

CONTACT

Christ's Church Cathedral

Autumn, 2025

*What does
God
Require of us?*



Love Kindness



Seek Justice



Walk humbly with God



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Front Cover: Seek Justice - Jamesville derelict buildings (top right), Love Kindness - Anne Kaewmongkol offers prayers at SuperCrawl, Walk Humbly - Rev. Monica walks the labyrinth during Oasis.

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Errata: In the Summer 2025 issue of Contact we erroneously reported in the Alongside Hope column that Hamas was fighting against the fourth largest army in the world. It is unclear what was the source of this statement, but there is no metric by which Israel's military may be considered to be the fourth largest in the world. The four largest militaries are: China, India, United States, and North Korea. Russia, while formidable, ranks #5. The Contact editorial team regrets the oversight.

FROM THE EDITOR

The theme for this issue is about a community's relationship with God. Initially, it seems simple. Micah's response to the question of how to maintain a relationship with God was to seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. Easy peasy, right? Maybe not. Relationships require a great deal of work – even when giving up seems to be practical. Take the photo in the top right corner of the front cover. That's the Jamesville city housing just days before it was demolished to make way for a new project. It has been abandoned for at least ten years. But it's not simply buildings that lack life. All the people who lived there had connections to various parts of the neighbourhood. Let me tell you about one of them.

In 2009, my family bought a house quite close to the cathedral. Back then, many of the children living in the Jamesville housing went to school at St Mary's Catholic Elementary school across the street from our house. The playground was actively used after school and on weekends as well. It also functioned as a venue for the Supie program in the summer months. When families from Jamesville were re-located, enrollment dropped at St Mary's causing the school to be closed and the remaining students re-assigned to St Lawrence and St Joseph's schools. Later, the building was taken over by the RC School Board as a resource centre for teachers and EAs. The playground was dismantled, paved over to make a parking lot, and families whose children attended St Mary's school moved out of the neighbourhood.

What happened to the Jamesville site was likely more practical than just. The buildings themselves had become uninhabitable and

too costly to repair. It was better to move families to other parts of the city than to undertake a disruptive renovation project.

This issue of Contact explores how justice, kindness, and being humble intersect. You'll enjoy Rev. Donald Brown's account of the wide variety of experiences of Elders for Climate Sanity at Art Crawl and Supercrawl. I had to chuckle at his account of the young man who shouted, "I love oil!" Likewise, James Newman's reflection on aging. He suggests ways of confronting condescending behaviour with grace. There is a new fall schedule for Spiritual Growth Programs. Digging Deeper, Centering Prayer, and Cathedral Chat continue. In addition, movie night is back in December. We have placed the schedule right smack in the middle of the issue so that you can easily pull it out to pin on your bulletin board. We haven't abandoned the My Passion column. Instead, Sue and I thought it might be a good idea to introduce some of the ministries around the cathedral precinct for the benefit of the many newcomers to our parish. We introduce Angela Savage describing her involvement with the Altar Guild and Jeni Darling, leader of the Lay Weeders.

May you have a blessed Thanksgiving, ♦

Sally Braun-Jackson
Editor



FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

Dear friends in Christ

'... and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?' (Micah 6.8)

Micah's name actually means 'Who lives like Yahweh?' He grew up in a small village in Judah, which may account for some of his sensitivity to the struggles of those on the margins and to their exploitation by those in power. His prophetic book is a mix of words of devastation and of hope. It is shaped by the historical context of a foreign power having devastated his homeland and a society which had become corrupt and dishonest. In the latter chapters of his book, Micah paints a picture of the wonderful future of Zion which God has in store. He poses the question, how are God's people to respond to this God who has intervened so dramatically throughout their history and who promises them such a prosperous and peace-filled life ahead? Is it through sacrifice? No! thunders Micah. God is not interested in elaborate worship and ritual sacrifice. Rather God wills that we act justly, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

It's one of those maxims that sounds simple. Only as we know, it is so much easier said than done. It presupposes a radical inclusivity and an unconditional love which is beyond most of us. Perhaps it is why Micah (remember 'Who lives like Yahweh?') concludes his book by reaffirming God's compassion and steadfast love: passing over our transgressions, not retaining anger forever, delighting in showing clemency, treading our iniquities underfoot, showing faithfulness to Jacob and unswerving loyalty to Abraham, and therefore to us. As high as the bar might seem, we can live like Yahweh, because Yahweh empowers us to live like Yahweh.

Late one evening at Supercrawl, two brothers approached me. It seemed to me that not only our space but exposure to any church life was unfamiliar for them. One was troubled. He had done something he wasn't particularly proud of involving someone who was street-involved. We met privately. We explored together his action,

what might have led him to act in such a way, how his actions might have impacted the other, how he might choose differently in future. We spoke about doing unto others as we would have them do unto us – a new perspective for him. As a community, we could offer these brothers a different worldview, because God is empowering us to live into a different worldview.

God has called together our beloved Cathedral community that by God's grace we may learn what it is to live like Yahweh – acting justly, loving kindness and walking humbly with God. Our core habits or practices or patterns of living all move us in this direction: practicing expansive hospitality, faithfulness in prayer and worship, growing in spiritual maturity as followers of Jesus, supporting emerging leaders, embracing compassionate pastoral care, engaging in the work of justice in our city and giving generously of our time, know-how, and resources. Our life together might not be perfect; nonetheless God still witnesses through us a life of restored relationship with ourselves, with others, with creation and with God.

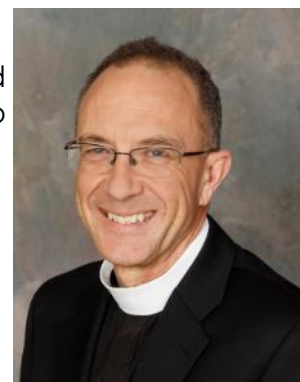
May I conclude with the words of Br. Geoffrey Tristram SSJE, who writes:

Micah had a vision of a mended world, where all lived simply in peace and harmony with the land and their neighbour. Each of us who follows Jesus must help make Micah's vision come true. Let us pray that God will mend our divided hearts, that we may walk lightly on God's sacred land, and that we may 'live simply, that others may simply live.'

A rich, warm and meaningful Thanksgiving to you all. ✦

Tim+

**The Very Rev.
Dr. Tim Dobbin ✦**



WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU?

The prophet Micah lived at a time when there were many wars and upheavals among the people of the Middle East. Life was fragile and the people suffered hunger as well as serious dangers from droughts and storms. The people asked the prophets why this was happening and they responded with words of wisdom about how the people could pray to God for deliverance.

The prophet Micah also told the people that they had obligations to God, and so we have the famous passage which begins: 'What does the Lord require of you?' Micah's response is: 'to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.' We all may wonder how do we do this?

Many years ago, I heard a story about a woman named Mable who was somewhat isolated in a small apartment. She had many physical challenges so was not able to go out very often. Her family lived in other towns and her loneliness took over her outlook on life.

One day she noticed that a tall building was being constructed across the street. She began to watch the activity and the workmen from her balcony window. As the construction continued, the workmen went higher and higher on the scaffolding. It looked like very dangerous work and she became concerned for their safety. However, being confined in her apartment, she could not even go out to

speak kindly to them. The only thing she could do was pray for their safety, so she did that every day as the construction became taller and more dangerous.

One of her friends came occasionally to see her and learned that Mable was watching the workmen and daily praying for their safety. Mable's friend decided she would tell the workmen that they were being supported in prayer by a lady isolated in an apartment across the street. Soon small gifts of treats and flowers began to arrive at Mable's apartment. Eventually the workmen asked to meet Mable and they became her friends who were also interested in her wellbeing. Mable's kindness became known in her apartment building and encouraged others to be kind to the workmen.

We live in a world now when there is the need for more kindness and justice and humility. Whatever we might do to help others may be increased many times through God's grace and God's amazing care for all people.✝

**The Rev.
Dr. Sharyn Hall**

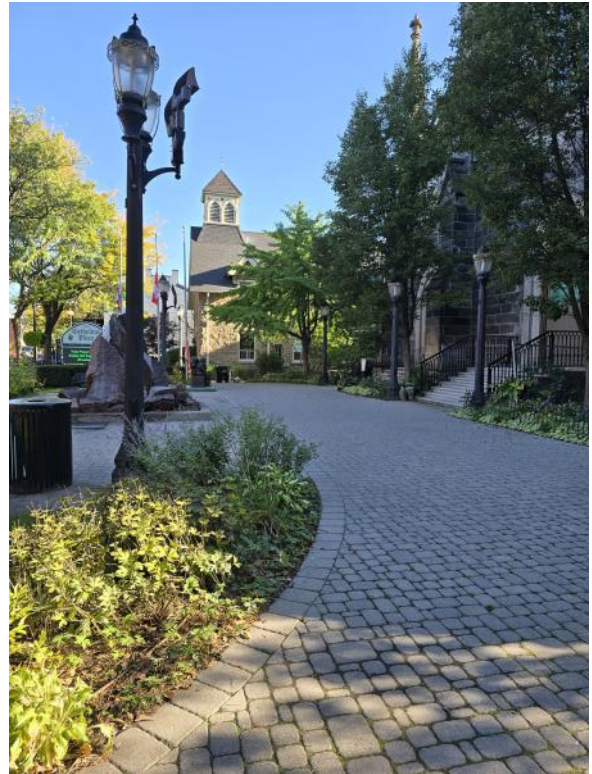


GARDENING IN BISHOPSGATE



Christ's Church Cathedral is fortunate to have a beautiful, green space facing James Street North. These gardens are known as Bishopsgate, a gift of a parishioner, Vera Tomlinson. They were designed and implemented in the early 2000's to provide a green space for respite close to the core of the city. It has been used for parish and diocesan activities and has potential for other activities in the future. There are numerous flower beds, including large perennial beds. Over the years the gardens developed to feature less planting of bulbs and annuals and introduce more native plants and pollinators. There are plenty of trees and shrubs in a relatively small space. A water feature is central to the courtyard, and a beautiful bronze statue, which if you have not noticed is well worth a visit.

The gardens are largely maintained by volunteers, with help from the Cathedral Staff and professionals to maintain the trees, for example and for heavier work. The volunteers also tend the large concrete planters in the Link and the beds on the way into the Cathedral from the parking lot. The volunteers are currently



very small in number and long in years. I have been looking for a successor to take over the leadership of this group, who can help us think about how volunteer work can best be done at this time. Our practice has been to meet on Friday mornings, though this may not be the best time for volunteers now.

During Super Crawl ten visitors signed up to learn more about how volunteers could help in the gardens. I plan to meet them soon, to introduce them to the gardens and plan how they might volunteer in the future. I will keep the congregation informed through the Chronicle so anyone interested can take part.✦



Jeni Darling

On behalf of the Layweebers

MICAH'S CALL IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8). This familiar verse isn't just about our personal faith. It is a blueprint for how we are to live and to care for God's creation.



Climate change hits the poorest the hardest. Doing justice means restoring balance and fairness, and that means making choices that protect the vulnerable. Doing justice might look like supporting clean energy in our community, reducing waste in our homes and church, or choosing to invest our money responsibly so that it does not fuel further harm. It can also mean advocating for policies that protect those already suffering from floods, wildfires, and food insecurity.



Acts of kindness extend beyond people to include the Earth itself. When we live and consume sustainably, conserve water, reduce our use of plastics, or plant trees, we are being

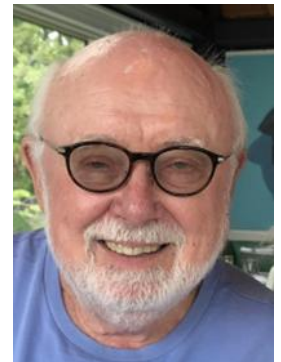
good stewards of creation. Even small choices, such as walking instead of driving when we can or buying local produce, become simple yet powerful acts of kindness to the planet.

The Earth is God's, not ours, but we are its stewards. Walking humbly means remembering we are caretakers, not owners, and listening to the cries of creation. It calls us to live with gratitude and moderation, recognizing that we share this planet with all living things and with generations yet to come.



Faithful stewardship is climate action. Every step toward justice, kindness, and humility, whether it is composting at home, joining a cleanup effort, or supporting climate justice work, moves us closer to the world God intends.✝

James Newman
Co-leader,
Climate Justice Cathedral



ALONGSIDE HOPE



Alongside Hope summer intern and Youth Council member Heather Jenkins demonstrates the Solar Suitcase at General Synod in June.¹

Micah 6:8

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

In the most recent article posted on the Alongside Hope website titled, "With hope we act, call for collective action in a troubled world", the author, Timothy Caulkey, writes, "A just society is one which is built on hope, hope which prompts action, and action that is embedded with love."

This sentiment incorporates God's requirement as expressed in Micah 6:8. Timothy attended the 2025 Canadian Interfaith Conference on behalf of Alongside Hope. The Conference, held at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights, covered topics ranging from Climate Change to Artificial Intelligence to Reconciliation.

"Action is the antidote to despair," said the Hon. Anita Neville, the Lieutenant-Governor of

Manitoba, and first we need to ask questions, ask better questions, reflect, and be open to being transformed in how we see the world as we learn to care about all human beings. It is this empathy, achieved through connection and conversation, that inspires hope and, thus, action."²

I believe in the mantra, "Think globally, act locally." It is easy to be overwhelmed by the ongoing changes in the world. World leaders seem to be doing the opposite of God's requirements. Pouring out injustice throughout the globe and dispensing cruelty and hubris, the antithesis of God's teachings. It can feel discouraging and even impossible to keep fighting for the values shared by Christians and people of all faiths. Most world religions believe in those same core values: justice, kindness, and humility.

(Continued on page 9)

One way in which we can act globally is through our continued support of Alongside Hope initiatives, such as the Solar suitcase project. The goal is to install 35 suitcases in Mozambique and 14 in Madagascar. These suitcases provide everything necessary to insure the health of mother and baby. They include bright LED lights, a fetal Doppler, headlamps and phone chargers.

Each suitcase costs \$6,500. Donations will be matched by a generous donor up to \$150,000 until October 31st. There is still a lot of room to benefit from this opportunity.

Since U.S. AID has been cut, many African countries have been negatively impacted. Gaps that have been left by the U.S. government's withdrawal of funds for family planning and reproductive health are upsetting the entire global system for these services. Close to \$10 million dollars worth of contraceptives are slated to be destroyed by the Trump administration.³ By supporting this campaign we are acting globally.

To act locally we can be an example to our friends and family as we do what we can through our actions and prayers. Be it volunteering for church activities, via community engagement projects, knitting prayer shawls, writing editorial articles on climate action, or helping at the Cathedral Café. Our combined efforts as a faith community make a difference.

As Bishop Desmond Tutu said, "Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."⁴

Be the good in the world.✦

¹ Tingle, Jacqueline. Donor will match gifts to solar suitcase campaign up to \$150,000. Alongside Hope. July 16, 2025. www.alongsidehope.org/news/donor-will-match-gifts-to-solar-suitcase-campaign-up-to-150000/

² Cucksey, Blaze T. With hope we act: A call for collective action in a troubled world. Alongside Hope. August 20, 2025. www.alongsidehope.org/news/with-hope-we-act-a-call-for-collective-action-in-a-troubled-world/

³ Sherman, Carter. Trump administration to destroy nearly \$10m of contraceptives for women overseas. July 18, 2025. The Guardian. www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/jul/18/trump-administration-destroy-contraceptives-usaid-africa

⁴ Tutu, Desmond. www.epicquotes.com/15-thoughtful-bishop-desmond-tutu-quotes-to-make-you-think/#google_vignette

Inez Morgan



Carolyn Cummins, Director, Fundraising & Donor Relations, from Alongside Hope brought a Solar Suitcase to church on SuperCrawl Sunday; seen here with Inez.

ART CRAWL AT THE CATHEDRAL: A TWO-FOLD MISSION



Art Crawl, on the second Friday of the month during Spring, Summer and Fall continues to provide opportunity for the community to visit and enjoy the beauty of Christ's Church Cathedral. Doors are open at 7:30 p.m. Visitors are provided guided tours by members of the congregation and often there are musical performances and artistic displays.

On May 10, 2024, Elders for Climate Sanity (E4CS) were granted permission to have a table inside the Cathedral's gates to display their signs and literature: a base for elders to engage and distribute their literature to those visiting the Cathedral and walking by on the street. E4CS mission is not only to maintain the beauty of the earth, but also in keeping with the church's baptismal covenant "to save and safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain and renew the life of the earth". The Cathedral Close, dubbed "ECO HUB", is one of several sites at which E4CS engages with people on the streets of Hamilton, Westdale, and Dundas about the crisis facing our Mother Earth and ourselves. Members of E4CS are grateful to Christ's Church Cathedral for providing both space and furniture to further its mission.

What is the message of the Elders For Climate Sanity? We want more people to understand

the truth about the destruction of the earth, and the harms to our health being financed. On the flyer we give to people, we say that Canada's Big Banks should invest in renewable energy, not continue to loan billions to companies that harm us with new coal, tarsands oil and fracked gas. Moving accounts to credit unions is an option, and there are other actions people can take to slow down the climate crisis.

How is our message received? In the hour we spend at ECO HUB and on the various street corners in Hamilton, Westdale, and Dundas with our signs and literature, the reception is varied: many take our leaflets, some say "no thanks", others take them and read them on the spot. There is the odd one who walks by without even a look. Some, taking a leaflet, will stop and ask questions and enter into what it is we are trying our best to communicate. Two (both men) in my experience shouted aloud, "I love oil", while rejecting my handout. Some thank us for what we are doing. A few have shown support by offering money. It is especially gratifying to engage with caring young people.

Again our thanks to Christ's Church Cathedral and Climate Justice Cathedral for contributions, encouragement and support. ✦



The Rev. Donald C. Brown

CELEBRATIONS



The Rev. Dena Thomas' ordination to the priesthood



Sr. Marguerite's 40th Anniversary of taking her vows as a Sister of the Church

NSML Courses

Take advantage of the Diocese's offerings to enrich your understanding of God and the church. Sign up at <https://nsml.ca>

Christian Foundations: Finding our Place in God's Story
Rev. Dr. Rob Jones
Mondays starting Sept 15

Anglican Polity 101: How We Do Things Around Here
Rt. Rev. Dr. Susan Bell
Thursdays starting Sept 25

Pastoral Care Fundamentals: Presence, Paying Attention, & Prayer
Ven. Terry DeForest
Wednesdays starting Sept 17

Climate Justice: Following Jesus in a World of Climate Breakdown
Rev. John Swales
Tuesdays starting Sept 16

(905) 527-1316 x240
www.cathedralhamilton.ca
252 James Street N.

Weekly Worship Services:

Sun 8:30am Holy Eucharist
Sun 10:30am Choral Eucharist
Wed 11:30am Holy Eucharist

Weekly Drop-in Prayer:

Tues 8:30am Morning Prayer
Wed 8:30am Morning Prayer via Zoom
Thurs 8:30am Morning Prayer
Fri 12:15pm Litany of Reconciliation



CHRIST'S CHURCH
CATHEDRAL
HAMILTON ONTARIO

Spiritual Growth Programs

Fall 2025

Discovery Bible Study

Thursdays 11:30am - 12:15pm
in the Nave

Study the Bible in community through this drop-in participant-focused method of reading scripture together.

For info: Rev. Monica Green
905.527.1316 x250

Digging Deeper

Exploring the Scriptures

Weekly Sun 12:15 - 1:15pm
in the Spence Room

Come talk about the Sunday sermon and readings, and bring your thoughts and questions. Everyone is welcome!

For info: Matthew Green
905.865.9863

Centering Prayer

Weekly Mon 4pm, Tue 7:30am,
Fri 7:15am on Zoom

Small group gatherings to listen for the Spirit and God's movements within.

For info: Lynn Godfrey
lynn.godfrey79@gmail.com

No Strings

Untangling Your Heart's Attachment to Money

Groups starting in November

Explore your spiritual life and your attachments in this series of studies and exercises co-written by our own Rev. Monica.

For info: Dale Gunther
905-648-6798

Being With

Weekly starting Wed Sept 17

Gather to deepen our relationships and talk through questions of life and how everything fits together

For info: Rev. Monica Green
905.527.1316 x250

Cathedral Chat

A neighbourhood conversation with experts about topics that affect us all.

Coming in late autumn

Advent Quiet Day

Sat Nov 29, 9:30am to 12:30pm

Follow 4 characters from the Nativity story to discovery how we live in hope for the Christ Child in our midst

A shared offering from the Downtown Anglican Parishes

For info: Rev. Monica Green
905-527-1316 x250

Cathedral Oasis

First Sunday of Each Month
12:30 - 2pm

Drop in to the Cathedral for this open space of peace and reflection.

Movie Night

Wednesday, Dec 3, 7pm in the Spence Room

Gather to watch Children of Men and have a lively discussion. Popcorn included!

For info: Rev. Monica Green
905.527.1316 x250

WEEKLY CALENDAR - AUTUMN 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choral Eucharist 10:30 am (V) <i>Please Consult your team leader for your Sunday</i> Digging Deeper 12:15 Spence Room	Centering Prayer 4:00 pm ZOOM Lynn Godfrey lynn.godfrey79@gmail.com	Centering Prayer 7:30 am ZOOM Morning Prayer 8:30 am in person	Morning Prayer 8:30 am ZOOM Holy Eucharist 11:30 am In person Prayer Shawl Knitting Group 1-3 pm	Morning Prayer 8:30 am in person Discovery Bible Study 11:30-12:15 in the Nave Online Discovery Bible Study 3:00 pm	Centering Prayer 7:15 am ZOOM Litany of Reconciliation 12:15 pm In person & ZOOM	(V) indicates that service is both in person and livestreamed on YouTube

Cathedral Café is open Monday to Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
October 5 17th after Pentecost 10:30 am (V) Cathedral Oasis 12:30 pm Taize Service 4:00 pm	6	7	8	9	10	11
					Art Crawl 7:00 pm	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Harvest Thanksgiving 10:30 am (V)						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
19th after Pentecost 10:30 am (V)						
26	27	28	29	30	31	November 1
20th after Pentecost 10:30 am (V)						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
All Saints' Sunday 10:30 am (V) Cathedral Oasis 12:30 pm Taize Service 4:00 pm						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22nd after Pentecost Remembrance 10:30 am (V)					Art Crawl 7:00 pm	

GENEROSITY

"... and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

Money is one of the most important forces, and often adversary, in our relationships with God and others, whether we have a little of it or a lot. But it doesn't need to be. How I can relate to my own money and resources through a loving heart has been a lifelong question for me. I've found this course helpful

as it leads me to reflect on how my attitudes about money were formed, the ways in which I've become entangled, and at times allowed God to loosen the knot. Please consider participating in this course. ✦

Dale Guenter

On behalf of
Generosity Team



No Strings
Untangling Your Heart's Attachment to Money

An invitation to grow in your faith by looking at your relationship to money and treasures
co-developed by Rev. Monica Romig Green

Participate in a group or as a self-directed study

In-person sessions meet in Nov/Dec
Find out more Sun 9:30am Sept 7 or 21 Geddes Room
Questions? Interested? Contact Dale Guenter
dguenter@gmail.com



A REFLECTION ON AGING

I turned 85 last month. It is a milestone that brings with it both gratitude and awareness. Ageing brings change not only in one's body but also in the way others begin to see, or sometimes not see, an older person.

Many older people begin to feel the edges of ageism. I have felt it; not harshly, but it is there. It appears when assumptions are made about what an older person can or cannot do. It shows when people listen less carefully, or when they offer help before it is asked for, as though ability has already faded away. Sometimes it is the simple experience of becoming less visible.

I think of my late parents, my sister, and friends. This shrinking of recognition can be distressing. The stories of who they were, what they accomplished, and what they still loved to do are often overlooked. Instead of remembering the teacher, the nurse, the farmer, the parent, or the friend, the focus shifts to "over eighty," "nearly ninety," or "is she still driving?" When age becomes the only story told, the richness of a whole life risks being forgotten.

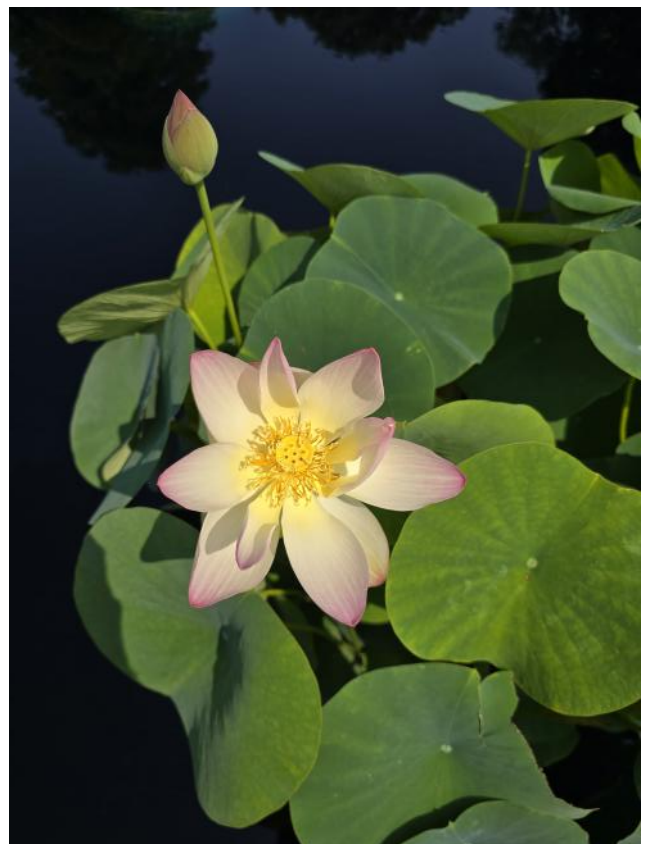
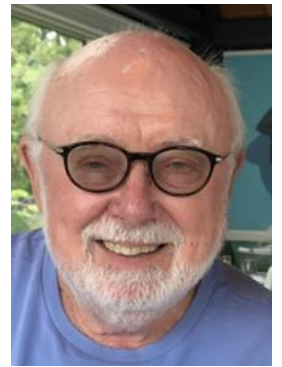
Yet Scripture tells a very different story. "Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." (2 Corinthians 4:16). "Even in old age they will still bear fruit; healthy and green they will remain." (Psalm 92:14). These words remind us that ageing is not simply decline. It is also renewal. It is a time of life when the Spirit can still bear fruit in us, even in ways that surprise us.

Ageing can be lived with dignity, strength, and purpose. The challenges are real, but they do not need to define us. If spoken down to, we can choose to respond with kindness and clarity. If overlooked, we can remain visible by continuing to live fully and faithfully. There is still much to do. There are words to

write, prayers to offer, gardens to tend, old friendships to renew, and love to share. There are quiet acts of service, joys in ordinary days, and laughter. All of these can continue to enrich our lives.

Ageism is the closing of the book, but ageing is not; it is the writing of the final chapters. These chapters may be written more slowly and with effort, but they may hold some of the richest and best part of our lives.✦

James Newman



A Visual Tour of Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton, Ontario

Revised, second edition



Alexander (Sandy) L. Darling

Christ's Church Cathedral

A place of community, compassion and hope

We have a lively, open and accepting congregation, who reach out to others.

1835: Parish founded, and a wooden church was built.

1855: First part of the current stone building opened.

1875: West end of the cathedral that we see today completed.

1876: Christ's Church consecrated as the cathedral of the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

1926: Chancel extended to the east.

Anglican Diocese of Niagara

Called to Life/Compelled to Love

Established in 1875 on the traditional territory of several Indigenous peoples, including the Neutrals, the Mississauga, the Anishnaabe and the Haudenosaunee.

The Diocese of Niagara is a division within the Anglican Church composed of approximately 80 smaller units called "parishes" from Fort Erie to Orangeville and Mount Forest, and from Oakville to Ancaster.

Each parish has a team that includes priests, deacons and lay people who exercise all kinds of different leadership.

Cathedral Place is the home of the cathedral and the Bishop of the Diocese of Niagara and other officers of the Diocese



Published by

Christ's Church Cathedral

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September 2025

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In September, we are publishing a revised, second edition of the Visual Guide that was first written in 2020. The good news is that we have sold all of the 200 copies of the original guide, and the reprinting allows us to incorporate new information that we have learned over the last five years. This provides you with the opportunity to learn more about the building where you worship, the Bible stories that are illustrated in the windows and carvings, and about the people who made this all possible. The guide can make a great gift for friends, relatives and those who used to attend the cathedral.

Why “revised”?

The rule of thumb for “revised” is that at least 10 per cent of the material should be changed. So, what are the changes?

- The first guide incorporated the Easter story and used images from other churches. Five of those pages have been replaced by new pages about the cathedral that deal with the following:
 - The cathedral grounds and the old churchyard.
 - The art in Bishopsgate.
 - The architects and building the cathedral.
 - The Valley City carvers.
 - The cathedral crosses.

- Two pages have been significantly revised to add information about the carver of the altar, and about the organ and music.
- Many other pages have minor revisions arising from what we have learned and changes since the first edition such as:
 - The new table mirror for looking at the ceiling.
 - The makers of the first window and the east window.
 - The stone of the reredos is not the same stone used in the Vimy war memorial.
 - The banner depicting “Christ triumphant:”
 - The location of the fonts.
 - Other minor revisions.
- The sequence has been changed to allow one to proceed in sequence around the building without the “interruption” of the Easter story.

How did we learn new information?

Most of the new information came from researchers or writers who came on tours or asked for information. Most of these people purchased a copy of the Visual Guide, and I learned much from them.

The largest contribution came from Richard Longley who was writing an e-book about William Thomas, who was the architect of the 1855 stone additions; subsequent architects respected his design and so we have a coherent and continuous style. Richard’s draft had three pages about the cathedral, but after our interactions this expanded to sixteen – far more than other buildings. Richard brought to my attention other articles and these contained further references to newspaper stories that I could read on microfilm.¹

(Continued on page 18)

Lynn McKnight and two McMaster students visited and gave me more information on the Valley City carvers. Iraboty Kazi, a researcher from Western University, was working on a project on Yvonne Williams and visited. From the research website at Western, I learned more about Yvonne Williams. A member of our congregation, Randall Robertson, undertook detailed research on the carver of the altar and shared his draft with me. I have also benefited from many others who are not named here. To all I owe a big debt of gratitude.

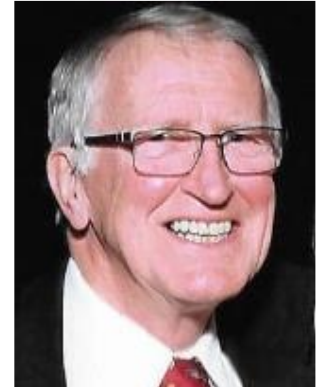
Where do we go from here?

We have a big selling job ahead of us and you can help by buying a copy of the new guide for yourself or as a present for someone else. The printer has given us an excellent price and so we can keep the price the same – only \$10.00.

We are promoting tours for church groups and others in the year of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Niagara. We are always looking for tour guides so feel free to join us. We also welcome leads and suggestions on potential buyers! ✦

Sandy Darling

Photos: Alexander Darling ©



ALTAR GUILD - WHAT DO THEY DO?

It is a privilege to be a part of the Altar Guild. We are dedicated in arranging the altars with the appropriate cloths, vessels, elements, and symbols of the season. It also includes special services, such as weddings, baptisms, funerals, confirmations and ordinations.

There is a beautiful sense of community among the Altar Guild members. We come from different walks of life, but we are united by a shared love for the Cathedral and a desire to serve with humility.

Sincerely, **Angela Savage** (2nd from the left)



EVENTS



Cathedral Chat on Mental Health, Addictions & Supports in the Community



Hamilton Sings! Community Choir members return to sing at SuperCrawl



SuperCrawl Prayers of the People being offered to God the Sunday after.



HAVE YOU MOVED OR CHANGED YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION?

Please contact the church office with new/ changed addresses, phone numbers, email addresses to keep our database up-to-date.

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

Let Karen (Parish Assistant) know by calling 905-527-1316, ext. 240, or cathedral.admin@niagaraanglican.ca



SUPERCRAWL 2025

Supercrawl attracted 6783 visitors to the cathedral.

They were entertained by, listened or met:

2 artists

12 individual musicians or singers, 1 choir, 1 Chamber ensemble

1 congregation singing Compline

3 Town Criers

6 clergy volunteers and 43 greeters and guides.

In addition staff from St Matthew's House and Seniors for Climate Justice met them in Bishopsgate.

Finally 4 members of the building and parking staff enabled all of these volunteers to be seated, heard, seen and parked.

Visitors were as always, surprised and perhaps stunned by the, to them, unexpected beauty of the interior. For the umpteenth time I heard the comment " I have driven past/ walked by this building so often over the years and never knew how beautiful it was". The ceiling came in for particular praise along with the carving in the sanctuary and on the reredos, while those who heard the organ marvelled at its sound and at the dexterity of the organist!

Some unexpected comments came from the lady of South Asian origin who said , rather hesitantly " what do I need to do to come in for a service -and can I bring my children? I grew up going to the temple at home and would like them to experience something different". I was also struck by two older ladies standing separately in front of the AIDS memorial altar, with eyes full of tears, who explained that they each had a son who died of AIDS, in the mid 1990's. Both expressed their surprise and their gratitude at seeing this visible tribute to the disease and to their sons. ♦



John Watts





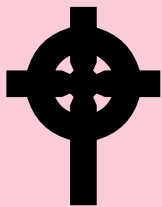
PASSAGES

Marriages

Codie Taylor & Cody Murphy - June 7, 2025

Dane Hathaway Jr. & Shauna Wright - August 16, 2025

Spencer Ward & Dorothy Zhang - August 22, 2025



Deaths

Lieselotte AMME: died August 1, 2025 (funeral August 20, 2025)

Joseph David CHEVRIER: died Sept 2, 2025 (funeral September 5, 2025)

Deborah HUTCHINSON: died August 22, 2025

George ELLIOTT: died August 5, 2025



FINANCIAL REPORT

For period ended September 30, 2025

Our year-to-date deficit is higher than budget primarily driven by a shortfall of \$31,675 in the year-to-date parishioner giving. Vestry voted to increase giving in order to fully fund our Priest Associate for 2025 but we are behind target year-to-date (see note # 4 below). We hope that by God's Grace and your prayerful review of your giving, we may end the year without a deficit.

Income	31-Aug-25	2025 Budget	Variance	2024 Actual
Parishioner Givings	\$249,541	\$281,216	-\$31,675	\$210,731
Other Income*	\$15,504	\$14,400	\$1,104	\$17,496
Open Collection	\$3,595	\$4,667	-\$1,072	\$4,106
Misc Income	\$2,928	\$333	\$2,595	\$3,367
Bishopsgate	\$2,758	\$2,800	-\$42	\$24,282
Fund Income	\$100,787	\$100,787	\$0	\$86,000
PWRDF & St Matthew's House	\$2,144	\$2,266	-\$122	\$2,610
Special Offerings	\$40,955	\$0	\$40,955	\$12,461
Cathedral Café Grant	\$10,000	\$6,667	\$3,333	\$0
Transfer in from Funds	\$24,887	\$0	\$24,887	\$10,097
Total Income	\$453,099	\$413,136	\$39,963	\$371,150
Expenses				
Staffing	\$266,602	\$269,498	-\$2,896	\$199,394
Diocesan Assessment	\$43,000	\$43,000	\$0	\$39,848
Property	\$84,987	\$56,325	\$28,662	\$61,847
Bishopsgate	\$2,716	\$2,800	-\$84	\$24,282
Tip Tap Fees	\$243	\$310	-\$67	\$262
Admin and Programs	\$43,861	\$51,647	-\$7,786	\$35,177
Transfer out to PWRDF, St. Matthew's	\$2,144	\$2,266	-\$122	\$2,610
Transfer out to designated funds	\$28,928	\$0	\$28,928	\$22,254
Long Term Debt Repayment (Diocese)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Total Expense	\$482,481	\$435,846	\$46,635	\$395,674
Net Income (Deficit)	-\$29,382	-\$22,710	\$7,221	-\$24,524

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

Notes:

1. Special offerings are largely made up of a one-time donation towards the new Cathedral flooring, plus a significant yearly contribution to the Archie and Jean McCoy organ endowment;
2. The overage under property expenses is due to the cost of the new flooring. Removing that we are essentially at budget target for property expenses;
3. We are ahead of last year's giving at this time by \$31,675 so that is encouraging;
4. Our 2025 budget contemplated a 4% increase from 2024 actual giving (\$14,169) plus an additional \$53,434 to fund the Priest Associate position. The prorated amount of the 4% year over year increase is \$9,446 and \$35,623 for the Priest Associate;
5. Total expenses are exceeding budget target but that is due to the transfer out to funds from special donations received as well as the cost of the new Cathedral flooring which is booked to Property.
6. Out grant for the administrative (staff) work we supply to the Cathedral Café is higher than anticipated. We had hoped to get \$10,000 for the year but the actual negotiated amount for 2025 is \$20,000.

J. Lefebvre
Treasurer



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