

CONTACT

Christ's Church Cathedral |

Autumn 2023



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FROM THE EDITOR

For many people, autumn is their favourite time of year. They love the changing of the colours of the leaves, the slight nip in the early morning air as they leave for work, and the diminishing of the intensity of the sun's light. Me, not so much. I am an avowed sunworshipper. Like a cat going from window to window over the course of the day, I enjoy spending time on my front porch, and then moving to the back porch when the direct heat of the sun is too strong. I haven't been able to do that so much this year, mainly because of the effects of the forest fires in Northern Ontario and Quebec, and the air pollution in the city. I realised just how much everything in God's creation is connected. I am grateful for firefighters who left their communities to help fight the wildfires all over Canada. I am also grateful for firefighters who left their countries, despite having fire seasons of their own, to come help Canadian communities. No doubt, James Newman will tell us that our investment in fossil fuels is connected to climate change and ultimately, results in savage climate events such as forest fires, extreme floods, and the like. He outlines the direct actions we can take in his article.

Not everything in this issue focuses on such dire topics. I am pleased to introduce Monica's Musings, a new column written by Rev. Monica Romig Green, our curate. She explores the ways we all might creatively express our gratitude toward others. Rev. Canon Sharyn Hall and Bruce Burbidge offer two informative essays on hymns about thanksgiving. Readers will learn a little bit of church history at the same time they learn about the hymns. Our Community Engagement team has been busy representing us with the City and other partners. You will want to read how despite a small decrease in attendance over the summer, the Cathedral Café is thriving. There are also some Thanksgiving reflections by Lauren Mais and Patrick Wall, and Sandy Darling tells the story of the refurbishing of the cushions and kneelers at the altar. There are also lots of pictures of everything our community has been doing, too!

Enjoy!

**by Sally Braun-Jackson,
Editor**



FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me' (Deuteronomy 26.10).

As a people of God, we have been thanking our Lord for our harvest for some time. This writer from Deuteronomy describes the harvest festival, an occasion in the life of the people of Israel for celebrating and giving thanks for God's gift of the fruitfulness of the earth. The passage tells us that the worshipper was to come to the sanctuary with a basket containing 'some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest...' (26.2). This gesture was one of returning to God a small portion of what God had freely given. So, too, we in the church set aside time in our life to celebrate the harvest, and particularly to give thanks for God's bounty – God's goodness, God's abundance, God's provision in blessing us with what we need not only to live, but also to thrive in this extraordinarily beautiful corner of God's creation.



What issues out of our gratitude? Where does our appreciation lead us? Well, I pray that as we give thanks, we might also grow in our sense of responsibility for God's freely given gifts. These good gifts come from the earth, God's earth. And God cares for all of God's creation. God's provision is not just for us. Harvest Thanksgiving

is a time when we recall that God's gracious care and concern is not only for human persons. It extends to all of God's good creation. Our pets, indeed, all animals, go about their lives under God's promise to meet their needs. God's covenant extends to all the earth. The whole creation is the object of God's love. God desires that the entire cosmos should flourish. May our thanksgiving lead us into a deeper love for the earth which has borne this fruit – the earth which God loves, and on which we depend. And may the love impel each of us to care as best we can for this particular corner of creation entrusted to us.

A blessed Fall to you all.

by Tim Dobbin ♦



Tim, Lynn, Sophie and Felicity enjoyed a visit to New Zealand this summer. It was a chance to reconnect with Tim's mother, other family, and friends.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In August, Christ's Church Cathedral was invited to participate in discussions with the City of Hamilton and faith leaders across our community to work towards solutions on homelessness. The purpose of the group is to understand current activities occurring with homelessness and to look at opportunities through partnerships:

- to work **with other faith groups** so our efforts are better coordinated and more effective.
- to **support homelessness-serving organizations with volunteers**, in order to support their staff to do work that only trained staff can do.
- to **identify new solutions and opportunities** for faith communities to partner with the City and homeless-serving organizations to make a difference in lives of so many in need.

As chair of the Christ's Church Cathedral Community Engagement Committee, I have attended three meetings to date, along with other members of the Niagara Anglican Diocese (Dierdre Pike, Arch Deacon Terry DeForest, Rev. Rob Miller, Rev. Canon Mike Deed).

I have been grateful for this opportunity to connect with others and start the process of seeking solutions. To be honest, Christ's Church Cathedral was already well positioned for this discussion since conversations were already started through our Community Engagement Committee and previously the Community Engagement Project.

The key focus areas being discussed are:

- Food security
- Housing, shelter and drop-in
- Advocacy
- Mental health and addictions

As you can imagine, the homelessness sit-

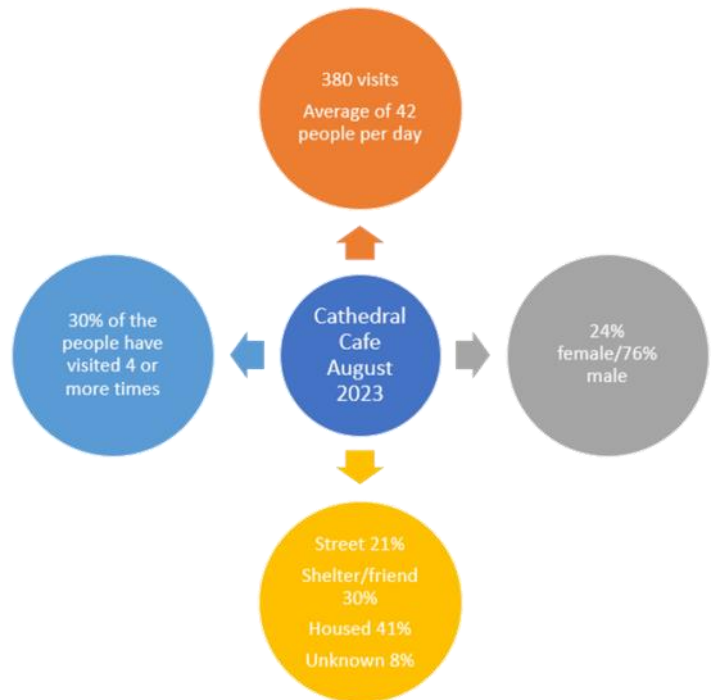
uation is at serious level and as we enter the winter season, it is a critical time for those without housing. There are 30-40 encampments across the city. These represent approximately 1900 homeless individuals in Hamilton. There are only just over 300 shelter beds, and there are more families who are homeless who have a huge need for food and personal supplies. More volunteers are needed to help with this work. Discussions continue with this group to determine how we can assist.

The Cathedral Café will be expanding its days of operation from two to three. We are grateful to Hamilton Out of the Cold (HOOTC) who will partner with us to support the opening of Wednesdays starting in November. They will provide supplies and volunteers to support the drop-in. HOOTC wants to provide the same level of support that the Cathedral Café provides on Thursday and Friday. In addition, HOOTC will be distributing meals on Saturdays from Christ's Church Cathedral.



(Cont'd on page 6)

(Cont'd from page 5)



For your information, it is important to share some statistics and demographics on the people we are seeing at the Cathedral Café.

There was a **14% decrease** in the average number of visitors over July. The decrease could be attributed to the new location of Mission Services. We have seen a slight increase in the number of people sleeping rough either in parks or ravines, or on the street.

by Kerry Lubrick



MONICA'S MUSINGS

Gratitude is one of my favourite emotions. Whenever gratitude wells up within me, I experience delight and joy, while also feeling honoured and blessed. Gratitude can spring up for me in all kinds of circumstances. Of course, I feel gratitude when someone does something nice for me. I also experience it when I am overwhelmed by beauty, whether I am listening to music, viewing art, or simply paying attention to nature. Sometimes I feel gratitude when I look into the eyes of someone I love. When I feel thankful, I almost always feel better than I did before. Gratitude calms my heart because by recognizing what I am experiencing as a gift, I am reminded that I am not responsible for generating all the good I have or seek in my life. Gratitude reminds me that gifts are all around us if we only care to notice them.

In his book *Thanks a Thousand*, author A.J. Jacobs chronicles his quest to thank every person involved in producing his morning cup of coffee. Starting with his local barista, Jacobs follows the supply chain for his coffee all the way back to the coffee farms in South America, thanking everyone along the way, from the planters and harvesters to the sellers and shippers. He even seeks out the people who produce and sell coffee cups and ends up meeting the folks who designed the sippy lid. In his quest to thank everyone who contributes to his daily morning ritual, Jacobs discovers that it takes the contributions of almost a thousand people to create one cup of coffee. His journey of gratitude profoundly affects not only the way he feels, but also how he sees the world around him and all the people in it. He starts to grasp just how interconnected we are and just how dependent we are on people whom we will most likely never meet.

As Jacobs discovered, gratitude is not only an emotion; it is also a spiritual discipline. In most of his epistles, St. Paul encourages members of the early churches to constantly practice gratitude. He urges them to give thanks to God in all circumstances (1 Thess. 5:18), to offer thanksgiving in prayer alongside every concern or situation (Phil. 4:6), and to be thankful in all their actions and speech (Col. 3:17). We, too, can intentionally choose to practice gratitude, and when we express our thanks to God and others, we are changed from the inside out. We are humbled as we are reminded that so much of what we have, and experience does not come from our own efforts. Simultaneously, we are buoyed and awed as we discover anew how much we are supported, connected, and loved.

So, while I doubt you have the resources or time to thank everyone who contributed to your cup of coffee today, I am sure that there are creative and life-giving ways that you might practice the spiritual discipline of gratitude. For whom or what would you like to thank God right now? Whose unseen work are you benefitting from even as you read this? And how might you express your gratitude to them and to those you will encounter today?

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Col. 3:17).” Amen.

**by Rev. Monica
Romig Green**



NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

For Canadians, October is the month of Thanksgiving. Often it is a time of family gathering for a dinner of roast turkey, harvest vegetables and apple or pumpkin pies. It may also be a time when local churches decorate their interiors with items from the harvest: baskets of apples, corn and corn stalks, cabbages and pumpkins. During the church services, there are prayers of thanks to God for the bounty of creation with traditional hymns familiar to many congregations. Perhaps the most common hymn for this season of the church year is 'Now thank we all our God.' We may be surprised to learn that this hymn of gratitude to God was originally written in a time of great anguish and hardship.

The original text for this hymn is German, written during the horrors of the Thirty Years' War (1618-48). The author of the text was Martin Rinckart (1586-1649), the son of a poor coppersmith. Martin had musical talent and became a chorister in St. Thomas' Church in Leipzig, which had a rich musical tradition a hundred years before it became the church of J.S. Bach. Rinckart's training at St. Thomas' enabled him to obtain an education and admission to the University of Leipzig. He became a Lutheran pastor and was posted to his hometown of Eilenberg, which unfortunately was directly in the path of hostile armies. Destruction was followed by famine and plague. Rinckart was the only remaining pastor in the area, often conducting forty funerals daily, and yet writing over sixty hymns to console and sustain his parishioners. We have only this one Rinckart hymn in our hymnbook, and it is remarkable that this hymn written at a time of war and sorrow has become for us a hymn of thanksgiving.

It is a song of deep faith that God is with us

to sustain us in times of anguish and disaster.

O may this bounteous God through
all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed
peace to cheer us,
And nourish us with grace, and
guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world
and the next.

The English translation of this hymn is by Catherine Winkworth (1827-78), who spent a year in Dresden and became interested in German hymnody. She published four books of translations of German hymns and chorales, including some by Martin Luther. Her fine translations of German verse into poetic English made German hymns popular in England in the nineteenth century. In our church calendar shared with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, she is honoured and remembered on July 1.

The tune for this hymn was composed by Johann Crueger (1598-1662), a highly respected organist and composer of the seventeenth century. He also endured many hardships during the war, losing his wife and several of his children. The harmonization of the tune in our hymnbook was created two centuries later by Felix Mendelssohn. Hymn singing was only officially accepted in the Church of England in 1820, and then grew in popularity, largely influenced by Lutheran models of metrical chorales. We might note that of the 658 hymns in our current hymnbook, only eight are in the category of Thanksgiving. There are almost one hundred hymns devoted to praising God, but that is not quite the same as offering our thanks for the blessings we receive.

(cont'd on page 17)

WARDENS' WORLD

I always look forward to the change of pace over the summer. While work continued to be very busy for me, it was nice to have Thursday evenings free from choir practice to catch up with friends. With fewer Sunday morning obligations, I would take the occasional Sunday morning off from church to garden or to go for a bike ride. The change in routine is refreshing, but by the time September rolls around I am grateful for the return to singing in the choir and regular contact with fellow parishioners.

While I enjoy the change in routine, it also reminds me what I value about being part of this community. I love music, and I look forward to singing familiar anthems and hymns and seeing what new things we might do. I enjoy the scripture readings and the thoughtful homilies that challenge me to think more deeply about my relationship with God. I especially love the regular Sunday eucharist in this congregation to which I feel so attached. Perhaps most of all, I look forward to seeing how we as a faith community will respond to God's call.

The past couple of years have involved lots of change at the Cathedral. This Fall I am grateful that we have such a robust ministry team with Tim, Bruce, Tricia and now Monica in place. With the leadership and support of this gifted team, we can think less about the daily logistics of running a parish and focus more on supporting one another, outreach to our brothers and sisters in the community and spiritual growth.

The completion of our Ministry Action Plan has helped identify some important areas of growth. It is exciting to see the many ways in which this work is being carried out through the work of our various committees and working groups. I am truly grateful for the generosity and dedication of the people of this congregation. Our communal worship is only possible because of the

many people who participate as servers, communion ministers, greeters, readers, and intercessors. In addition, we have the people who provide tasty treats for coffee hour and make sure it is all tidied up. The many community engagement, outreach, spiritual growth, climate justice, Reconciliation, communication and stewardship activities happen through the hours of work of many people in this congregation.



While I am grateful for these many aspects of our life at Christ's Church Cathedral, I realize that I am not always good at expressing my gratitude. I often assume that people know how much I value their contributions, but I have learned that is not always true. I am committed to ensuring that I am letting people know how much I appreciate them being part of this community and the many ways they contribute. I am starting right now. Thanks, Sally, for your work on Contact and making it such a great resource for all of us. Thanks, John, for making it such an attractive publication.

**by Brian Kreps
on behalf of the CCC
Wardens**



WE PRAISE THEE

In the tradition of Christian music in the West, there is one liturgical text above all others which has been associated for centuries with the theme of gratitude and thanksgiving to God. It is a hymn dating from the early centuries of Christianity in Italy, sometimes attributed to St Ambrose of Milan (340-397 CE). The hymn is known by the Latin first words of its first line: *Te Deum laudamus*, or just *Te Deum*.

In the medieval period, the *Te Deum* was chanted on Sundays and feast days at the end of the night service of Matins. It has also been widely used on other occasions, sometimes with the church bells ringing throughout, to express thanksgiving. For example, in some countries they have special services in the afternoon or evening on New Years' Eve, when the *Te Deum* is sung to give God thanks for all the blessings received.

In the origins of the Anglican church, the *Te Deum* was incorporated into the order for Morning Prayer, where the first line was translated as 'We praise Thee, O God!' Although it is now unusual to have choral celebrations of Morning Prayer, there is a wonderful treasury of settings of the *Te Deum* in its English translation, composed for Anglican services. There are also many mainstream composers who have written elaborate settings of the Latin or English text of the *Te Deum* for various special occasions: a few examples that spring to mind are Purcell, Handel, Charpentier, Haydn, Dvořak, Bruckner and Britten.

Next time you feel in a thankful mood, what about sampling a setting of the *Te Deum* (try searching on YouTube or Spotify) and see if it helps to express your mood?



(Accompanying Lauren at Supercrawl)



(Andrew at the Piano - Supercrawl)

by Bruce Burbidge
photo: © Alexander
(Sandy) Darling



REFURBISHING A LEGACY

One day in late 2022, Ken Patterson and I were together in the sanctuary, when one of us commented that the cushions and kneelers needed cleaning. I said something like, "They are finished like carpeting and I have a carpet-cleaner." This was the beginning of a nine-month project of refurbishing a legacy from the 1970s.

The legacy goes back to 1964, when there were marble floors in the chancel for kneeling, hard wooden seats for sitting except for the bishop and visiting dignitaries, and straw-filled cushions for the choir. Members of the altar guild heard that hooked work had been used in a local church and was simple to learn. In 1965, Alice (Lallie) Robertson made the first cushion and she continued to do so until Rittermere Studios in Vineland taught women of the cathedral how to hook carpeting. In 1978 and 1979 twenty women, who called themselves the "Cathedral Hookers", met weekly to produce over thirty cushions for seats and the five kneelers in front of the altar rail.

Lallie coordinated the project, and hired two local architects, Hugh Robertson and Peter Bell, to draw the designs. For the kneelers the designs of the relief carvings in the communion rail were used, as in the examples photographed below.



Heraldry was chosen for the cushion patterns because the colors are basic primary colors and the designs are flat. The crests used on the cushions appear with the name of the hooker on the back of each cushion and can be grouped:

- Cathedral crest with the words *Christus Habet Claves* (Christ has the keys).
- Old and new crests of the Diocese of Niagara, and crests of the dioceses in which the land of Hamilton was previously located (Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Toronto).
- Crests of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Diocese of Canterbury, the partner Diocese of Athabasca, and the City of Hamilton for the archdeacon's stall.
- Crests of the World Council of Churches, Ontario and the Anglican Church of Canada for visiting dignitaries' chairs.
- Crests of guilds: masons, blacksmiths, braziers, candle-stick makers, broiderers, parish clerks, goldsmiths, glaziers, bricklayers and tilers, vintners, carpenters. The crest for the braziers is in the photo below.
- Crest of Sisters of the Church who made communion wafers used by the cathedral.

It is the legacy of these women and their work that we celebrate. At the end of the project, Lallie wrote a brochure¹, and I thank her for the information I have used to describe the work.

I joined members of the Brass Monkeys in January 2023 to start cleaning and we had all the carpeting washed in a single session. Some of the cushions had zippers and so we soon learned that the foam was disintegrating and that some repairs were needed. Ken Patterson, with help from Jennifer Early, found a store on Ottawa Street that sold foam for the cushions and kneelers, and Ken sourced other materials needed for the task ahead. Without going into too much detail, each cushion was unzipped or unstitched to remove the foam and accumulated foam dust, before using a shop-vac both inside and out. The Ottawa Street store then inserted new foam and put zippers into the cushions where we had had to unpick stitching. We had to disassemble the altar-rail kneelers, and this involved removing about 200 staples per kneeler. They were cleaned in a similar way, and both cushions and kneelers needed removal of wax and stains. Next, the kneelers were reassembled with new foam inside.

Three of the long kneelers and nine cushions required some repairs of the rug-hooking, and our biggest challenge was finding someone who could do this. From the internet we discovered the Ontario Guild of Rug-Hookers (OGRH), and its president put us in touch with Donna VanDusen, who believes that she is the only person in Ontario who does restoration work of rug-hooking. Travelling to Kingston, we delivered the objects to Donna for her to start the restoration work. It is a tribute to the quality of work that such small repairs were needed for items that range in age from 44 to 59 years old. All twenty women and especially Lallie, who led the project, deserve our praise. Among those who worked on multiple items were Rose Apigian, Jane O'Flynn and Midge Ross - reading all those names was a trip down memory lane for me.



Ken Patterson, Jennifer Early and the writer devoted many hours to the refurbishment, and timely assistance was also given by Jim Newman, Ed Early and Jeni Darling. We are also grateful for the professional work of Donna VanDusen. Over 200 hours of volunteer time and financial support from the Memorial Fund have burnished the legacy. We also were boosted by the backing of Dean Tim Dobbin and our Treasurer, Canon J. Lefebvre, who gave the financial approvals. We hope that the cushions and kneelers will last another 40 years or more.

¹ Alice Robertson *Cushions and Kneelers in the Chancel of Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton*. Undated, Hamilton.

**Article and photos by
Sandy Darling**



NOTES & NEWS

Summer is usually a bit slower around the Cathedral as staff and volunteers head off on vacation. This year, our staff travelled far and wide: Dean Tim and his family connected with the Dobbin side of the clan in wintry New Zealand, Curate Monica Romig Green and her husband Matthew walked part of the Camino de Santiago in Spain, Parish Co-ordinator Tricia Kalantari cruised with husband Bahman and Tricia's extended family in the Pacific, and Director of Music Ministries Bruce Burbidge flew to England to connect with old friends and colleagues there.

A highlight of summer 2023 at the Cathedral was the visit and concert by the choir of Christ's College, Cambridge, UK at the end of July. The choir, internationally renowned, came to Hamilton as part of their summer tour of Ontario and Quebec. They were treated to a wonderful Canadian-themed dinner (featuring lake trout) in Myler Hall coordinated by Colin Campbell, assisted by trusty sous-chefs from our own Cathedral choir. Following an outstanding concert well-attended by both Cathedral parishioners and community members (many of Hamilton's best choral directors and singers were spotted in the audience), the Cambridge choristers were hosted overnight in the homes of Cathedral parishioners. Everyone who had a chance to interact with the students found them charming: passionate about music and their choir, interested in learning about life in Canada, and generally full of fun. It's rumoured that the crew staying with John and Anne-Louise Watts enjoyed a 6 am swim before reporting to the bus for their final concert in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The early fall saw the slow but steady refurbishment of two areas of our building:



Myler Hall, and the choir rehearsal and robing room underneath the sanctuary. Both were looking tired and neglected post-pandemic, and the furnishings in Myler Hall needed to be reimagined to serve the needs of our Cathedral Café guests while also ensuring usable space for both Cathedral and diocesan functions. We're very grateful to the Diocese of Niagara's Cathedral Place Property Management Committee for funding new IKEA storage cabinets, and to diocesan volunteer Terry Charters, Kerry and Michael Lubrick, and staff members Derek Smith and Turner Shaw for putting them together, as well as for clearing the miscellaneous pieces of large and small furniture that had accumulated in the hall over several years. The choir room has been given a good cleaning and cleared of items left over from the Jamesville Children's Centre tenancy. Comfortable seating has been arranged around the piano with an oriental-style rug unearthed during the clean-out in Myler Hall, and the small kitchenette put in by the children's centre has been upgraded with mugs, kettle and coffee-maker. Members of the Cathedral choir – mostly volunteers – contribute many hours of time each year and will hopefully enjoy and benefit from their upgraded space.

(Contid from page 15)



On Sunday, September 10, we celebrated the retirement of John Watts and Louise Van Woelderen as leaders of the St. Veronica team for thirteen years. Over that time, they have faithfully supported the Cathedral's Sunday parish eucharists by recruiting a volunteer roster of lay greeters, readers, intercessors, communion ministers and coffee hour hosts every fourth Sunday. Everyone who's worked with John and Louise know what treasures they are in terms of our community life – approachable, knowledgeable, caring, and always good-humoured. Their work was blessed by Dean Tim at the end of the service, and a fabulous cake in honour of the occasion was served at coffee hour.

We're also welcoming some new team leaders – hallelujah! Taking over from John and Louise as St. Veronica team leaders are Matthew Green and Susanne Prue. Sandra Cross has joined David Savage to co-lead the St. Thomas Team, and Roseann Barry has joined Sue Crowe-Connolly to co-lead the St. Andrew Team. We're so grateful for their willingness to take on this important ministry. If you're already a team member, please say "Yes" when asked to take on a

job, as the old saying "Many hands make light work" has a lot of truth to it. If you're not on a team but would like to be, contact any one of the team leaders.



**by Elizabeth Wensley
on behalf of the
CCC Corporation**



THANK YOU, MICHAEL SMITH



In the Summer 2023 issue of Contact, Brian Kreps described the process of creating our Cathedral MAP (Mission Action Plan). Brian noted the significant volunteer contribution of Michael Smith to our process. This is far from the only volunteer contribution Michael has made to the church. For example, he has been Chair of the Steering Committee of the Niagara School for Missional Leadership and a Warden at The Church of the Incarnation in Oakville. All this and more while President of Integram, a marketing firm that helps organizations identify, brand, and communicate their unique strengths. Michael's energetic and generous contribution informed and encouraged our planning process and kept our feet to the fire. Thank you, Michael. We couldn't have done it without you

***by Wendy Newman
on behalf of the CCC
Corporation***



HAVE YOU MOVED OR CHANGED YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION?

Be sure to contact the church office with new/changed addresses, phone numbers & email addresses to help keep our database up to date.

It is important that we have up-to-date contact information for all parishioners. In the event of a change in plans, we need to be able to inform you.

**Let Tricia (Parish Coordinator) know by
calling 905-527-1316, ext. 240, or
emailing cathedral.admin@niagaraanglican.ca**

REMEMBERING TO BE THANKFUL

The theme for this issue is gratitude, from a Latin word meaning the feeling of being grateful or thankful. Thanksgiving is not an official holiday in Jamaica, where I am from.

Merci, gracias, danke, obrigado, shukran ... these are just a few of the words in other languages for thank you. However, thank you may also be in the form of helping someone, offering a smile, being kind. Whether in word or deed, these are expressions of gratitude, and that sentiment is universal.

Have you ever stopped to think about what giving thanks means? How does it make you feel when you express your appreciation to someone? How about the person on the receiving end of your gratitude? These are some of the things to reflect on, since giving thanks should not be a season limited to one part of the year. There will always be challenges in life such as poor health, family issues, financial constraints and of course, all the aches and

pains that come with aging! Gratitude is a matter of perspective. When you focus on the things you are grateful for, somehow the things you do not have seem smaller or less important. In so doing, you may find yourself in a more peaceful place while obliterating feelings of disappointment, resentment, perhaps even envy. So, I implore you to make gratitude a habit, a way of life, beyond Thanksgiving season!

For times when you may need a reminder to be thankful, here are words from a well-known hymn to help you:

*When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings; name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.*

(Lyrics: Johnson Oatman, Jr. ; Music: Edwin Othello Excell)

by Lauren Mais



GRATITUDE

One day, taking a walk in the forest in the west end,

I felt the most beautiful sense of gratitude:

Gratitude for the air we still breathe,

For the subtle music of foliage

And the sight of a leaf swirling to greet autumn.

A little further, finding a stream,

I wanted to hear its voice:

It was quiet, it was flowing and alive.

It marveled my senses, bringing childhood memories of a great and thunderous

Chilean river of white waters.

Today, I give thanks for nature, for my family and all I was given.

Thank you, God.

by Violeta San Juan



THANKSGIVING MEMORIES

I have a few memorable Thanksgiving experiences. Two that come to mind happened at a time when my parents were away traveling. The first is my grandmother's last Thanksgiving before she died. A last time to have her pumpkin pie, a time to cherish her presence and humour, and a chance to be thankful for our time together.

The second experience was a few years ago. I spent Thanksgiving with my sister and my sister-in law's family. I felt very welcome in a new family that my sister belonged to. I was grateful to meet my sister's extended family and was made to feel as if I had always been a part of it.

I have had many wonderful Thanksgivings over the years but these two stand out to me. I feel that being a part of the Cathedral family is similar to these experiences. Cherishing those we are with and feeling a part of a wider community.



Patrick is also thankful for fishing.

by Patrick Wall

(Cont'd from page 8)

In a time of war, famine and plague, Martin Rinckart was able to create verses of thanks to God for the courage to have faith and to persevere. In our time of political turmoil, climate disasters and threatening illnesses, we also might pray for the courage to have faith and to persevere, giving thanks to God for strength and guidance.

***by Sharyn Hall ✦
photo: © Alexander
(Sandy) Darling***



SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

When John received his Revelation, he saw Jesus declare from heaven, "Look! I am making all things new." I imagine only God can make all things new, but those of us in the spiritual growth committee can make a few new things!

We've newly decided to change the name of our programs and committee from Faith Formation to Spiritual Growth, and we hope that better captures what we're aiming to provide for the parish community. Here are some other things we're adding and changing this season:

Our weekly Digging Deeper discussions are changing from primarily discussion groups to more teaching on specific topics. We're starting this fall with a series of Anglicanism 101 courses and then move to a survey of the Bible.

Contemplative prayer groups still run regularly throughout the week, providing times for quiet prayer and reflection and space to listen for God's movements within.

Last Lent's movie series is coming back with a movie night each month, showing features on the theme of Choices and giving space to talk about what films like *Women Talking* and *Joyeux Noel* can tell us about our life with God and one another.

In September and October, there will be two opportunities to explore new, engaging ways to pray with both a daytime and evening option to hopefully suit whatever matches your schedule.

We're bringing back Cathedral Chats in November with a presentation on climate advocacy by Lynda Lukasic, Director, Office of Climate Change Initiatives City of Hamilton.

And Susanne Prue has offered to lead an Advent Quiet Day in December for a time to reflect on Christ's incarnation and his vulnerability.

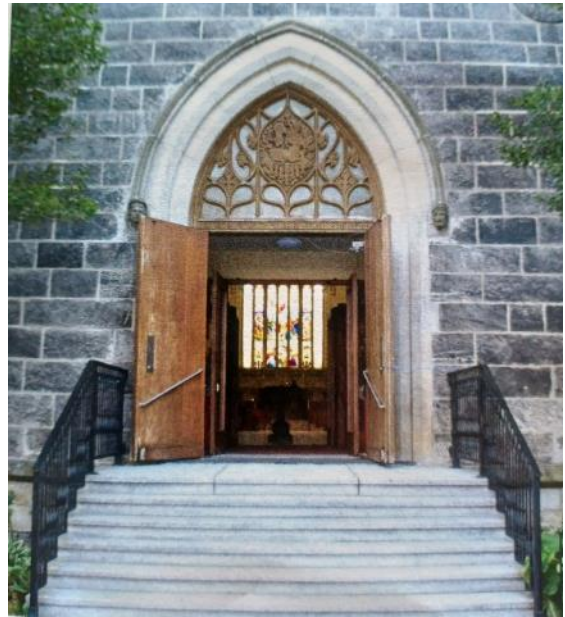


CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL

HAMILTON

ONTARIO

SPIRITUAL GROWTH PROGRAMS Fall 2023



A brochure is available at the back of the church with more details, and we'll surely have announcements along the way, so if anything sounds interesting or appealing, we'll get you pointed in the right direction. Should you have any questions, you're welcome to ask any of us from the spiritual growth committee: Monica Green, Matthew Green, Marie Avery, Catherine Leckey, and Tim Dobbin.

**All events planned by the Spiritual
Direction Committee are listed on the
calendars in this edition of CONTACT**

ORDER OF NIAGARA

Nomination of Lori-Lyn Bradley for Order of Niagara June 2023

The information printed below is a copy of the official nomination submitted by the CCC Corporation.

The Dean and Corporation of Christ's Church Cathedral are honoured to nominate Lori-Lyn Bradley for the Order of Niagara. Ever since she arrived at the Cathedral from a previous role as a Sunday School leader in the former Anglican parish of St. Peter's, Hamilton, Lori-Lyn has served in several leadership positions within the Cathedral and in many informal roles as well.



She served the Cathedral capably as a Warden. She has also been a co-leader of the St. Bede Team, one of our four liturgical support teams, recruiting, training and supporting lectors, intercessors, greeters, and hospitality providers. She has served in virtually all liturgical support roles herself, having been a server, a thoughtful and eloquent leader of Prayers of the People, a lector, a faithful and friendly greeter, and a cheerful regular host of post-service coffee hours. She excels at hospitality, having co-hosted some of our Monday evening "AF&F" gatherings, our first post-pandemic Newcomers' Lunch, and informally, many events in her home to make new members welcome and strengthen parish community spirit.

In her characteristic unassuming way, Lori-Lyn maintains a personal ministry of prayer support for all who are in any need or distress. Lori-Lyn Bradley is deeply deserving of the Order of Niagara.

*You are invited to witness Lori-Lyn's admission to the
Order of Niagara on Sunday, November 12 at 4 pm.*



CLIMATE JUSTICE NIAGARA

You don't need to be a climate scientist to understand that we're in climate trouble. Canada is in the middle of an unprecedented wildfire crisis. Millions of people around the world are suffering through record heat. Even Antarctica reached temperatures near 40C briefly last year. It can be downright discouraging.



But here at the Cathedral we're doing something positive and productive! There's a new initiative known as Climate Justice Cathedral. It's intended to foster attention and action about climate change at the parish level. CJC's primary focus is advocacy, and it's intended to mobilize us and other parishes' faith communities in the fight against climate change.

Yes, it's frustrating to watch our governments planning for new gas plants, buying pipelines, and giving billions in subsidies to fossil fuel industries. They are treating the worst polluters like trustworthy partners while those same polluters engage in greenwashing; and quite effectively I might add.

But not me. I'm not going to tell my grandchildren that I didn't try to do something. I have always been a steward in my heart. I believe that we are to take care of the earth, not exploit it, and I'm not alone. There are many local, national, and international NGOs and other groups who are working diligently to align development cooperation with climate action. I support financially two of them, and am a cheerleader for others.

So what about the Anglican church? The church is good at describing stewardship from a biblical point of view, but needs more action from people of faith. That's us - we are the church. Are we going to be part of the problem or part of the solution? To its credit, General Synod in August passed a motion that included mandates, resources, incentives, and strategies for decisive climate action across the Anglican Church of Canada. They endorsed working toward a major reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, promoting ethical investing, and publicizing the results. And I'm thrilled to say that motion originated in the Diocese of Niagara.

Momentum for action in the church is building, albeit slowly. Christians around the world are invited to give particular attention to praying and caring for God's creation as part of the global Season of Creation, observed from September 1 to October 4 every year. It's a time of prayer, education, and action and encouraging dioceses and parishes to participate.

Here at home the Climate Justice Cathedral group is mobilizing. For now we're focused on encouraging ethical investments, prayer, efficient physical facilities, and communications/education. You may have noticed our inserts in the Chronicle, our additions to our intercessory prayers, and maybe even a little of our "we can do this" attitude. There's lots more in progress.

On November 8, 2023, the Cathedral Chat event will feature Linda Lukasic, Director, Office of Climate Change Initiatives for Hamilton. She will be speaking about her new role with the city, her areas of emphasis, and what we and our fellow residents can do to help further the cause here in Hamilton.

(Cont'd on page 21)

(Cont'd from page 20)

Meanwhile, you can make your voice heard by those in power. Write a letter. Sign that petition. Call your MPP.

We can do this!

**by James Newman, Co-Chair
Climate Justice Cathedral**



For your reference, MPP phone numbers:

Jama, Sara (Hamilton Centre)
905-544-9644

Lumsden, Neil (Hamilton East)
905-662-8755

Shaw, Sandy (Ham. West - Ancaster - Dundas)
905-628-2755

Skelly, Donna (Flamborough - Glanbrook)
905-679-3770

Taylor, Monique (Hamilton Mountain)
905-388 9734

SUPERCRAWL 2023

On the second Friday evening of every month you will find John Watts, Anne Louise Watts and a band of knowledgeable volunteers welcoming visitors to the Cathedral during "Art Crawl".

This vital ministry allows those who are unfamiliar with church to explore our sacred space in a casual, non-intimidating manner. All are welcome, regardless of their faith, lack of faith, or skepticism.

In September, Christ's Church Cathedral opens its doors for Supercrawl. This year over 6000 (yes, 6000!) guests came through our doors over the weekend. They were greeted by 36 volunteers!

Even before Supercrawl began, volunteers were hard at work. Barbara Howard, Wendy Newman, Elizabeth Wensley and Jim Newman baked over 500 cookies to distribute to children and those who chose to donate using our new tap machine.



Every visitor was greeted with a friendly greeting and smile. Anne Louise faithfully pushed the button on the counter so we would know how many guests came through the doors.



Over the weekend, visitors marveled at the beauty of our Cathedral and enjoyed a variety of music and activities.



Even the youngest visitors had fun!



Supercrawl is a major event in Hamilton. It attracts hundreds of thousands of participants from around the Golden Horseshoe. As a place of refuge in the middle of a busy city, our participation in this community event is of utmost importance!

How fortunate we are to belong to a community that is welcoming and full of parishioners who are willing to volunteer for this amazing community event! Thank you to each and every one of the volunteers who made Supercrawl at the Cathedral such a success in 2023!



FINANCIAL REPORT

For the period ending September 2023

Parishioner Givings are significantly behind plan and this shortfall is primarily driving the year-to-date deficit of \$33,697. Expenses are lower than the budgeted amounts and this, along with the Diocesan grant that we got for completing the MAP Process and the special donation to help us pay our long-term debt obligation for this year, are allowing for a deficit less than anticipated.

Income	30-Sep-23	2023 Budget	Variance	2022 Actual
Parishioner Givings	\$216,060	\$254,250	-\$38,190	\$207,261
Other Income*	\$16,584	\$15,825	\$759	\$26,598
Open Collection	\$3,673	\$1,800	\$1,873	\$1,148
Misc Income	\$3,778	\$375	\$3,403	\$1,889
Fund Income	\$94,102	\$94,102	\$0	\$122,250
PWRDF	\$2,190	\$2,835	-\$645	\$2,990
St. Matthew's House	\$240	\$270	-\$30	\$270
Special Offerings	\$40,723	\$5,000	\$35,723	\$154,595
Diocesan Grant (WOW Grant)	\$4,583	\$0	\$4,583	\$0
City of Hamilton Grant (Café)	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
Government of Canada Grant (Hearing)	\$17,773	\$0	\$17,773	\$0
Transfer in from Funds	\$5,515	\$0	\$5,515	\$1,810
Total Income	\$410,221	\$374,457	\$35,764	\$518,811
Expenses				
Staffing	\$233,874	\$250,662	-\$16,788	\$227,914
Diocesan Assessment	\$41,250	\$41,250	\$0	\$38,044
Property	\$58,794	\$58,716	\$78	\$54,636
Admin and Programs	\$47,819	\$57,577	-\$9,758	\$34,286
Transfer out to PWRDF, St. Matthew's	\$2,430	\$3,105	-\$675	\$3,260
Transfer out to designated funds	\$44,751	\$0	\$44,751	\$157,951
Long Term Debt Repayment (Diocese)	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$16,250
Total Expense	\$443,918	\$426,310	\$17,608	\$532,341
Net Income (Deficit)	-\$33,697	-\$51,853	\$18,156	-\$13,530

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

** We received special one-time offerings of: \$15,000 to assist with the payment of our long-term debt, \$2,500 donation for the purchase of new chairs for the Cathedral Livingroom, \$1,100 to help offset the cost of the Easter brass, \$1,535 in General Memorial donations, a one-time donation of \$8,000 to be used at the Corporation's discretion towards the maintenance and upkeep of the property, \$1954 for the Francine Campbell-Rich Music and Arts Fund, \$145 for the Coldest Night of the Year (which were forwarded to Hamilton Helping Hands), \$150 towards the Rev. Canon Dr. Sharyn Hall Arts Fund and \$10,339 for the McCoy Organ Fund.



*by J. Lefebvre ♦, Treasurer
on behalf of the CCC Corporation*

WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

At this time of year our thoughts turn to turkey dinners with savoury stuffing, mashed potatoes, squash, gravy, and pumpkin pie. While some may prefer apple pie, most enjoy the time with family reminiscing about the year past and naming what we are thankful for.

What are you thankful for?

Many of us take for granted accommodation, food, health, family, and friends. We are so accustomed to being showered with blessings, we sometimes forget just how fortunate we really are. Homelessness, inadequate housing, food scarcity and other challenges faced by many in our community seem far away to many of us.

What are you thankful for?

At the Cathedral Cafe, we are forced to confront how precarious our well-being is. The community members who attend on Thursday and Friday mornings come from a variety of backgrounds. Many once had the abundance that most of us still enjoy. Some started out with education and rewarding jobs. They, too, sat with families in comfortable homes and enjoyed traditional Thanksgiving feasts. Sadly, through a variety of circumstances - loss of income, relationship breakdowns, mental health issues and addictions - they find themselves without the comforts they once knew. We are all really two or three crises away from the street.

What are you thankful for?

This month, the Generosity Team chose, not surprisingly, to focus on thankfulness. As a team, we are extremely thank-

ful for the many dedicated and generous givers at Christ's Church Cathedral! Without you, all the ministries of CCC would be impossible. We can minister to parishioners, the diocese, and community because generous givers like yourself continue to give.

You! That is what we are thankful for!

Over the past week, members of the Generosity Team, Corporation and Clergy placed calls to all who gave to our parish ministries this year. We were not asking for more, we simply wanted to say, "thank you for your faithfulness" and remind you that "when you give, it makes a difference."

We are thankful that you give so that we can continue to offer a place of refuge at Cathedral Cafe. We are thankful that you give so we can provide high quality teaching, music, and ministry week after week. We are thankful that you give so we can host ordinations, funerals, and weddings in our sacred spaces. We are thankful that you give to help CCC bring light to our community and city!

The Bible reads, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, neither do thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:19-21).

We are thankful for where your hearts are focused!



by John Bradley,
on behalf of the
Generosity Team



OCTOBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Pentecost 18 1 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) St. Andrew Team Anglicanism 101 12:15 pm	2 Contemplative Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey	3 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Lynn Godfrey Community Prayer - 9 am	4 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group 1-3 pm	5 Cathedral Café 10 am - noon	6 Contemplative Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Litany of Reconciliation 12 pm	7
Pentecost 19 8 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) St. Veronica Team Anglicanism 101 12:15 pm	9 CCC offices closed for Thanks- giving Holiday	10 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Lynn Godfrey Community Prayer - 9 am	11 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group 1-3 pm Lost for Words 7-8 pm	12 Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Lost for Words 1-2 pm	13 Contemplative Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Litany of Reconciliation 12 pm Art Crawl 7 - 10 pm	14
Pentecost 20 15 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) St. Thomas Team A Bible Tour 12:15 pm	16 Contemplative Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey	17 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Lynn Godfrey Community Prayer - 9 am	18 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group 1-3 pm Movie Night 7-9:30 pm	19 Brass Monkeys 9:00 to noon Cathedral Café 10 am - noon	20 Contemplative Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Litany of Reconciliation 12 pm	21
Pentecost 21 22 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) Ven. Bede Team A Bible Tour 12:15 pm	23 Contemplative Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey	24 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Lynn Godfrey Community Prayer - 9 am	25 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group 1-3 pm Lost for Words 7-8 pm	26 Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Lost for Words 1-2 pm	27 Contemplative Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Litany of Reconciliation 12 pm	28
Pentecost 22 29 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) St. Andrew Team A Bible Tour 12:15 pm Order of Niagara 4 pm	30 Contemplative Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey	31		Please Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (V) indicates that service is both livestreamed and on YouTube For more information about Contemplative Prayer, contact Lynn Godfrey at lynn.godfrey79@gmail.com Speak with John Watts about Community Prayer 		

NOVEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Cathedral Café with HOOTC 10 am - noon Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-3 pm	2 Cathedral Café 10 am - noon	3 Contemplative Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Litany of Reconciliation 12 pm	4 Diocesan Synod Out of the Cold 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Pentecost 23 5 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) St. Veronica Team A Bible Tour 12:15 pm	6 Contemplative Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey	7 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Lynn Godfrey Community Prayer - 9 am	8 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Cathedral Café with HOOTC 10 am - noon Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-3 pm Cathedral Chat 7-8:30 pm	9 Cathedral Café 10 am - noon	10 Contemplative Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Litany of Reconciliation 12 pm Art Crawl 7 - 10 pm	11 Out of the Cold 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Pentecost 24 12 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) St. Thomas Team A Bible Tour 12:15 pm Order of Niagara 4 pm	13 Contemplative Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey	14 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Lynn Godfrey Community Prayer - 9 am	15 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Cathedral Café with HOOTC 10 am - noon Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-3 pm Movie Night 7-9:30 pm	16 Brass Monkeys 9:00 to noon Cathedral Café 10 am - noon	17 Contemplative Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Litany of Reconciliation 12 pm	18 Out of the Cold 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Pentecost 25 19 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) Ven. Bede Team A Bible Tour 12:15 pm	20 Contemplative Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey	21 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Lynn Godfrey Community Prayer - 9 am	22 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Cathedral Café with HOOTC 10 am - noon Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-3 pm	23 Cathedral Café 10 am - noon	24 Contemplative Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Cathedral Café 10 am - noon Litany of Reconciliation 12 pm	25 Out of the Cold 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Christ the King 26 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) St. Veronica Team A Bible Tour 12:15 pm	27 Contemplative Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey	28 Contemplative Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Lynn Godfrey Community Prayer - 9 am	29 Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Cathedral Café with HOOTC 10 am - noon Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting Group, 1-3 pm	30 Cathedral Café 10 am - noon		

PASSAGES

BAPTISMS

Theodore (Theo) MacGillivray
April 8, 2023

Jacob Benjamin Thomas
April 16, 2023



WEDDINGS

Justin Vandervelde and Chloe Ann Beaini
July 8, 2023

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Rev. Rob Miller
September 24, 2023



DEATHS

Marjorie Ann Batchelor
(friend of Rev. J. Lefebvre)
June 10, 2023

Jeffrey Barry
(son of Roseann Barry)
July 14, 2023

Philip Harold Leach
(uncle of Bishop S. Bell)
July 29, 2023



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