

# CONTACT

Christ's Church Cathedral | Fall 2021



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## IN THIS ISSUE

- 4 [TIM TALKS](#)
- 6 [MUSIC MINISTRY 101.2](#)
- 10 [NEWS AND NOTES](#)
- 14 [WARDEN'S WORLD](#)
- 16 [STEWARDSHIP](#)
- 17 [MEET ROB MILLER](#)
- 20 [PRAYING COMMUNITY](#)
- 21 [INTRODUCING Dr. Eduardo Farias](#)
- 22 [I AM A CHORAL SINGER](#)
- 24 [FROM THE ARCHIVES](#)
- 26 [3...2...1...CONTACT Kim & Michael Johnston](#)
- 28 [ARCHITECTS AND BUILDING OF THE CATHEDRAL](#)
- 31 [FAITH FORMATION GROUP](#)
- 32 [LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION OF CCC](#)
- 34 [IN MEMORIUM Trudy Meredith](#)
- 35 [FINANCIAL REPORT](#)

PROFESSOR  
NOAH'S  
SPACESHIP



p. 12

RETURN TO  
CHURCH



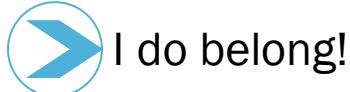
p. 13 & 15

BACK TO  
SCHOOL



p. 23,25,30

# RETURN TO CHURCH



by Paula Esteves



I was a young teenager when I confidently announced to my parents my decision to no longer accompany them to church on Sundays. That did not go over well! So, I obediently carried on for several more years but eventually, as a young adult, gave up the practice of attending regular services.

Returning to church did not happen until early 2003 when I started coming to Christ's Church Cathedral. Many parishioners as well as the clergy were both friendly and welcoming. I, on the other hand, was wary. It had been a very long time...I was out of practice. Was I being a fraud? Why was I bothering? Did I belong?

I'm not certain that I've answered all those early doubts, but over the last 18 years or so, I have found my reasons. Both the services and the sermons frequently left me with a sense of peace, adding to my moral compass, broadening my sense of social justice, and showing me a path forward. I realized that the sermons in particular helped me lead a more meaningful life and that I needed them. I made my way through the work week with a more profound sense of responsibility to those with whom I came in contact.

I would sum-up my return to church in 2003 as dramatic and daunting, but well worthwhile.

Here I am again, in 2021 returning to church after a hiatus (only briefly interrupted in the Fall of 2020) due to COVID.

I have attended 2 in-person services. I consider the precautions that we are asked to take as necessary

not only for me to feel safe, but to also ensure that I do my part in keeping others safe.

I was delighted to finally meet Dean Tim and to be back in a familiar place with friends all around me. On both Sundays, I felt engaged throughout the services and the sermons much more so than the online experience. The music was as wonderful as ever, although I know the lack of congregational participation is painful for many. (Less so for me—by not singing, I feel I'm being kind to those around me.)

So, why is it that when I leave, I am sad...teary eyed even! Hmm...I think it's because being with others yet not able to shake hands, hug a friend, kiss a cheek, or even see their faces reminds me of my aloneness and lack of meaningful connection. I arrive alone, I sit alone, and I leave alone. We don't yet have the opportunity to be a full community in that sacred place.

Would I rather not have in-person services? Absolutely not. It is, however, a reminder of how much further we have to go and of how we need to be patient and how we need to value and be grateful for the bits of progress we are making as we journey through this pandemic together.

So...how do I sum up my return to church in 2021? Less daunting, more joyful, definitely emotional, and with the certainty that I do belong!

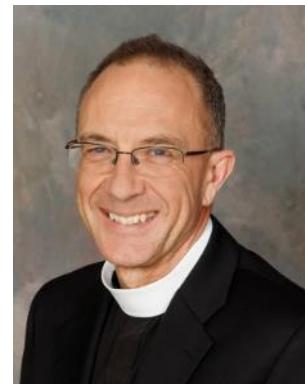
Happy Thanksgiving to all and let's celebrate the bits of progress we're making together! Thanks be to God. ■

## VALUING



Precious moments

by Tim Dobbin ♫



*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you* (2 Thess. 5.16-18).

What a joy it has been to have met so many of you in person at long last at our Sunday liturgies. It feels amazing. Yes, our first identity is that we are God's beloved children – we belong to God. At the same time, we belong *with* each other. Perhaps some of the emotion we are experiencing in being back together, is that we are beginning to reclaim more of our Christian identity – those who in belonging to God belong *with* each other.

Even as we continue to live the deep uncertainty of a pandemic, the real anxiety associated with climate-related crises, the growing frustration of widening economic disparity, God's reassurance in Christ through the Spirit to each of us is that we are not, and never will be alone. 'And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age' the risen Jesus reassures his companions at the conclusion of Matthew's Gospel (28.20). It is Christ's resurrected presence at the heart of our life together which empowers each of us, in spite of all that is happening around us, to live and share God's life of peace and justice right where we find ourselves. And believe me, it is life that those around us are desperate to receive.

One of our first responses to God's presence with us is simply to say thanks – thanks not only for the length and breadth and height and depth of the love in which you and I are enfolded; thanks too for the multifariness of ways in which God chooses to reveal that same love for each of us throughout the course of our days.

A friend loaned Lynn *The Book of Awesome* by

Neil Pasricha. It has appeared on all sorts of best-seller lists since it was published in 2011. The book evolved from a tiny website called *1000 Awesome Things*, on which the author began to catalogue those small joys we often overlook: snow days, popping bubble wrap, the smell of rain on a hot sidewalk, moving clothes from the washer to the dryer without dropping anything, waking up and realizing it is Saturday, a cashier opening up a new checkout lane at the grocery store... I think that its appeal lies in giving a big thumbs up to those little moments in our lives which we can too easily take for granted.

As Christians, we not only recognize and value those precious moments in our lives, as insignificant as they might appear, we see in them the hand of the One who gives us those moments, and indeed gifts us our very lives. *Tout est grace* wrote St. Therese of Lisieux – 'everything is gift.' Because everything is gift, one of the dominant chords in our faith life is gratitude – hearty and unrestrained thanks for all that we have been so freely given that we in turn might share with others.

We have so much for which to give thanks in our life together at the Cathedral as we gather to hear God's Word spoken to us, to receive God's presence in the sacraments and to carry out by God's grace the particular ministry and mission God has entrusted to us. Over the coming months we will be taking time to reflect on and name all those little things that make our life together 'awesome' as we get to know each other. As our trust in each other deepens, we will listen carefully together for the gentle beckoning of God's Spirit as we enter this exciting new chapter in the life of the Cathedral.

(Continued on bottom of page 5)

# CONGRATULATIONS!



The Rev. Dr. Rob Jones



*Photos courtesy of Janina Vanderpost, Rob Jones, and The Diocese of Niagara*

The Rev. Dr. Rob Jones was ordained on September 26, 2021. The full service is available on the Anglican Diocese of Niagara [YouTube](#) page.

What's next for Deacon Rob? We are so fortunate and grateful that Deacon Rob has been appointed Assistant Curate at the Cathedral effective October 1, 2021. Please refer to [Bishop Susan Bell's letter](#) to the congregation of Christ's Church Cathedral for details of his appointment.

*(Tim Talks Continued from page 4)*

It was Meister Eckhart a Christian mystic who wrote back in the thirteenth century that if the only prayer we ever offered in our entire lives was ‘thank you,’ then that would be enough. As we move into a time when we give thanks as a nation, may we make it our intention to watch for the countless ways in which God is blessing us here at

the Cathedral and in our own lives, and as St Paul enjoins us, to give thanks in all circumstances.

We are just delighted to be here and wish you all a truly blessed Thanksgiving. ■

*Tim, Lynn, Sophie, and Felicity*

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

# MISSIONAL



## Ideas for the future

by Michael Bloss



*Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly  
as you teach and admonish one another  
with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit,  
singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.      Colossians 3: 16*

These words from Paul's letter to the church in Colossae frames perfectly the work of those leading the music of the church. Through gesture, word, liturgy, and music, they bring expression to the mission and vision of a cathedral such as ours.

This summer marks the start of my 10<sup>th</sup> year serving as Director of Music with this community of faith. It was a summer in which I embarked on an important discernment process so that I could be supportive and refreshed desiring to settle into ministry with my new clergy colleague, Dean Tim Dobbin. Call it Music Ministry 101.2. I'd like to share some of the fruit of this discernment time in the form of self-posed questions and answers.

***Christ's Church Cathedral continues as both the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Niagara and as a Parish Church. How can this place be the bearer of The Good News in ministry and leadership? What might your role be in that offering?***

**MB:** In a way I see myself as a bit of a Theologian's musician complementing Tim as the Musician's Theologian. He and I inhabit both worlds *in collegiam* and thus our collaborative work is very inter-related.

Congregational and choral music supported by various instrumental forces has been and continues to be an integral part of the church's liturgy over a lengthy history. The primary purpose of music in the liturgy is to invite participation by the whole community. It is **not** performance. As nice as it is, applause at the end of the organ postlude therefore would not support this philosophy. The organ for example supports the community's singing but it is not the centre of the action. In many ways, it serves as background, providing context to the drama of the Word. The choir **is** an integral part of the community and needs to be seen as part of the community and not separated from it.

I see my role in our Cathedral practice as valuing both contemporary and traditional styles, placing a high value on excellence in choral music in witnessing to the repertoire of the Anglican Choral Tradition. I affirm Christ's Church expectation of the integration of music within the liturgy. At the same time, this expectation includes congregational singing through all the changing scenes of life. This, by the way, is also what attracts so many people to visit the Cathedral during *Artcrawl* and *Supercrawl*. As a leader of the congregation's song at the organ, I see my role as an animator—bringing to life the word painting in the text and inviting an emotional com-

*(Continued on page 7)*

mitment to the text on the part of the congregational and choral singers.

***As you collaborate on the planning of the liturgy and contemplate its musical components, is there a particular language which you feel is important to emphasize inside and outside the Cathedral?***

**MB:** In terms of music in liturgy, language can be used in two contexts, the first being the actual spoken or sung language we use. The second is more ephemeral. The linguistic sound of what we do musically must embody the architecture of the Cathedral and, in so doing, fill and embrace the shape, dimension, and scale of the room.

In the first case, I would honour the Cathedral's practice in the use of inclusive language in everything we sing. For example, this means the use of "God" instead of "Lord", or referring to God in non-gender specific pronouns, refraining from triumphalism and coloniality. Remember that the Hebrew Bible only ever referred to God in the second person singular, "You". In choosing congregational and choral music, I make every effort to find a balance of images in references to God. In the Cathedral's hymnody, our practice at Christ's Church respects the poetry from the past, not altering words to the point of loss of integrity. But I also seek to employ language found in newer hymns which avoid exclusivity, but which is also able to give comment and perspective on the questions of faith and spirituality facing Christians today.

In the second case, there is a grandeur of Christ's Church Nave which a broad and full organ sound including brass, tympani, and full-throated choir can fill. Add a congregation singing with a depth reflecting Christian experience and you invite spiritual transformation. It is also important to remember that each liturgical season (e.g., Advent, Lent, Epiphanytide, etc.) has its own "sound" where penitential seasons are more restrained as compared to the "all-out" fanfares of Eastertide and the season of Pentecost.

***So, these are all great concepts, but how does this translate into ministry?***

**MB:** Speaking of spiritual transformation, I had such an experience myself at a time where I found myself at a crossroads as to whether to pursue performance or church work. This took place in the early 1990's in Glasgow of all places. As I was singing a hymn as a member of the congregation (always different than when you are "on" playing a service), a certain moment in a hymn (based on Isaiah 61:1) caught me by surprise. You may recall this text:

*"The Spirit of our God  
has taken control of me!  
Our God has chosen and sent me  
to tell the oppressed  
the good news,  
to heal the broken-hearted,  
and to announce freedom  
for prisoners and captives (CEV)*

This moment revealed to me that I had a calling to ministry. I am sure many of you could point to a similar experience. I feel like my music ministry is called to provide moments such as these to people who come to the Cathedral for worship. I am called to offer within both senses of the "language" of music and text in our liturgy, moments like this which can allow the Spirit to complete a work in someone needing direction or solace in

(Continued from page 7)

their life at that particular moment.

***So, taking this ministry idea one step further, what do you feel called to lead Christ's Church Cathedral to over the next 3-5 years?***

**MB:** In my view, the mission before us at Christ's Church Cathedral comes down to how we Open our Doors and Reach out into the Community around us. Besides the ministry we conduct for our own parish community, given our location in the downtown of Hamilton, our Cathedral practice honours the public interest in and access to the body of the church. Over the next 3-5 years I envision opportunities for the city as well to engage with the spiritual. Imagine if you would the name of "Christ's Church Cathedral" becoming associated with lively, inviting, and integral experiences making a difference in people's lives every time they enter the Cathedral either for a short visit, a longer concert or in search of the simplicity of silence.

Here then are a few ideas of how our Cathedral community can become known as The City Church:

- Weekly noon recitals which follow or precede a midday eucharist
- Sunday afternoon Doors Open loosely based on an *Artcrawl* concept including Cathedral Café, Afternoon Music preceding Choral Evensongs, Compline, and Taizé experiences.
- "Night Church" combining quiet meditation with music performance curated by spiritual reflection
- A yearly Bach Festival featuring organ, choral, and orchestral performances.
- Lent retreats together with the laying out of a portable labyrinth
- Hosting musical events for singers and instrumentalists including junior choir festivals and hymn festivals inviting our neighbouring parishes to join in.
- Establishment of the Cathedral Choir School – an after-school ministry for kids in the near and far community to enjoy community, music, and camaraderie leading to involvement in the Cathedral's music program and creating a nodal point in the neighbouring community.

Some of these things will require fundraising and substantial relationship building within and outside the Cathedral, but I am ready for those tasks and requirements.

***It is said that an image is worth a thousand words. Do you have an image of what our Cathedral's mission could look like?***

The  
Church is  
Worship  
Music  
Café  
Literature  
Art



THE  
CITY  
CHURCH

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

**MB:** I have a particular draw to this image collage. The images are from the *Johanniskirche* (St. John's Church) in Düsseldorf, Germany. This Lutheran church has positioned itself as a City Church offering innovative yet orthodox liturgy in the context of a robust outreach ministry working out of and through a Café within.

I am taken by the entrance to the church which this photo shows from the perspective of looking out from the front door area. What do you see? No fences, no stairs, and no signs other than the one in the centre of the photo. It simply states "The Church Is: Worship, Music, Café, Literature, Art." A worship space of simplicity and clean lines with a focus on the altar and a café where people meet, eat, and have conversation surrounded by things to read, posters, and brochures about the programs of the church. Visit [Johanneskirche Stadtkirche Düsseldorf - Aktuelles](http://Johanneskirche-Stadtkirche-Duesseldorf-Aktuelles) to see more about this amazing parish. In many ways, I see Christ's Church Cathedral developing its outreach as a nodal point for faith, spirituality and the arts in Hamilton.

I conclude with these words by John Powell:

*"You have a unique message to deliver,*

*A unique song to sing,*

*A unique act of love to bestow.*

*This message, this song, and this act of love have been entrusted exclusively  
to the one and only you." ■*



Congratulations!



**Noah Frederick Thomas**

Born on August 30, 2021 at St. Joseph's Hospital, Hamilton

Parents: Nicole & Josh Thomas

Grandparents: Karen & Michael Methot

Great Grandmother: Lillian Dougherty



## NOTES & NEWS FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

by Tim Dobbin ♣

I write this after our return to in-person worship on Sunday Sept 12. What a joy it was to meet so many of you for the first time physically and simply to be together in worship. Yes, we first belong to God; we also belong with each other. It was heartening to see how many of you were clearly moved to be reconnecting with one another and to be back in our beloved space. Lynn, Sophie, Felicity, and I are so deeply grateful for the warmth and graciousness of your welcome. God willing, we look forward to a long and fruitful shared ministry with you.

With Sunday liturgy in mind, I wish to thank on your behalf Kerry Lubrick and the members of the Re-opening Working Group who have overseen the process of our returning safely to in-person worship. As you can imagine, there is no shortage of 'I's to dot and 't's to cross. That our re-entry has been so smooth is in large part due to their careful attention to detail. The Brass Monkeys convened in September and spent half a day attending to all the brass; the Altar Guild have been very busy shining the silver back into shape after our months-long hiatus. These are often overlooked and undervalued ministries. Please know how much we appreciate your hard work to make the Cathedral hardware look as good as it does.

I was deeply grateful for a half-day on retreat with Michael Bloss earlier in September. We spent time in a prayer shelter at Crieff Hills where we prayed and sought God's leading for the shaping of our liturgical and musical life. You can read the fruit of our time together in the following pages. Michael has already made a presentation to Corporation. I am looking forward to Michael's sharing these proposed directions with the parish during our guided conversations later in the Fall with Canon Christyn Perkins. As I have mentioned earlier,

our hope is that Canon Christyn will be facilitating a series of gatherings to help us discern the priorities for our life together which God is laying on our hearts. My prayer is that we have a brief document by Easter next year which will guide the future direction of our mission and ministry.

I am trusting that by the time you read this article, Rob Jones will be The Reverend Dr. Rob Jones, Parish Deacon. Rev. Rob has made a significant contribution to the life of the Cathedral across the last six years, not the least of which has been serving as a warden these past two. We rejoice in God's call on his life to ordained ministry. I am just delighted that Bishop Susan has appointed Rob to a one-year half-time curacy with us beginning Oct 1. Rob will continue to focus on offering leadership to the Cathedral Community of Prayer and our Faith Formation Team. He will also be assisting us with developing our online presence. You will also see him assuming the Deacon's role at our liturgies.

Rev. Rob is not the only addition to our ministry team. Bishop Susan has placed Rob Miller with us for a one-year internship. Rob Miller is gifted, passionate, and caring. He has a deep heart for those on the margins and is well-connected with the Jamesville neighbourhood. He leads the St. Luke's Community who are resident in the former St. Luke's rectory and is a manager at Café 541. Rob M. will assist the Outreach Working Group and the Faith Formation Team, as well as supporting our Sunday worship. We are blessed beyond measure to have both Robs with us for the coming year.

I made mention of the gift of Eduardo and Dani Farias in the last edition of the Contact. Well, both

(Continued on page 11)

Eduardo and Dani are a gift who simply keeps on giving. And I say Eduardo and Dani, even though Eduardo is our ‘official’ livestreaming coordinator, because Dani is almost always at Eduardo’s side any time recording or livestreaming happens. They are both highly competent. Their competence extends not only to the management of audio and video equipment; they both have done a stellar job of redeveloping our website – no small task. We were able to offer Eduardo a short-term summer contract position after their original summer employment came to an abrupt end. What they both have achieved in six weeks (especially given that we have been talking about updating our website for some years, I understand) is simply astonishing. My hope is that by the time you are reading this, the new website will be live (our proof-readers are combing through it as I write). Please take time to check it out and we would welcome any feedback. Again, our heartfelt thanks to both Eduardo and Dani for their exceptional work.

One of the most attractive traits for me in our life together is the way in which a number of you are so invested in the ministry and mission of the Cathedral. At the risk of exercising your patience, may I acknowledge other various teams (in no particular order) who are working hard on our behalf in a number of significant areas in our life.

The Cathedral Community of Prayer headed up by Rev. Rob Jones meet weekly for Morning Prayer and are planning to host a monthly contemplative service. It is exciting for me to see these young leaders worshipping and interceding on our behalf.

Our dedicated Stewardship Team led by Elizabeth Wensley and Wendy Newman are meeting regularly to help us build on our tradition of generosity at the Cathedral. They are currently working on a year-round plan involving different initiatives to support the level of ministry and mission we currently enjoy. My hope and prayer is that together by God’s grace we can grow what we offer. Believe me, there is a world out there desperate to receive what we offer. I would ask you please to give your close attention to whatever the team may ask of us.

The Faith Formation Team under Rev. Rob’s steady guidance is devising a year-round education programme with what I am hoping will be something for everyone. Both Robs are planning to offer a

weekly lectionary study; we hope to continue with Sermon Speak depending on interest; and we are working on a monthly Fireside Chat beginning in November with Janis Monture, Executive Director of the Woodland Cultural Centre

Our Outreach Working Group with Brian Kreps and David Savage at the helm has picked up the ball and run with it, thanks in part to the contributions of our summer student, Samantha Gallagher, hired to conduct social survey research in the Jamesville neighbourhood. Whilst the initial impetus revolved around use of the space vacated by the Childcare Centre, the project has expanded to building relationships with various stakeholders in our area. We are using Samantha’s time with us to get a better handle on who is doing what in Jamesville in terms of serving the needs of the vulnerable. Our thanks too are due to David Montgomery who has been assisting Samantha and conducting a number of interviews. Our hope and prayer is that the Holy Spirit may not only help us to identify an unmet need which we can respond to, but also help us identify potential partners with whom we could share the ministry.

The Technology Working Group has had its hands full this year. We needed to move quickly to facilitate livestreaming in the spring with Fr. Dan’s departure. I am delighted with the quality of our online screening. Eduardo and Dani have helped us focus on our website in the past three months. Our focus will now shift to promoting our digital presence through various social media platforms. We will also explore how we can best engage with our growing online congregation.

I remain so thankful for the support of Alison Meredith, Canon Sharyn, and Bishop Ralph in responding to the pastoral concerns of our community. We continue to meet monthly to review the needs and to discern carefully how we can best respond.

Finally, and by no means least, I acknowledge with deep gratitude on your behalf the dedication and commitment of our Corporation. David Savage, Janina Vanderpost, Kerry Lubrick, Wendy Newman (a wonderful addition to our team), and Canon J. consistently go above and beyond in attending to the countless issues and decisions involved in running a Cathedral. God bless you all.

Please know how truly grateful we are as a family to be sharing this journey with you. A blessed Thanksgiving to you all. ■

## CHERISH THE EARTH

 It is fragile

by Sharyn Hall ♦



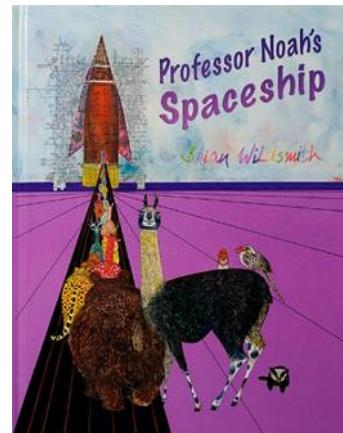
In recent weeks and months, we have had a wake-up call that climate change is becoming a climate crisis. As the whole world struggles to overcome a pervasive pandemic, millions of people have been threatened by raging wildfires, destructive winds, and torrents of flood waters. As one meteorologist commented, ‘we have experienced severe storms before, but the intensity of recent disasters far exceeds previous records.’

Concerns over climate change have been stated often. Forty years ago, scientists such as David Suzuki, were warning governments that steps must be taken to diminish the effects of climate change on the natural world and human societies. Unfortunately, only some people paid attention, but sometimes those people used creative ways to make the point.

In 1980, a British painter and illustrator of children’s picture books, published a delightful book entitled, *Professor Noah’s Spaceship*. Brian Wildsmith was celebrated in his lifetime as an artist, but perhaps his greatest gift to future generations was his many beautiful children’s books. With amazing detail and vibrant colours, he enlivened old fables, Biblical stories, and his own stories about the animal kingdom. In *Professor Noah’s Spaceship*, Wildsmith retells the Biblical Noah story for a space-age child.

In a brief synopsis, here is the Noah story in the age of climate change:

*Once upon a time, there was a huge forest, and all kinds of animals and birds lived happily there.*



*Then the forest began to change and slowly die. The animals became sad and frightened. They decide to ask a clever man who is building a wondrous object behind a fence. Professor Noah explains that he is building a spaceship to travel to another world where the forests will be beautiful like our forest was before pollution.*

*Soon the forests begin to burn, and Noah urges the animals to go with him. They all excitedly agree. The animals enjoy helping the robots to build the ship. When the spaceship is ready, they all go aboard and blast off into the heavenly skies, but the time-guidance fin to take them into the future was damaged on take-off. The elephant must put on a special spacesuit and make a spacewalk to pull the fin into shape.*

*For forty days and forty nights, they travelled toward their new planet. Professor Noah asks Dove to fly out and bring back a leaf from a tree. Then he tests the leaf in his computer and is surprised to discover the leaf is from planet Earth. He exclaims that they have travelled backwards through time to Earth many hundreds of years ago before it was polluted. It is a wonderful world, and we must keep it that way. Then the spaceship descends to Earth and the animals joyfully disembark for their*

*(Continued on bottom of page 13)*

# RETURN TO CHURCH

by Sue Crowe Connolly

As I drove to church it was with mixed feelings – had heard the news that morning, and a strong recommendation by Dr. Teresa Tam that because of the rise in the cases driven by the delta variant, to not gather in large groups outside of one's own bubble. Yet, I felt confident that my fellow congregants would take all care and precautions to keep us all safe...so I came...

It felt surreal to enter the building, though I have been there a few times over the past 18 months for one thing or another, but it had been a while, and there were never as many people at one time...this feeling of familiarity, yet strangeness stayed with me throughout the service.

The essence of worshipping together again was so deep and gratifying. It really was wonderful to see so many of you again and to *feel* your presence. Indeed (*am chuckling here*), it was hard to follow the protocols and not linger a bit to chat, to catch up.

Dean Tim seemed to beam with happiness and

warmth – I suspect because he too could finally be with us, in person; something for which we have all been waiting these many months.

Yet, it was different, and I suspect will remain so for some time to keep each other safe and well. We are now well experienced in the practises of wearing masks and keeping distant from those not in our bubbles, evidenced by folks carefully choosing where they sat and not too close to others.

My one heartache was only being able to hear the music (which was lovely to hear live again), or at most to hum along. However, in this I felt silenced as music and voice is so much a part of who I am and how God and I share God's love in this world. As a working voice teacher, I am constantly checking out updates on protocols on singing, with masks, and such....I will keep Michael posted, though I expect he's already on it!

So, welcome back! And know that those of you who can't yet make it in person, you are held in our hearts and prayers. ■

(Professor Noah Continued from page 12)

*beautiful new homes.*

My synopsis does not do justice to the full story or to the splendid full-page illustrations. Even the spaceship is drawn with detailed diagrams and mathematical specifications.

Although written in 1980, this space-age version of the Biblical Noah story speaks to our present day. Recently, forests have burned in many areas around the world and animals have died. Various vehicles for space travel are being developed so that people can explore and perhaps inhabit other planets. What was once science fantasy is now coming closer to futuristic possibility or perhaps necessity.

For several years, the original Noah story has been popular in secular society, perhaps because it is a story of survival. It is survival not only of the human race, but also of the natural world, which is too often taken for granted. Some people see the Noah story as God to the rescue. The flood waters recede, and Noah can follow God's plan to re-create a more perfect world, but those people ignore the beginning of the Noah story.

God causes the disastrous floods because the people have forgotten God and plundered the earth for greed and power. There are lessons to be learned in the ancient story and in Brian Wildsmith's retelling. Cherish the earth. It is fragile. Replacements may not be readily available. The earth is unlike any other planetary home. ■

# REACHING OUT

 And moving forward

by Janina Vanderpost



By the time you read this, we will have held a number of in-person services in our beautiful Cathedral. For me, our first “re-opening” service on September 12 was very emotional... just to be back in our beautiful building and see all the familiar faces again. Oh, how I had been looking forward to that and I pray with all my heart that all goes well in our province, and that we will not require any further “lockdowns.” I have missed our Cathedral family and the joyfulness of worshipping together, all the more so during these latter months compared to the initial stages of the pandemic.

Of course, by means of today’s technology, and the commitment of many dedicated souls, church services have been made available and a connection with our congregation maintained, by videotape and then livestreaming, and through zoom meetings and the telephone. We’ve even had a couple of ‘town hall’ meetings by zoom. In addition, throughout these past 18 months or so, we have continued to receive two very familiar communications – our weekly *Chronicle* and the quarterly *Contact* – providing us with prayers and inspirational pieces, personal stories, notices, alerts. I, for one, found a sense of continuity in seeing the *Chronicle* each week. We owe much gratitude to those who have given us, in one form or another, a sense of togetherness and connectedness in these isolating, disconnected times.

On September 12 many of you were introduced, for the first time in person, to our new Rector and Dean, Tim Dobbin. Dean Tim assumed this new position and attendant responsibilities under the most trying circumstances. It is hard to imagine

beginning a new job, in a new city and a new Diocese, when you can’t actually meet the people you are to work with. Tim not only brings to us a wealth of experience in ministry and pastoral care in the Anglican church, but he is also a scholar and an athlete, running and biking being two major pursuits I am aware of. We are looking forward to getting to know Tim much better as we are able to meet in person again.

From a warden’s perspective I am quite amazed at how much Dean Tim has accomplished in just a few short months. He has made efforts, through the electronic means available, to speak to each one of us to learn something of our backgrounds and hopes for the future. He has fostered a number of teams that are working diligently in several areas critical to us moving forward, from missional church and faith formation, to stewardship, to fully embracing the reality that in today’s world we need to reach people through a variety of methods, many which involve the use of technology and social media. The start up of livestreaming and the current updating of our website are just two initiatives in this direction. Of all its many downsides, the pandemic has pushed us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century far more quickly than we might otherwise have moved. Just think, if you are snowed-in on a January Sunday, or feeling unwell, you will still be able to participate in the service.

Let me take a moment here to say we are very aware that several of you do not have computers and are not connected to the internet. I want to assure you that you will not be forgotten and we will

*(Continued on bottom of page 15)*

# RETURN TO CHURCH

by Madge Passmore

After being exiled from entering the building due to the worldwide pandemic, it has been a great joy and privilege to be allowed to return to Sunday Services in person.

So much to enjoy...seeing friends, hearing music, sharing our burdens and holding them up to God with one voice. It was so good to be able to meet and greet our new Dean and to have the chance to welcome him properly. We have a great community of people and leaders in this parish church and hopefully soon we will all be able to rejoin our weekly activities such as PRAYER SHAWL KNITTING, choir practise, servers' guild, etc. I know many are anxious to get back to "normal", but we must be patient.

Some things have changed. We must sign in and

use sanitizer. We must wear our masks and keep a proper distance. The sound system has been improved and although the congregation is not supposed to sing, we can hum and sway in time with the music. We can receive one element of communion. We can relax and enjoy the beauty of this precious building, with its colourful windows and rejoice to hear familiar hymns and responses. We can pray together and wave THE PEACE.

The thing I missed most was sharing good news (and sometimes sad news) with others in the congregation.

Some folks, I know, are hesitant to return but with the many precautions in place, I feel now is the time to go forward. COME BACK TO CHURCH. YOU HAVE BEEN MISSED. ■

*(Warden's World Continued from page 14)*

ensure that communications that are available electronically are available also in paper copy (if I may digress one moment, one of my personal concerns is that, in the rush to embrace technology, governments, corporations, institutions, retailers are forgetting that, for a whole host of reasons, there will be people who are not now, and who never will be *online*).

I want to let you know that under Dean Tim's leadership, your corporation is working harmoniously with much purpose and enthusiasm. As you may be aware, we said farewell to Rob Jones in his churchwarden role as he prepares for ordination on September 26. And we have warmly welcomed Wendy Newman who has stepped into this position. We know there will be hurdles yet to clear as

we move towards "normal" times, but I am confident we can surmount what is put before us. We are very grateful for the support and commitment Bishop Susan has demonstrated towards the Cathedral and the assistance we have received from the diocesan office and Archdeacon Bill Mous.

In conclusion, I am currently reflecting on the fact that I am in my last few months as a churchwarden of this wonderful Cathedral. I have been in this position for quite a few years now although, as you well know, time does fly, and it is hard to believe it has been as long as it has. So, this is a call to the congregation to start thinking about who might want to step into this challenging yet most rewarding role. ■

# A GOOD QUESTION



Let's talk about it

by Wendy Newman



A good question: how – and why – do we talk about money in the church? In the midst of the pandemic that never seems to end, and in a world more in need of the Good News than ever, your Stewardship Group has been taking a fresh look at God’s call to generosity and our response as disciples. You’ll be hearing more from us, but here’s a thumbnail.

One of our core reflections: an essay by retired Anglican Bishop Douglas Hambidge, called “The S [Stewardship] Word”, written for the Episcopal Network for Stewardship. We have a problem, he writes: somewhere along the way, we’ve come to believe there’s something “unspiritual” about money, that open talk about it during our workshop services interferes with our devotions, that the offering plate should be inconspicuous, that a “fund raiser” will do it, or that we have to give to make budget.

Oh dear. These dreary but stubborn traditional assumptions can sideline what Hambidge calls the *deeply sacramental* aspect of money. They can also mask the reality that that, as he puts it, “*My money is me in miniature*”. So, let’s talk about it, this autumn of 2021. Robustly. Humbly. Reverently. Thankfully.

We begin with gratitude. We have been blessed by God’s grace to come through this – not just to survive it, but to re-imagine our ministries. Our worship services are now available in person and digitally. Our website is newly updated and more accessible. Our clergy and lay volunteers have continued vital pastoral care and connections under challenging circumstances. We’ve learned more about our neighbourhood and its needs. To all you whose faithful, prayerful financial support of the Cathedral’s ministries has continued to make this

possible, THANK YOU! Know that your tithes and offerings make all the difference in the world.

We begin, as well, in a mindset of abundance. The pandemic has exposed the deep crevices in our society to immediate view – severe poverty, social isolation, and pervasive loneliness. Many of us have seen our adult children or extended family thrown into crisis. In contrast, we are rich indeed in community, compassion, and hope. We have a renewed understanding of our material blessings, our ability to extend hospitality based on scriptural imperatives, and our calling to share.

Having come through a major shift to digital interaction, we are able to give more conveniently than ever before. It has taken some of us (certainly me!) a while to get the hang of e-transfer and other forms of online contribution, but we’re getting there. And if we aren’t there yet, all the traditional ways still work.

Knowing even a small percentage of our estate can go a long way, we consider the church’s future ministries in our wills, too. Perhaps more conscious of all forms of “paying it forward” – ensuring that the Cathedral’s ministries will be there well into the future.

Your Stewardship Group will be presenting, for your prayerful reflection, these themes. We’ll be sharing our understandings of stewardship in our time and place, and we’ve established a timetable to offer these reflections in our ongoing life as a Christian community. Jesus talked about money clearly and so often, so we are in the best of company. As stewards of all the resources and environments God has entrusted to our care, let’s talk openly – and gratefully – about money and pray for guidance in our decisions. ■

# A LIFE SHAPED

 By life together

From within our venerable Saint Luke's on John Street North, I write to you, the community of Christ's Church Cathedral. Hear afresh Gabriel's greeting: *the Lord be with you.*

It will be a pleasure to meet you folks in the flesh. I am with the Apostle Paul on this one; it is my desire to be with you and to see you. Good Lord, make way in these coming months! Until then, I'll entrust a couple of words to you. I hope they say a little about who I am and, by extension, who I might be for you and your community. This is a letter of introduction. My name is Rob Miller, an ordinand in this diocese and your newest pastoral intern.

Speaking of introductions, there is no better greeting than Gabriel's when life tilts on the fulcrum of transition. As unsettling as this pivotal moment may be – and who among us doesn't feel troubled right now? – it is certainly the start of something new. We are tottering on a significant transition to be sure. The question is, will we fight for balance or shift our weight with a Marian faith?

I've come to trust a mother's faith; it is after all, how I got to be a part of this family in the first place. Faith in Christ came to me through the maternal line, from my grandmother (Connie McLean) to my mother (Ann Louise McLean-Miller). The two of them coaxed my father (John Miller), my brother (Kevin Miller), and I to church most Sunday mornings. Mother and daughter at work together, that was my first experience of Christian faith. I strive to imitate that merciful faith, active and bearing much fruit.

Those were the early days of my faith: sitting in Elmvale's little Roman Catholic Church, Our Lady of Lourdes. Since then, I've lived in the many rooms that make up this house we call the church: discipled in the way of Jesus with the Baptists,



schooled in reformed philosophy with the Christian Reformed, attained a Masters of Arts in theological studies with you folks at Wycliffe, and cut my pastoral teeth among the young post-nearly-everything-church in downtown Hamilton.

Now most of my time is spent living between the two neighbourhoods of North End East and Gibson. At present, I have the honour of serving the people along Barton Street at 541 Eatery and Exchange. This work has kept me on foot to the Gibson neighbourhood for the past seven years now. When I'm not table-waiting at 541, I'm at Saint Luke's with Jamie, my wife of nearly eight years. Here in the North End, I've called a small collective to the work of morning and evening prayer. We've named the thing, *Common Prayer at Saint Luke's*. Thanks to the hospitality of Bishop Susan, our house of five has hosted the morning and evening services since 2019. We meet at 6:30 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 7:30 pm on Wednesday to speak and sing our prayers. I'm very excited about this little community.

I've cycled across Canada from east to west, walked from Niagara Falls to Tobermory on the Bruce Trail, spent the last three years teaching myself to play the fiddle, and the last eight years teaching myself Biblical Hebrew and Greek. Jamie and I have spent multiple seasons on off grid farms, with farmers who grow their own food and teach others to do the same. We've taken their wisdom and applied it here on the corner of John Street North and Macaulay.

Jamie and I have known intimately the ups and downs of life rooted in community. A life lived together has profoundly shaped us for the good. When it comes down to it, the shape of this life might be the one meaningful gift I have to offer you folks: a life shaped by life together. ■

# October

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cathedral Place Offices will be closed on October 11 for Thanksgiving. In the event of a pastoral need, please call (365) 324-4503. All other emails and phone messages will be replied to asap on subsequent business days.</li> <li>As of date of publication, two Sunday in-person services (8:30 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m.) have been re-instated. We respectfully ask that you review the Cathedral's <a href="#">re-opening plan</a> prior to attending.</li> <li>Sunday Eucharist will be livestreamed at 10:30 a.m. from the Cathedral via the Cathedral's <a href="#">YouTube</a> channel. For the Order of Service, <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> <li>All virtual services are identified with (V).</li> <li>Wednesday Evening Prayers are available on the Cathedral's <a href="#">YouTube</a> channel, Apple Podcasts, and Spotify. For the Order of Service <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> </ul>						
3 <b>Creation Sunday</b>  Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a>	4 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	5 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	6 (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am (V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a> . Also on Apple Podcasts & Spotify	7 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	8	9
10 <b>Harvest Thanksgiving</b>  Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a>  Cathedral Offices Closed	11 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	12 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	13 (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am (V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a> . Also on Apple Podcasts & Spotify	14 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	15	16
17 <b>Pentecost 21</b>  Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a>	18 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	19 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	20 (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am (V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a> . Also on Apple Podcasts & Spotify	21 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	22	23
24 <b>Pentecost 22</b>  Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a>	25 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	26 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	27 (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am (V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a> . Also on Apple Podcast & Spotify	28 (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a>	29	30 (V) Diocesan Synod
31 <b>Feast of All Saints</b>  Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a> (V) Town Hall 1:30 pm <a href="#">Zoom</a>						

# November/December

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<p><b>The first week of November</b> marks Treaties Recognition Week to recognize the importance of treaties and increase awareness of the treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in Ontario.</p>	<p><b>1</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>2 Feast of All Souls</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p> <p>Requiem Eucharist in-person &amp; livestreamed at 7pm via <a href="#">YouTube</a></p>	<p><b>3</b>            (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am</p> <p>(V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a>. Also on Apple Podcast &amp; Spotify</p> <p>(V) Dean Tim in Conversation with Janis Monture at 7 pm via <a href="#">YouTube</a>.</p>	<p><b>4</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>7 Pentecost 24</b>            Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 10:30            (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am              (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a></p>	<p><b>8</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>9</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>10</b>            (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am</p> <p>(V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a>. Also on Apple Podcast &amp; Spotify</p>	<p><b>11</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>14 Pentecost 25</b>            Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 10:30            (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am              (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a></p>	<p><b>15</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>16</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>17</b>            (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am</p> <p>(V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a>. Also on Apple Podcast &amp; Spotify</p>	<p><b>18</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>21 The Reign of Christ</b>            Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 10:30            (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am              (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a></p>	<p><b>22</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>23</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>24</b>            (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am</p> <p>(V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a>. Also on Apple Podcast &amp; Spotify</p>	<p><b>25</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>28 First Sunday of Advent</b>            Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 10:30            (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am              (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a></p>	<p><b>29</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>30</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am            Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>Dec 1</b>            (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am</p> <p>(V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a>. Also on Apple Podcasts &amp; Spotify</p>	<p><b>2</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>
<p><b>5 Advent 2</b>            Holy Eucharist 8:30 &amp; 10:30            (V) Holy Eucharist livestreamed from the Cathedral via <a href="#">YouTube</a> at 10:30 am              (V) Sunday Prayers with Bishop Susan 10 am <a href="#">Details</a></p>	<p><b>6</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:00 pm Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>7</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>8</b>            (V) Morning Prayer with Dean Tim <a href="#">Zoom</a> 9 am</p> <p>(V) Evening Prayer <a href="#">YouTube</a>. Also on Apple Podcast &amp; Spotify</p>	<p><b>9</b>            (V) Centering Prayer via Zoom 7:30 am Contact <a href="#">Lynn Godfrey</a> or <a href="#">Thom Davies</a></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>

# COMMITMENT TO

 Prayer, Community,  
& Loving Service

by Rob Jones



Over the past few months, the Dean and I have had the privilege to gather regularly with a group of young leaders from across our diocese: Sarah Bird, Martin Runesson Sanfridson, and Adedayo Olomodosi. We agreed, very simply, to pray together and discern whether God might be calling us to create some sort of spiritual community that would be based out of Christ's Church Cathedral. We were (and are) committed to moving at the pace of the Holy Spirit. We came with no concrete plans about what this community might look like, except that it would be grounded in prayer and fellowship.

For the first season of our journey together, which took place during Lent 2021, we committed to a discipline of weekly Morning Prayer over Zoom. We rotated the roles of leader and intercessor, and took time each week to pray for each other, for the Diocese, for our respective communities, and for our world. As we offered our time and our prayers to God, and learned more about each other, we began to dream together about what our next steps might look like. We spoke of ways we might create space for authentic community for young people in Hamilton and the surrounding areas, and how we might combine our desire to grow closer to God in prayer with our desire to address the pressing social issues facing us as a society.

After Lent, we were invited by Bishop Susan to take place in a pilot course on New Monasticism through the Niagara School for Missional Leadership. The course was taught by the Rev. Ian Mobsby, a British priest, theologian, and a leader in both the Fresh Expressions and the new monastic move-

ments. New monasticism is a movement within the church that is asking: How can we learn from the monastic way of life as we explore new ways of being together in Christian community? As Ian describes it, the new monastic movement is committed to “a Rhythm of Daily Life,” “contemplative forms of prayer and meditation,” “spiritual practices and radical community,” and “missional loving service.” New monastic communities have sprung up all over the place, including in the UK, the States, and Canada. Each one looks different and has its own charisms, but all new monastic communities are working to understand how the ancient monastic traditions might inform their lives in the twenty-first century. After the course, Ian was gracious enough to spend some time with the five of us over Zoom; this gave us the chance to ask him our questions and to invite him into our discernment process. It was an incredibly rich and exciting conversation.

The course came to end toward the beginning of the summer, and we decided to press pause on our meetings for about two months. This pause gave each of us time to rest and to reflect on our time together over those past few months. But before we went our separate ways for the summer, we came together for a socially distanced, outdoor evening of fellowship and discernment. That evening together was very meaningful; all our previous meetings had happened on Zoom, and it was good finally to be with one another in person. Each of us came prepared to answer two questions: What are you most passionate about? Where do you see this

*(Continued on bottom of page 21)*

# DR. EDUARDO FARIAS

 Media Coordinator



My name is Eduardo Farias, and I am a classically trained trumpeter, music educator, and tech-savvy worship leader, currently based in Thorold, Ontario. I was born in Porto Alegre, in the south of Brazil and received my Doctoral in Music Performance from Michigan State University as well as degrees from Valdosta State University and Universidade Federal de Santa Maria.

Currently, I am a full-time student in the Master of Theological Studies program at the Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary. Besides working as Livestream Coordinator for the Cathedral, I also teach music at Kleinburg Christian Academy.

Previous work engagements include Assistant Director of Music Ministries at Trinity Lutheran Church, Midland, Michigan, overseeing most of

the audio/video operations of the church, co-directing Trinity Musical Arts (Trinity's music education project), and leading the Contemporary Worship team. Other recent experiences include being Adjunct Professor of Trumpet at Saginaw Valley State University, Guest Professor at Michigan State University, Trumpet Instructor at the Flint Institute of Music and at the Michigan State University Community Music School, plus teaching online master classes, and translating music events between Portuguese and English.

I am happily married to Daniela Cruz, who is a classically trained violist and violinist and a music educator as well. We enjoy travelling, good food, and enjoying the company of our two cats, Frida Kahto and Vincent VanGato. ■

*(Prayer Community Continued from page 20)*

group going in the future? A few things came out of that conversation:

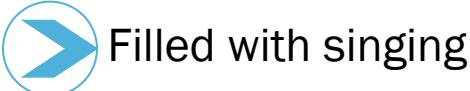
- We acknowledged our commitment to prayer, community, and loving service; whatever form the group took in the future, it would be committed to these three practices.
- We would continue to learn from the wisdom of the new monastic movement, but we did not feel that our calling, at least at this point, was to identify ourselves formally with the new monastic movement.
- We wanted to continue meeting for regular

prayer, perhaps adding a book study component.

- We committed to offering some sort of contemplative prayer service that would be based at the Cathedral and open to the public.
- We committed to co-sponsoring at least one or two events this year at the Cathedral on themes related to spirituality and social justice.

Recently (September 15), we gathered again, after our time apart, to check-in with one another and to start planning for the fall. We are excited about what God is doing, and we are excited to share with you what our next steps will entail, perhaps in a future issue of *Contact!* ■

## A LIFE



by Jeni Darling



My life has been filled with singing, so I am writing about my return to the Cathedral through that lens. In the 1940s I sang with my family, at Sunday School, and sang in Church for the first time as a seven-year-old, singing the first verse of a Harvest Hymn while the Sunday School paraded in with fruits of the harvest. In the 1950s we sang daily in school, and I joined my first choir in Secondary School, later being part of my school choir that took first prize in the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen. I sang with Brownies and Girl Guides and in informal settings where I developed harmonizing skills. Who could not be singing during the early sixties at the height of folk and great popular music of the time was the background of our lives? When I arrived in Canada, I made first friends singing folk music. I met Sandy through singing in the Richard Eaton Singers. Our little family are all singers and would spend at least some time singing in the choir too.

It was not until 1975 shortly after we settled in Hamilton with our two young children that I discovered that I was really a Chorister. Singing in my parish churches had been restricted to boys and men. Girls and women did good works and taught Sunday school but singing in the choir had never been available to me. Finding a place to sing when we settled in Hamilton was important to both of us and Sandy and I auditioned to join the Bach Elgar choir. Don Kendrick invited me to join the Cathedral Choir at that time. It was a privilege we needed to think about.

Finding a church community that we would be

comfortable to join was important to us both. Sandy's and my relationship is built on a shared faith, a love of singing, and the fact we that we both believe in long term commitment in all aspects of our lives (and possibly the fact that I understood cricket). Sandy's father was an Anglican priest, and I grew up with a dad and a grandfather who had been church choristers since they were six years old and did so until they were into their 80s. We understood what Don was talking about when he spoke of what being in the Cathedral Choir meant; with that privilege came responsibilities. I would become the chorister.

It did not take us long to realize that this was a welcoming community. We were contacted by both Dean Fricker and Rector John Rathbone encouraging us to make that big step and we have been entwined in this community ever since, not only musically but in many other aspects of the church's life together. It is a decision neither of us have regretted for, with the exception of our nearly five years in Egypt, we have shared our gifts, our voices, I in the choir and Sandy in the congregation, and made beautiful harmonies as part of our community's worship ever since. Until the pandemic.

I struggled during the early months of lockdown. I missed being in this community of my friends. I missed the rhythms of choir practice on Thursdays and Sunday morning services but worst of all I found that I could not sing. I would find myself weeping during online services and podcasts. The structure of my days was disrupted; I could not be a steward in the Cathedral garden and I could not

sing in the choir. I felt useless. What to do? I had been working with Sue Crowe Connolly prior to the pandemic as she had been helping me to ensure that I too might also be singing into my 80s. Now she would continue to share her knowledge and skills with mine to ensure that my instrument, my voice, would still be able to sing when the pandemic was under control, and we could all be singing together again. I needed to learn to sing alone so that I could control the depression that would envelope me. Increasing the amount of time I spent outside helped. I started to look for the underlying causes of my particular kind of depression. I studied the importance of the vagus nerve to human psychology, how the voice stimulates the vagus nerve and regulates emotions, but I still could not sing. It was a birdwatching friend who suggested a performer I might listen to who had helped him following the loss of his wife. The next came from a fellow choir member who suggested singing along to gospel karaoke. By Christmas I was able to sing with my family around a campfire at home and Sue and I were able sing together to be part of a moving Good Friday reflection podcast.

How did things go on September the 12<sup>th</sup>? I felt so grateful to be back in our beautiful building. There was an atmosphere of joy at being together, of seeing familiar eyes twinkling behind masks. I took my place close to the front as Sandy was to read the lesson. My view was not over the congregation but into the chancel. Michael was making gentle music on the organ. Seeing Tim so energized to be with us at last was a pleasure. I had practiced humming and had every intention of upholding the request to refrain from singing and did so until the Scholar began the Sanctus. The tears ran down my cheeks and I was a mess. I cannot promise that I won't sing behind my mask before the restriction is removed. I am a choral singer. ■



*With much focus on the issue of returning children to in-class learning, Contact approached several elementary school children in our midst to get their input about being back in school.*

### Sophie Dobbin

#### Grade 7 at St. Teresa of Calcutta

It was pretty easy using the distance learning technology because we just had to log in to our D2L sites, click a link for a zoom call and listen to the work we had for the day. All our work was in different portfolio sections. We clicked those and found our work, took pictures, and submitted it or attached the Word document that we used.

What I missed the most when I was not learning in a classroom was seeing friends, having lunch with them, and having recess and going on field trips.

I prefer to be working at school and am happy to be back at school. But I also did like having nicer lunches at home.

At school, I like that we don't have to wear masks outside and just seeing people. What do I not like about school? I don't know if there will be field trips or not, and I wish there were field trips.

I think it's been pretty easy to follow the COVID-related safety measures because they're pretty much the same everywhere: hand sanitizer, masks, and social distancing. I don't think there's anything I'd like to see done differently. ■

## REMEMBERING



### Peter Ford (1943-2021)

by Wendy Newman

The Cathedral community was sad to learn that The Reverend Canon Peter Ford died on August 22, 2021, on the Isle of Wight. Peter had a long and happy association with Christ's Church Cathedral. He was appointed Canon Pastor in 1980 and a Canon of the Cathedral in 1986. Upon his retirement, when he returned to Canada, he became an Honorary Assistant here. He is remembered everywhere as a fine liturgist and preacher, a gracious host, and a kind friend.

Born in England in 1943, Peter was the only child of an Anglican priest whose ministry had included an area of London familiar to viewers of *Call the Midwife*. Educated at Cambridge University, he was ordained in 1968. He served in London before coming to Canada. As a friend and fellow member of the Cathedral Choir, I always enjoyed Peter's story of his arrival in this country. Hired initially by the Bishop of Huron, he was happily surprised to be picked up by the Bishop personally at the airport on his arrival. However, the Bishop died the next day, and his successor had no job for the new priest. It was therefore our good fortune to welcome him to the Diocese of Niagara.

Bishop Ralph Spence recalled his assignment from then-Bishop John Bothwell: please go and pick up the new priest. It was the beginning of a long and close friendship. Peter Ford and Bishop Spence had been ordained the same year. When Peter went eventually to minister on the Dutch island of Saba, he welcomed Ralph and Carol on many occasions. They all had hair-raising memories of landing and taking off from the Saba airport, which has one of the shortest runways in the world, in fair weather and foul.

From 1971 Peter ministered at St. Thomas, St.



Catharines; Resurrection, St. Catharines; St. Brendan, Port Colborne; Grace Church, Milton; the Cathedral; and St. Mark's, Niagara-on-the-Lake. Upon his retirement, he split his time between Hamilton and the Isle of Wight and became an Honorary Assistant at the Cathedral.

Many Cathedral members recall with great joy Peter's service with the Cathedral in the 1980s. Shirley Fricker, whose husband, the late Bishop Jo Fricker, was Dean at the time, remembers the ministry team of those years – "Jo's boys" – as a wonderful group. She recalled Jo's complete confidence in Peter, who was often in charge as Jo travelled for such projects as the writing of the *Book of Alternative Services*.

The Very Reverend Peter Elliott, retired Dean of New Westminster, was a fellow member of that Cathedral clergy team of the 1980s. It was, he recalled in a recent email, one of those times when the clergy team "clicked", combining their liturgical and theological perspectives in highly creative collaborations. Both enjoyed music and they subscribed to concert series at the new Roy Thomson Hall together.

In the delightful album of the Cathedral's 1985 Sesquicentennial pageant – *Vignettes from a Parishioner's Parlour: A Musical Evening* – there is a treasured photo of our Canon Pastor Peter (p 25). Resplendent in a period suit and spats, with trimmed beard and dark brown hair, Peter performed *Nukol Sparks: The Burning Love Song*, by Jules Brazil, a solo delivered in a Victorian parlour setting. It was yet another display of his remarkable versatility and good humour.

*(Continued on page 25)*

Bishop Ralph also remembers that decade as a “magical time” at the Cathedral, as it became known across the city and the wider church as a powerhouse of liturgy and energy. Peter and his ministry colleagues projected a compelling sense of what the church could be. He observed that Peter was well loved not only here, but wherever he went. As an only child of only children, he made the church his life and his friends his family.

Longstanding friend Ken Patterson recalls Peter’s adventurous nature – leaving England for Canada as a young man, taking on ministry on a distant island in Saba – and his great inner strength. He remembers him as a faithful friend who never stood in judgment of others.



Peter was a regular participant in the Cathedral’s 7:30 a.m. Eucharist on Tuesday mornings and often presided. All of us who attended these intimate services appreciated his warmth and infectious humour as we enjoyed a coffee and chat after the service. He had a close network of local friends both here and on the Isle of Wight, and he contributed his fine tenor voice to the choirs of both locations. Peter tended to the practical side of Cathedral life as well, helping to clean and polish the Cathedral with fellow “Brass Monkeys”.

After learning he was ill in the UK, friends here still hoped to see him return to Canada. However, it was not to be, and after surgery and a stay at a care home and later a hospice, he died on August 22. We remember this remarkable priest and friend with love and gratitude.

May he rest in peace. ■



**Felicity Dobbin**

**Grade 4 at St. Teresa of Calcutta**

Distance learning was like middle. It was difficult when the computer or the Wi-Fi wasn’t working or was being slow; but it was easy when everything was going smoothly.

What I missed most was seeing my friends, going out for recess, and having lunch with everyone in the classroom.

I don’t want to go back to online learning...ever! Yes, I am very happy to be back in the classroom. I don’t know why, I just am. I like it better than online learning.

There is nothing I really don’t like about school right now, except that we have homework sometimes.

I don’t like wearing a mask and I don’t like that some things are closed down. ■

## KIM JOHNSTON



### Water, Rolling Stones, and Provence



#### *1. What is your idea of a perfect day?*

My perfect day needs to be pain free. The weather has to be warm and sunny. The day is spent with my husband, maybe out for lunch with a little shopping and a walk on a beach. I love being near water! And then some theatre to end off the day.

#### *2. Why did you choose the Cathedral as your spiritual home?*

The Luxtons lived across the street from us. We had recently moved to Hamilton and were church shopping. D'Arcy and Anne invited us to the Cathedral and we found our home.

#### *3. What is the one thing that you most look forward to at the Cathedral?*

I look forward to seeing my friends. I love the music and I need the sermon.

#### *4. If you could change one thing at the Cathedral, what would it be?*

I would like to see more bathrooms and Myler Hall fixed up and kept clean. The kitchen brought back to its glory days.

#### *5. Which living person do you most admire?*

Queen Elizabeth

#### *6. What would be your desert island pick for a book, a piece of music, and food?*

The book might be Mrs. Beeton's original cookbook.

The music would have to be a compilation of Christmas Carols, Broadway hits, and some Rolling Stones.

The food I have to have is chocolate.

#### *7. Where would your dream vacation spot be?*

Provence or the village in *MidSommer Murders* (without the murders) and with my husband.■

## PASSAGES

### BIRTH

Noah Frederick Thomas—August 30

### DEATHS

Jim Lawson—July 5

The Rev. Canon Peter Ford—August 22

Gertrude (Trudy) Meredith—August 27

Dr. Peter Dent—September 23 ([Obituary](#))

# MICHAEL JOHNSTON



## Friendships and Mahi-Mahi



### **1. What is your idea of a perfect day?**

Walking on a sandy beach with the sun shining bright and listening to the sounds of the waves.

### **2. Why did you choose the Cathedral as your spiritual home?**

When we moved to Hamilton our neighbours suggested the Cathedral. We came the first Sunday with them; had a wonderful time. We loved everything about the place and we decided that we didn't need to try any other place to worship. Everything we wanted was right there at CCC.

### **3. What is the one thing that you most look forward to at the Cathedral?**

The friendship that we have built over the years, is one thing that I really enjoy. Some people are gone and are missed but the memories live on and meeting new members and getting to know them is like starting over again and it expands your circle of friends. Oh, I almost forgot, I also look forward to the sermons and music.

### **4. If you could change one thing at the Cathedral, what would it be?**

This was the toughest question to answer because I really can't come up with anything that needs to be changed. I love everything the way it is now. But if something must be changed, add more parking spaces.

### **5. Which living person do you most admire?**

Bill Gates. I would like to have lunch with him (he would pay of course) and just listen to him talk about how he started out. How he took his dream and made it work. But most of all, I ad-

mire him because here is someone who people would think has it all and he puts his money where his mouth is and donates a lot of his wealth to causes to help people worldwide. This is remarkable. And hats off also to Melinda for what she has also accomplished with Bill and continues on her own.

### **6. What would be your desert island pick for a book, a piece of music, and food?**

For a book, it would be any book by Louise Penny. Her books are wonderful!! They are so compelling, and when she writes about the characters in her books they come across as your best friends. Chief Inspector Armand Gamache is one policeman with a heart and feelings for others.

Music is an easy one. Hopefully the desert island has a lot of sand and sun so that I can listen to the Beach Boys. There is nothing better to listen to when the sun is up. After the sun goes down, a little Art Pepper to top off the day. Art was not a very nice guy but boy could he play the alto sax.

I would love a ribeye steak but since this a desert island, it would be fish and it would have to be Red Snapper or Mahi-Mahi. I really love these two fish and I order them whenever they are on the menu. Very tasty indeed!!

### **7. Where would your dream vacation spot be?**

Any place with my wife would be my dream vacation. But I would pick Galley Bay in Antigua. Sun, sand, and relaxation – what more could you want. This is a great spot to just sit and relax. Another place that I'm interested in would be Bath in England. We are watching a show that is filmed in Bath and it looks fantastic. ■

# AND BUILDING

## Of the Cathedral

by Sandy Darling

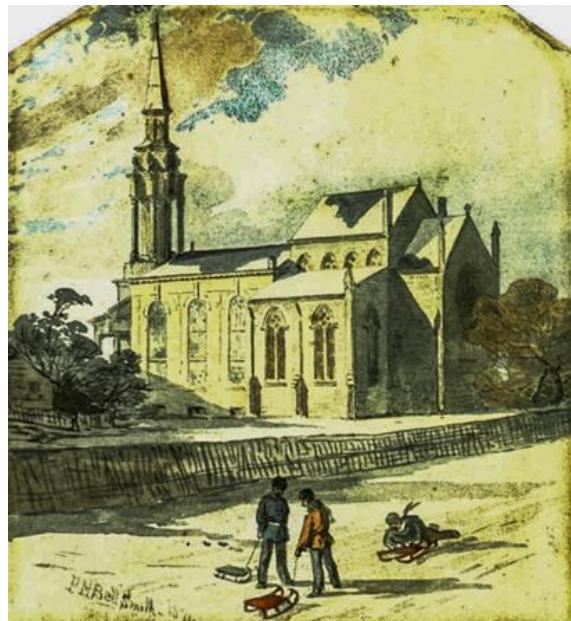


In June 2021, the Cathedral received a request for information and photographs from Richard Longley, Former President of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, and I was asked to help him. This was the start of a journey during which I learned more about the architects of the four phases that resulted in our current building and about various aspects of our building. Richard soon sent me a draft of the e-book that he is writing called *That Very Intelligent Architect*, a biography of William Thomas, architect of part of Christ's Church Cathedral and many other buildings in Canada and in England.

William Thomas was born in England and practised as an architect in Birmingham and Leamington Spa before migrating to Toronto. Although his office was in Toronto, he designed many buildings that are well known in Hamilton. His work shaped the design of the Cathedral and later additions respected the style that he initiated. My understanding is that Richard's book will be free and will be an e-book because the cost of a standard book with so many photos would be prohibitive. Once it is available, I shall provide more information, and I think that you will find it as interesting as I found the draft version.

My work with Richard raised some questions and so we needed to hunt for other documents, and some of these led us back to primary sources, such as newspaper descriptions of the building at reopening after phases. A paper by Professor Malcolm Thurlby of York University was the most useful, and Wendy Newman was called on to provide

documentation from the Cathedral archives. So, what is the story?



The original wooden building was designed in 1835 by **Richard Charles Wetherell** of Hamilton, the architect of Dundurn Castle, and was built between 1837 and 1842 as funds became available. The auditorium was 100 feet long and 60 feet across, with a tower and steeple at the west end. In my reading, I found the style described variously as "English", "Baroque" and "Palladian Baroque". In the photo of a water-colour by Matthew Bell-Smith (left) taken after the 1854 addition, the tower and the first three of five bays of the original church are visible.

*(Continued at bottom of page 29)*

By the 1850s, Hamilton was growing rapidly, and the railway was due to come, and so **William Thomas** was engaged to design a Gothic replacement, which included a tower and steeple. The building committee of Christ's Church did not have the funds to complete the building, and asked for a scaled down version, resulting in the "humped-back church" shown above. William Thomas took his plans to the congregation of St Andrew's Presbyterian church, now St Paul's, and so you can see the tower and spire there that we might have had. Thomas left his son to oversee the building during 1852-4, when the first two bays and the short chancel were added. The new building was 72 feet wide, and each bay was 20 feet from east to west, as in the Wetherell building, and the chancel was 16 feet long.

In 1873, the Vestry of Christ's Church agreed to complete the building and **Henry Langley**, a Hamilton architect, was contracted for the design. Langley's design respected the work of Thomas, and so the ceiling design of the nave is that of Thomas, and the three additional bays at the west end and clerestory windows are consistent with the Thomas design. Langley's design included a tower, but shortage of funds resulted in this being cut, and so Langley designed the current west front that one sees from James Street. The choir was seated in the east bay on the north side rather than in the chancel. The new Diocese of Niagara designated Christ's Church as the Cathedral and it was consecrated on January 1, 1876. It might be noted that the schoolhouse was built in 1869 to the design of **William Leith**.

The final phase of the current Cathedral was designed by **William Palmer Witton**, a Hamilton architect, and completed in 1926. The elements of this were the extension of the chancel, and the addition of the sacristy, Dean's vestry (now the *Steve Varey Memorial Reading Room*), the two lofts that house the organ pipes and the ambulatory. The "extension" was no mean feat because the east wall and window were dismantled and rebuilt 32 feet to the east to provide a chancel that is 48 feet long.

The organ, carved woodwork, choir seating, and the reredos are all features added during or after this building phase.

What did we discover as a result of our research? The most significant finding was how faithfully Langley followed the design by Thomas; establishing Thomas as the designer of the nave ceiling was probably the most significant and we have newspaper articles to thank for the details of the interior design. The same source provided the name of the designers of the boxed window above the door to the sacristy, which was originally in the center light of the east window. The designer was Ballantine and Allen of Edinburgh; the firm designed the *Suffer the Little Children* window and the current east window, although this was manufactured by McCausland of Toronto. I also noted that the windows of the sacristy and reading room are a different style, and that different stone was used for these additions and the ambulatory. The section of Richard Longley's book dealing with Christ's Church Cathedral is longer (16 pages), more detailed, and have more photographs, some of which I took specifically for him and some I supplied from those taken before. Having worked with Richard, I know that he has been thorough in his research, and I thank him for his help in extending my knowledge.■



Photos courtesy of Sandy Darling





### **Tim Anderson**

#### **Grade 8 in the SageQuest program at the school formerly known as Ryerson.**

The technology was easy, but it was so boring. My science teacher had trained us how to use the software before the lockdown. She predicted that we'd need to learn remotely. So, we were lucky.

When I was at home, I missed hearing my friends. You didn't get to hear each other on the computer. Everyone was bored and tired and just wanted it to end. We didn't get to know each other better online, like we would have in class.

I'm excited to be back in school and especially to meet the new people in my class. I'm happy to be back because I can see my friends and talk to them. We're not very good at checking our phones! But it's exhausting compared to being at home, waking up late, and going straight to the computer. I hate having to wake up super early. I don't like waiting a long time for the bus after school. But I really like seeing my friends. I have a reason to get dressed in the morning instead of wearing my pyjamas all day, so that's a good thing.

It's not that hard following the Covid safety rules: wear your mask, wash your hands, don't lick people! I hate the screening thing. We have to use the same paper form for two months! The people who made the system haven't seen what kids are like. Everyone is going to lose that form. ■

### **Will Anderson**

#### **Grade 8 French Immersion at Dalewood.**

To be honest, the technology wasn't that hard. I mean, the first week or so, kids were confused, but after that, kids were in the routine, and it went smoothly. The teachers often have more problems using the software than the kids!

When I was at home, I missed hearing whispered comments. Like when the teacher asks a question, and the kid behind you says, "What does that even mean?" If I had to choose, I would go to in-person school. But to be honest, online school wasn't that bad. I know it was a struggle for lots of kids. I prefer in-person, but I'd be okay if we had to go back online.

I'm happy to be back in a classroom! No one is on mute! So, I get to hear what everyone says! There's lots more chances for conversations with different people. I like having a sense of motivation that you actually have to do the work. Online school was pretty flexible. There weren't really consequences if you watched TV while online school was happening. About in-person school, I don't like being on the first floor — it feels like there are fewer kids around me. There are way more on the second floor. Also, I'm too tall for my desk, and my legs don't fit under the desk (they're the same desks we had in Grade 1!).

I have no problem following the Covid safety rules. One thing I don't like is the daily screening process: it's not going to stop you if you're determined to go to school when you don't feel well. ■

## ADVISORY GROUP



by John Watts



The Faith Formation group include The Very Rev. Tim Dobbin (Leader), Rob Jones (Co-Leader), John Watts (Chair), Julie Ludwig, Dena Thomas, and Kathy Wolsey. Our goal is to establish a year-round calendar of events and short programs of learning, explaining, and enhancing faith issues in (and beyond) the Cathedral congregation.

We agreed to consider a mixture of both large and small group formats, some of which would be based in the Cathedral and others which would be more local, for example meetings in parishioners' homes. With a future which remains fluid due to Covid, we faced challenges, not least because of the wide geographic dispersion of the parish. On the other hand, we recognized that as a parish and as a community, we have many remarkable examples of knowledge, experience, wisdom, and spirituality that we can gain from.

We had the good fortune to meet with Leanne Friesen, a pastor and leader at Mount Hamilton Baptist Church, who has a rich experience of starting and running programs of this nature especially with small groups, which she labels "pods". She emphasized that such faith formation programs have as their purpose, the growth of discipleship rather than the growth of the church. She also talked to us about the importance of building on existing interests and expertise in the parish, as well as the importance of developing and supporting new and existing leadership in the church.

We have already made arrangements for the first of a series of fireside chats and discussions. It is

scheduled for November 3<sup>rd</sup> as part of the national *Treaty Recognition Week* and will focus on our reconciliation and relationships with First Nations peoples, especially in the light of the recent demonstration of the large number of unmarked graves of children from residential schools. (Please refer to [page 33](#) for details.)

We also plan to continue the successful *Cathedral Café* series in Advent and Lent. In addition, we intend to restart the *Sermon Speak* series of discussions with the preacher, which had a small but faithful following prior to July; this is an example of the challenges that we face—the series worked well when church services were purely virtual—so how can they be adapted for a hybrid model?

We are in the early stages of considering a lectionary preparation series which would allow those interested to review the Sunday readings in advance and learn more in depth than the sermon allows.

We also want to give more thought to the idea of small groups meeting locally, but this is one area that is heavily dependent on the future of Covid restrictions.

In addition, we would like to have some form of "Anglicanism 101" series, although this would take place later next year.

Finally, we have yet to address one extremely important group of parishioners – young children, small in number as well as stature but crucial to the future of the church. ■

# To the Congregation of Christ's Church Cathedral

We give thanks to God for the joyful and safe re-opening of in-person services at Christ's Church Cathedral. It is evident from the turnouts that people are thrilled to be back in the Cathedral. We owe much gratitude to the Re-opening Team that has made our return to services safe and secure. We are writing now to advise you of a new Diocesan policy intended to further enhance the safety of worship services.

Bishop Susan Bell introduced policies during this pandemic with the safety of congregations and, in turn the larger community, of uppermost concern. Her recent participation in the "*I have faith in covid-19 vaccines*" campaign, by local faith leaders, is aimed at getting more people to rollup their sleeves and get vaccinated. As Bishop Bell affirmed, "putting others' welfare ahead of ourselves is core to who we are as Christians."

*"Vaccines are about trust: trust in the science and trust in the healthcare system. But most of all, it's about trust in each other. By being vaccinated, I am loving my neighbour."* Bishop Susan Bell

In keeping with these convictions, the Bishop has implemented a mandatory **COVID-19 Vaccination Policy** for people serving in particular ministry and employment roles. For those without internet access, a copy of this letter accompanied by a copy of the new policy will be sent to you by mail.

It is very important to note that this policy **does not apply to people attending worship** and we continue to welcome all. Nevertheless we strongly encourage everyone to be vaccinated, as we do love our neighbours and remain committed to caring and protecting the most vulnerable and our community at large.

For those who are serving in one or more of the ministry and/or volunteer positions listed below, you must have received your **first dose of vaccine by September 30**, and **second dose no later than October 31**:

- Wardens
- Readers, intercessors, servers, and Communion ministers
- Greeters, ushers, sides people
- Musicians and vocalists
- People ministering to marginalized and vulnerable people in outreach ministries
- People ministering to children, youth, and young adults

At some future date, once Cathedral committees resume meeting in person, committee members may also fall under this policy.

Verification of vaccination should be sent to our Parish Administrator, [Alison Meredith](#). Your vaccine receipt can be emailed in electronic form (for example a PDF file or photo) or as a paper copy mailed to Alison's attention. If you do not have a copy of your proof of vaccination, you can download or print your vaccine receipt from the [provincial booking portal](#), or get assistance by calling the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line at 1-833-943-3900. If you have any questions about what documentation is required, you can contact Alison or members of Corporation for assistance or clarification.

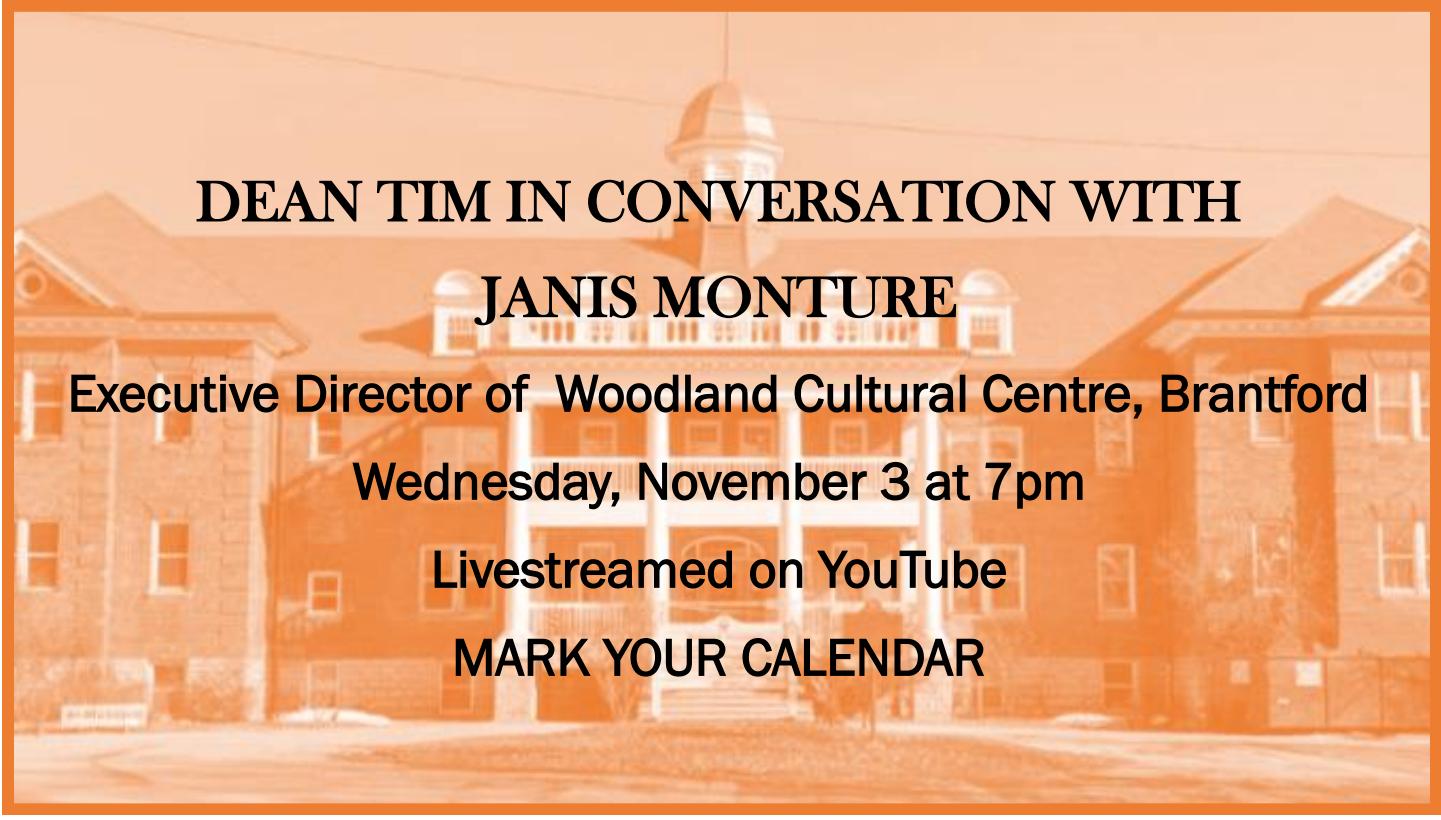
Please be assured that records will be kept in the **utmost confidence**. And all records will be destroyed at the end of the pandemic. If you have any questions or concerns about any of the above, please to not hesitate to connect with any member of the Corporation—contact information provided at the bottom of page 33.

We look forward to a time when we can gather for services and meetings without the current restrictions. But for the time being, we must do our utmost to protect each other, our healthcare workers, our community, and our country.

Blessings to All,

***Christ's Church Cathedral Corporation***

*(Continued at bottom of page 33)*



# DEAN TIM IN CONVERSATION WITH JANIS MONTURE

Executive Director of Woodland Cultural Centre, Brantford

Wednesday, November 3 at 7pm

Livestreamed on YouTube

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**



Janis is from Six Nations of the Grand River, Mohawk Nation Turtle Clan and was instrumental in undertaking the consultation process that has led to the restoration of the Mohawk Institute Residential School site.

*Her passion and vision for preserving and promoting Indigenous culture is infectious, and her exceptional leadership skills are a vital asset to the growth of the Woodland Cultural Centre.*

Janis attended the University of Western Ontario where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts in History, followed by a Museum Studies diploma from Algonquin College. Janis continues to volunteer in her community at Six Nations and in Brantford with various organizations. She is a current Board Member of Brant Community Foundation and the current President of the Kaha:wi Dance Theatre.

**We invite you to send your questions to  
[cathedral@niagaraanglican.ca](mailto:cathedral@niagaraanglican.ca)**

**We will do our best to include them in the conversation.**

(*Letter to Congregation* Continued from page 32)

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# LLEWELLYN GERTRUDE "TRUDY" MEREDITH

 1926-2021

by Peter Wall ♦



Gertrude Meredith died, very peacefully, as she would have wished, with Alison holding her hand, on the evening of August 27, one week before what would have been her 95th birthday on September 3.

Trudy - that is what she usually was called, although I had the temerity, on more than one occasion, to try 'Gert' on for size (it always received an interesting reaction!) was a delightful, somewhat irascible at times, determined, generous, and never opinion-free friend, sister, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and church lady!!

Hailing from the north of England, she never lost her *Englishness* nor her wonderful Yorkshire accent. She had, in abundance, that down-to-earth goodness and practical sensibility of the British – always ready to comment on much that was going on around her, not least of all British royalty and the never dull goings on of the Windsors!!

She was a woman who worked hard, often in challenging circumstances, to raise her four children in ways that would make any parent proud. She understood the value of friendship, loyalty, hard work, and dignity. She suffered the deaths of both of her sons, and the estrangement of her older daughter, and yet remained steadfast and faithful. She was determined to live on her own as long as she could and managed to do so right up until a week before she died.

Trudy was a faithful church goer – a long time parishioner at St. James the Apostle in Hamilton, then at The Church of the Nativity. She counted

amongst her closest friends those with whom she worshipped and was associated for many years with the Anglican Businesswomen's Association. That interesting group of women also cherished Trudy's friendship and dedication. Many have gone on to their reward, and Trudy will now be able to join them once again for their monthly dinner meetings!!! Imagine the conversations...

Trudy enjoyed many blessings, not the least of which was motherhood, and if the quality of one's parenting is mirrored in the goodness of the child, then Trudy was manifestly blessed indeed in her daughter Alison. No one could have been a better friend and child than Alison was to Trudy. She journeyed with Trudy through the vicissitudes of advancing age, from relative independence to more and more reliance on Alison's care. Alison was always patient, loving, and completely selfless in her attention to Trudy's every need. As is often the case when one is very old, the parent becomes the child, and Alison's gentle and dedicated nurturing was so important in Trudy's life. As someone who had the enormous privilege of being close to Alison through all of this, I can't say enough how much I admired her. Trudy was a blessed woman indeed.

Trudy chose to have her ashes interred in the Cathedral columbarium and, as Alison and I commented, is in a good 'neighbourhood', with many friends close by. She will be missed, but fondly and deeply remembered!

Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Rest well in peace; rise in glory!! ■

## WITH THANKS



For faithfully giving

by Corporation



Our staff continue to work to ensure that the on-going programs, in-person worship, pastoral support and virtual services are all being provided. The Corporation thanks all of those who continue to faithfully keep their contributions up to date, in support of this on-going important and vital work of the Cathedral.

While parishioner giving continues to be less than our budget plan, we have been fortunate to have benefitted from higher than anticipated amounts from the Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy funded by our Federal Government. And, because in-person worship was delayed until September along with continuing COVID restrictions, our expenses are less than budgeted. Both of these have helped to lower our deficit year-to-date by \$32,042 so that our year-to-date deficit is \$30,086 versus a planned deficit of \$62,128. ■

Income	31-Aug-21	2021 Budget	Variance	2020 Actual
Parishioner Givings	\$162,026	\$171,020	-\$8,994	\$149,825
Other Income*	\$2,272	\$11,451	-\$9,179	\$13,319
Open Collection	\$0	\$664	-\$664	\$639
Misc Income	\$20	\$1,664	-\$1,644	\$712
Fund Income	\$101,414	\$100,705	\$709	\$98,115
PWRDF	\$1,020	\$0	\$1,020	\$905
St. Matthew's House	\$3,040	\$0	\$3,040	\$2,640
Special Offerings**	\$185,182	\$0	\$185,182	\$12,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$454,974</b>	<b>\$285,504</b>	<b>\$169,470</b>	<b>\$278,155</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Staffing	\$201,808	\$200,857	\$951	\$190,609
Diocesan Assessment	\$30,963	\$30,965	-\$2	\$28,115
Property	\$44,800	\$44,800	\$0	\$42,667
Admin and Programs	\$36,140	\$68,510	-\$32,370	\$49,092
Transfer out to PWRDF, St. Matthew's	\$4,060	\$0	\$4,060	\$3,545
Transfer out to designated funds	\$175,183	\$0	\$175,183	\$0
Long Term Debt Repayment (Diocese)	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy	-\$27,894	-\$7,500	-\$20,394	-\$30,087
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$485,060</b>	<b>\$347,632</b>	<b>\$137,428</b>	<b>\$283,941</b>
<b>Net Income (Deficit)</b>	<b>-\$30,086</b>	<b>-\$62,128</b>	<b>\$32,042</b>	<b>-\$5,786</b>

\*Other Income includes Choral Scholarships, Dean's Discretionary, Memorial Flowers and Festivals and Outreach.

\*\*An undesignated bequest in the amount of \$12,609 was received from the Estate of Judy Dodman. These funds have been transferred out to Pre-service to Serve. We received a special donation from two parishioners to be allocated towards our long debt with the Diocese totaling \$10,000. Per the terms of the debt reduction agreement with the Diocese, this one time additional payment of \$10,000 will attract forgiveness of an additional \$5,000 from the outstanding balance. A bequest from the Estate of Francean Campbell-Rich in the amount of \$150,000 was received. The terms of the bequest specify that the money be used solely for "the support of musical and liturgical arts." The funds have been transferred to the general investment account with the Diocese. \$12,073 was received for the Archie and Jean McCoy organ fund and transferred out accordingly. \$300 has been received for The Rev. Dr. Canon Sharon Hall Arts fund and those funds have likewise been transferred out to that fund. Memorial donations of \$200 were received and transferred to the General Memorial funds.

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