



St. James Epistle

SUMMER 2016

Is your summer 'wardrobe' ready, St. James?

A few days ago, Scott and I celebrated our 44th wedding anniversary. We did it up right, enjoying “surf and turf” (seafood and a steak) and a glass of wine on our back deck, preferring the relaxed comfort of our back yard at home to a dinner out in a restaurant.

We reminisced about how our lives had changed over those 44 years. We met in high school and married five years later, in the same month we graduated from university. Our honeymoon (3 months) was spent camping all over Europe, from Inverness to Athens, and everywhere in between. We had no jobs and no money when we returned, but we were filled with optimism for the future; life was grand.

Paul, in his letter to the Hebrews, wrote that “faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (Heb. 11:1). He is talking about something much deeper than the naive optimism we might have held when we were younger.

Paul’s prayer is that we be strengthened in our inner being, in our character, as we experience life and become increasingly rooted and grounded in love (Eph. 3:16 – 17). He talks about the power we receive from God, power sufficient to enable us to endure hardships,



Rev. Joan Masterton

overcome fears and doubt, and live with a peaceful state of mind, even during turbulent times. We learn to do all that as we grow deeper into our faith, learning what issues we should and can do something about, and what issues we leave to God. Letting go and letting God is a challenge, sometimes!

Summer is a wonderful time to gather with family and friends and share meals, stories and dreams.

Summer weather causes us to put away winter clothes and bring out the short sleeves and Capri pants (or shorts!). Paul, a man for all seasons, also provides a suggested wardrobe, to be worn year-round. Whatever your style of pant, wear the belt of truth; we want to be trusted people of integrity. Paul chose a military theme for his clothing line (the whole armour of God, Ephesians 6:10 – 21), and suggests a breastplate of right relationships.

Summer is a wonderful time to gather

with family and friends and share meals, stories and dreams. It is those relationships that make life worth living. For footwear, Paul was not particular; wear any kind of shoes so long as they allow you to follow the path of peace. For protection against everything from UV rays to temptations, be sure you carry the shield of faith. Knowing who you are and whose you are will shelter you from doubts and fears, and provide courage when needed. Royalty may prefer fascinators as the latest in head adornment, but Paul urges us to don the helmet of salvation, thereby preventing concussions of doubt and strengthening our life in the Spirit.

Finally, your wardrobe is made complete with the sword of the Spirit – the Word of God. Those who bear such adornment receive ongoing encouragement and strength and the ability to choose wisely as they move through life. Pray your way into new garments of faith, hope and love; you’ll love the effect of this spiritual make-over!

May your summer be filled with family, friends and faith! May you see your world through the eyes of your hearts and know that the Spirit of God goes with you.

*Blessings,
Joan*

REGISTER A CHILD, MAKE A DONATION TO OUR VBC

“Catch the Wave of God’s Amazing Love” - - at our Vacation Bible Camp from July 11 to 15.

Our program is called Surf Shack and it will run from 9 a.m. to 12 noon each day.

Adult and youth leaders are needed Please speak to Pat Welch or Charlene Mason (stoufmason@hotmail.com) if you can help.

Children 5 and up are welcome to attend.

You can help children discover God’s love at VBC. Sponsor a child to come to camp for just \$20. See how many children we can sponsor this year. Every little bit helps. Mark your name on the VBC envelope if you want a receipt.



Repair projects in full swing

Board of Managers Recent Happenings

1) Re STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL,(July 2) Ruth Burkholder has obtained a permit allowing us to have a presence on Main St. as usual. More on this subject on the next page.

2) The ‘Roof Repair Project’ was to conclude during the week of June 6.

3) R&R of the street side sanctuary window frames began upon completion of the ‘Roof Repair’.

4) Discussion will take place re the repair of the street side veranda, front railing and stone work soon.

5) Gerry Weibert has replaced the pads required when the defibrillator is used. He is seeking a ‘trainer’.

6) Further discussion will take place on tree removal in the back yard of the manse. Tenant Mike Jones is doing a fine job landscaping the yard.



7) Our tenant in the Main St. rental home is unable to continue to cut the church grass.

8) The need to keep the fridge clean and uncluttered with out-of-date food has been discussed at length. Standards set and agreed to by our user groups will be monitored more closely by

the Board.

9) The Board is reducing the inventory of wooden stacking chairs (6 at a time) located under the street side veranda (west side) in an effort to free up space for incoming user groups.

*Ian MacKenzie
Convenor
Board of Managers*

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Published by:
**St. James
Presbyterian Church
6432 Main St,
Stouffville, ON
L4A 1G3**

Phone:
1-905-640-3151
email:
st.james.minister@bellnet.ca
Website:
pccweb.ca/stjames-stouffville/



ST. JAMES LIFE

Paperbacks, volunteers needed for Strawberry Festival book sale

Once again, we are selling books on the street during Strawberry Festival on Saturday, July 2.

We welcome contribution of PAPERBACK BOOKS only. [Hard cover are too hard to carry while enjoying the festival!]

We will also be looking for volunteers to help sell on July 2.

There will be a list in the lounge, or email Ruth at ruth.burk@sympatico.ca

Large crowd at Parkview service

The year's largest congregation packed Parkview Home's Founder's Hall May 15 for a worship service hosted by St. James.

The audience was so large, ushers ran out of available chairs and hymn books.

Seniors thrilled to the music of a mixed choir including – Sydnee Guglietti; Sophie Woessner; Claire Boyes; Marion Jensen; Sandy Chapman; Rob and Tracy Frank.

The choir leader was Eleanor McKendrick. The choir accompanist was Jean Thomas.

Rev. Joan Masterton delivered the message.

Bookmarks made by Pat Sigmar were distributed among members of the congregation.

– Jim Thomas

*Got a newsletter
submission?*

*Email
stoufmason@hotmail.com*



**Servers and diners
alike enjoyed the
spring seniors luncheon
in Morris Hall.
Another lunch is
planned for June 17.**

Fort Mac aid from lunch fund

On Friday, April 22, we welcomed a little over 50 seniors to a Spring Lunch.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their food and time of fellowship with each other.

We continue to get a good cross section of the community attend.

With thanks to the donations people are leaving we have managed to accumulate a balance of \$822. The ruling is

that the money must sit in this account for three years before we can disburse it.

From donations made three years ago, we now have \$158 that we can donate to some cause. A decision has been made and approved to send \$158 to PWS&D to help with the wildfires in Fort McMurray.

Well done, everyone!

Next seniors lunch date is June 17.

–Wilma Medley

STOUFFVILLE CARES



The Stouffville District Secondary School choir performs during a Stouffville Cares benefit at the high school.

CONCERT RAISES \$1,118 FOR CAUSE

A community concert, hosted by 'Stouffville Cares' and held at Stouffville District Secondary School May 1 raised \$1,118.00 with all proceeds going to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Syrian refugee fund.

Participants in the event included – The Stouffville District Secondary School wind symphony; The Stouffville District Secondary School concert band 'Spartan Sound'; St. Mark Catholic School choir; vocal soloists Sydnee Guglietti; Rosa Alaimo; Susan Ryman; Lloyd Knight; instrumental soloist

Tim Birtch; Doris and Lisa Harvey; Courtney Britton, Vince Parry and Gary Burke.

Rev. Joan Masterton delivered the invocation and described the achievements of 'Stouffville Cares' The concert emcee was Jim Mason. The stage manager was Jim Paterson assisted by members of the SDSS technical crew.

Several from St. James served as cashiers and greeters. All taking part donated their time and talents. The school rental fee was waived by the York Region District School Board.

-Jim Thomas.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Garden Gate event draws a crowd

On March 10, we met at the home of Doris Campbell to watch the movie, "Well Done, my Good and Faithful Servant." Before viewing the movie, Ann Cowan led us in a very meaningful devotion. Following this, we had a time of fellowship when Doris served tasty treats,

On Mission Awareness Sunday, Ann Cowan delivered the Sermon "Learning and Reaching out in Service" written by Rev. Laura Scholey.

At our May 29 meeting, Melda Francis was the hostess for an interesting presentation by George Reesor on York's Peace Churches.

On May 14, we again held a very successful, "Through the Garden Gate" sale. The weather was chilly and wet but the sun was shin-

ing in the Morris Hall and Nursery. People enjoyed the goods we had to sell and had an enjoyable time in our "Good Earth Café." We made a profit of \$1,520.00 which will be donated to aid with the cost of repairing the roof above the lounge. Thank you to everyone who helped make this sale the success it was.

Our calendar of events has been made up for the year but we are adding an extra meeting. Farid Wasseff will be a return guest speaker on weight management and wealth, most likely on an evening in September. We will invite the TOPS Group and Weight Watchers to join us at this meeting.

- Wilma Medley

Coming events

Upcoming special events and meetings at St. James Presbyterian Church:

JUNE

Sunday June 19th: Fathers' Day. Bar-b-que lunch to follow.

Friday June 24th: Meeting of the Worship Team.

JULY

Sunday July 3rd: Community worship service during the Strawberry Festival. St. James closed.

Sunday July 10th: Guest musician - Susan Ryman

July 11 - 15: Vacation Bible Camp. Call the church to register your children.

Sunday July 24th: Guest musician - Sydnee Guglietti

Sunday July 31: Stouffville United Church joins us at St. James. Bar-b-que lunch to follow.

AUGUST

Guest Preachers: Sunday August 7 - 28





Hats off to Mom!

An all-male choir provided the music – and stage show – during the annual Mother's Day service at St. James. There's no report on a possible Father's Day encore.

The St. James youth group served the congregation in Morris Hall following the service.



Prayer chain, anyone?

We all have issues we would like to share with God ... and it always helps to know that others are praying for us as well. There has been some discussion of reviving the prayer chain that used to be, but giving it new life via email.

The concept is that if you are interested in being part of the chain, you will receive an email asking you to pray for a specific situation. If you have no email and wish to pray there will be designated phoners to pass the word along. This is not meant for gossip, but for bringing requests to our Lord.

If you have concerns that you

would like to be shared with the Chain or if taking part in the Chain interests you, please contact Ruth at ruth.burk@sympatico.ca or 905-640-7391.

Scottish Country Dancing

The group that meets in Aurora Presbyterian Church made arrangements to entertain the residents of Bloomington Cove. This took place on Friday, April 15th.

Our dance teacher Maureen Richardson led us in the dances and Jean Thomas and Maureen led two fun sing-a-longs. A good time was enjoyed by all. It is heartwarming to see the residents come alive with the music. A special

thank you to the St. James people who came along to help with the singing.

– Wilma Medley

Garden Gate, thank-you

A big Thank-you to you Wilma and your wonderful team of helpers for the most successful "Through the Garden Gate". Not only was it eventful financially but also socially as well. It was delightful to see familiar St. James' faces and share a visit over coffee and a muffin at the Earth Cafe.

Church Fellowship and Community Outreach cannot be measured for its true value.

On behalf of all of St. James, a

Sincere and Heartfelt Thank-you.

– Darlene MacKenzie

Youth group invited to sail

As many of you know I am a sailor. My club is hosting a get out on the water day June 25 from 11 am until 2 pm and I would love the youth group and family to join me. The event is at Frenchmans Bay Yacht, 635 Breezy Dr., Pickering. We have to register for a spot on a boat so I will need to know if you plan to attend. For more information you can go to www.eventbrite.ca/e/fbyc-get-out-on-the-water-tickets-21012936258

Call me at 905-640-2481 to RSVP.

– Pat Welch