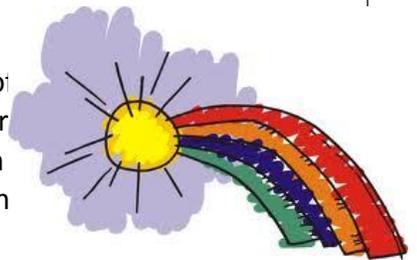


Fall Sunday Service Times

10:30am	Holy Communion with Choir, Sunday School, Nursery, Coffee Hour
	2 nd Sunday: Healing Service
	4 th Sunday: Family Service
1:30pm	3 rd Sunday: Nithview Service

PARISH MILESTONES

We are happy to announce the birth of son of Andrea Brandt and Andrew Cair be baptized at the 10:30am service on everyone is invited to attend the lunch



We also note with sadness the passing of Audrey Brown, a member of our parish, on July 27th following a lengthy illness. Audrey's funeral and funeral reception were held at St. George's on August 1st. We extend our deepest condolences to Audrey's daughters, Cynthia and Teresa, and to her sister-in-law Dorothy Brown and their families.

We wish all the very best to Sarah Stagat as she sets out on her post-secondary education. Sarah has been accepted into the dental hygiene program at Georgian College in Barrie.



A Message from Reverend Margaret

All the Good You Can

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

- *Unknown (attributed to John Wesley)*

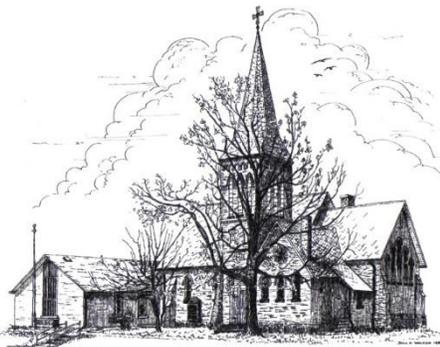
Travelling can be really good for bringing life into perspective. This summer Glenn and I drove across Canada to Vancouver stopping to visit many sights along the way. God has been so generous; we live in a truly beautiful and awe-inspiring country.

I read that only 8% of the world population has a car and therefore the ability to make this sort of trip emphasizes how fortunate I am; to many people around the world I am extraordinarily rich. Visiting some of the historical sites such as the North West Mounted Police post at Fort Walsh (circa 1878-83) and Bar U Ranch (operating 1882-1950) and Bellevue Coal Mine (operating 1903-1961) is a chance to appreciate lifestyles that no longer exist in Canada.

It is a stark contrast to the advertising that surrounds us and makes us so aware of all that we lack, rather than realizing all that we have. Advertising encourages us to be like the farmer who built bigger barns to store all his possessions (Luke 12:16-21). From the time of the first disciples being Christian has been counter-cultural, turning our understanding of the world upside down. Jesus said that the last will be first and the meek shall inherit the earth. By responding to God's generosity with generosity money can become our servant rather than our master.

As the new school year starts I invite you to prayerfully consider God's generosity in your life.

In the peace of Christ,
Margaret +



Upcoming Events

Sun. Sept 8 – Regular Sunday Service resumes at 10:30am weekly.

Sun. Sept 8 – Healing Service, 10:30am.

Tues. Sept 10 – Parish Council Meeting, Parish House 7:30pm.

Sat. Sept 14 – Faith, Food & Fun @5, 5pm Trinity Lutheran Church, 23 Church St.

Sun. Sept 15 – Sunday School begins, Service of Holy Baptism, 10:30am.

Sat. Sept 21 – Doors Open Waterloo Region
St. George's noon – 5pm
St. James 10am-5pm.

Sun. Sept 22 – Bring a Friend to Church Sunday & BBQ, 10:30am.

Sat. Sept 28 – Blessing of the Animals Service, 3pm.

A Peek Ahead to October...

Sun. Oct 6 – Harvest Thanksgiving Service, St. James

Sat. Oct 19 – 175th Anniversary Dinner, Walk through History, and Silent Auction, Wilmot Recreation Centre, 6pm.