

# Life at St. George's



*St. George's Anglican Church 416 225-1922; Offices – St. George's House – 77 Canterbury Place, North York  
Temporarily located at St. Patrick's Anglican Church - 1087 Lillian Street, North York*

**“Our mission is to nurture our relationships with God in Christ, with one another, and with our community.”**

## From Steve's Desk

After many years we have finally come to the end of our time in the old St. George's building complex and have now begun to worship with St. Patrick's.

On our last Sunday service at St. George's, we bade her farewell in a service immersed in memories. We were honoured to have our area Bishop preside and with former clergy and parishioners present to reflect and reminisce on the many moments of life's passage the building has seen.

But that service is now itself a memory and we have enjoyed our first service with St. Patrick's which was followed by a delightful “getting to know you” lunch. I want to say how welcoming St. Patrick's has been. They have accommodated us in a very generous manner and we are already feeling very comfortable.

Our church offices are also now well established in St. George's House (77 Canterbury Place).

With the move now behind us, we are looking forward to our Advent services and activities culminating of course in our Christmas celebrations. What happens now for St. George's?

We will continue to clear things we need from the old church hoping to complete this by mid December. In terms of our new building we are getting the final approvals from the City of Toronto and hope to have the diocesan approval of our mortgage, construction contract, and day care before the holiday season. We should see the first tangible sign of construction in early January if not before.

It will begin with having the site secured. Then demolition of the hall will take place followed by the excavation for the basement parking and shoring with tie backs. The foundation work will follow and we hope to be coming out of the ground with the basement structure in place by spring 2010.

We intend to mark the various stages of progress – demolition beginning, ground breaking, steelwork completion, roof completion etc. It is our hope that by early

2011 the building will be in its final stages of finishing and that we will be back at Church and Yonge before Easter 2011. I think you will find the time will pass very quickly!

But in the meantime we have an exciting opportunity to share in worship with St. Patrick's and refresh our faith, grow our congregations and expand God's work in our community. What we can do and how we will grow are things that I believe will emerge in the months ahead. For instance, we will be following up on the results of the Natural Church Development survey and focusing on ways to implement the recommendations. Then there will be an opportunity to think about outreach and the programs we want to support. Further, the midweek study group will resume with the possibility of other home groups starting and other programs and activities can also be expected.

Let me say a final word of thanks to all those who have so willingly helped in these last weeks to prepare St. George's House, and then to literally pack up the church and move. I especially thank Kathy and Janet for their stalwart help and efforts which often ran late into the evening.

Thanks, and well done!

In the midst of the tensions, concerns and anxiety of our world, the Christian church once again proclaims the message of hope; that God has entered into His creation in Christ.

**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we have seen His glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. And**

**To all who received Him, who believed in His name he gave power to become children of God.**

(John 1:14, 12)

Chris and I extend to you all our very warmest greetings for the season.

Rev Steve Shaw

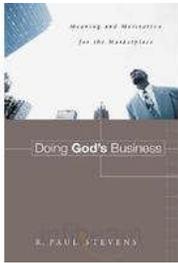


**Last Sunday in the Building**



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## Doing God's Business

From Stephen Powell

Doing God's Business, written by R. Paul Stevens, published by William B. Eerdmans, 2006. For further information on the author and his body of work visit [www.rpaulstevens.com](http://www.rpaulstevens.com)



"Doing God's Business" is not just the name of a wonderfully inspiring book written by Canadian Paul Stevens, it is also a refreshing insight into the world of possibilities that exists for each of us to do the good works that God created us to do.

In his book Paul Stevens shows that it is false for us to separate faith and work and to regard the types of occupations in terms of a "hierarchy of holiness". It is a common misconception to think that the work of ordained persons is at the top end of the holiness scale followed closely by other jobs whose main purpose is to help other people (e.g.: medical workers). At the bottom of this hierarchy would be stock brokers and politicians.

However, when we truly look at the biblical narrative we can see, in the opening pages of scripture, that God the Creator is at **work** creating. Elsewhere in scripture we can see God doing more **work** to sustain his creation (God the Sustainer) and even more **work** to redeem his creation (God the Redeemer) and yet still more **work** to consummate his creation to "bring the whole human story to a wonderful conclusion" (God the Consummator). (For scriptural citations supporting these four roles please refer to pages 6 and 7 of "Doing God's Business", a copy of which is in our church's library collection.)

In these four roles (Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer, and Consummator) God sets an example for us and the

inescapable conclusion is that all of humanity has the potential, indeed the responsibility, to enter "into God's ongoing work in every kind of good and humane occupation". Knowing that we were created in the image of God would we expect anything else? Educators, authors, and parents are doing God's work by revealing to us the meaning of things ("Consummator"). Those who repair machines (appliance technicians) or human minds (counsellors) are also doing God's work ("Redeemer"). Homemakers, office cleaning staff, and road maintenance crews are doing God's work as well ("Sustainer"). Inventors and artists are using their talents to do God's work by adding to our appreciation of the bounty of God's earth and beyond ("Creator").

Clearly, the focus should shift from our misguided assessment of the holiness level of a person's occupation to the degree to which that person's enterprise aligns with God's exemplary work to Create, Sustain, Redeem, or Consummate.

Paul Stevens reminds us that "human fallenness pervades everything". Therefore, all of us will encounter sin in the workplace. Our challenge is to remember that this inevitability of encountering sin in our working lives does not automatically render **our** work efforts unworthy of glorifying God. In subsequent instalments of this series of articles we will explore what makes our efforts worthy of glorifying God.

By reminding ourselves that our work can glorify God and that our efforts contribute to doing God's work then we begin to see, sometimes for the first time, that our work has intrinsic value. Paul

Stevens proposes four questions that we might ask one another about our work that will allow us to build up our appreciation that we may already be "Doing God's Business".

I would like to thank Ken Carver for being the first volunteer to answer these four questions.

You will see that the fourth question asks Ken "How can we pray for you in your ministry in the marketplace?". Please reflect on Ken's answers and give some thought to how you can intercede on his behalf.

### Q1: What do you do for a living?

I am in the position of Business Manager for Programs. There are six talented employees on my team. Together we have the following fundamental responsibilities:

1. Support the costing and pricing efforts for new proposals/quotes.
2. Provide monthly performance numbers for all projects including schedule status, budget variance and revenue.
3. Support program management in creating and maintaining a budget, schedule and contract for programs.

### Q2: What are the issues you face in your daily work?

#### Job Focus

At the end of a week it often seems that I have spent the majority of my time understanding, explaining and trying to influence the numbers

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## Continued from page 3 – Doing God's Business

related to my company's performance. On the surface one's perception is that my job, which occupies the majority of my time, is primarily focussed on the commercial goals of my company.

### Employee Development versus Department/ Corporate Goals

This is a frequent source of conflict. Often what might benefit the employee such as providing flexible working hours can be a disadvantage for the department/corporation. Another good example is providing an opportunity to the employees that enriches the nature of their work but provides very little value to the company and can potentially draw them away from routine mandatory tasks.

### Unfavourable Performance Evaluations

There are always issues of 'fairness' around these decisions. For instance, have I given the employee enough opportunity? Have I been open-minded and objective in my evaluations?

### Customer Pricing

I have a significant involvement and influence in determining and implementing customer pricing. There are many issues around how clearly one presents and negotiates the related numbers.

### Q3: What difference does your faith make in the way you deal with these issues?

In dealing with job focus I try to remind myself that although the tasks of my job might be very commercial a large part of how I contribute to the company is

through my leadership. My leadership goals are influenced by my faith. This includes working with others as a team and supporting them when they are struggling. Being consistently positive and constructive in my words and actions are also key leadership goals of mine.

In regards to employee goals vs department/corporate goals I try to focus on policies that are of benefit to both the employees and the organization. This includes increasing the scope/breadth of a particular job. The employee gains experience while the business gains a deeper skill base and backup capability.

In providing negative feedback to employees I try to be as honest, constructive, respectful and supportive as possible. These are values that I have learned through faith.

### Q4: How can we pray for you in your ministry in the marketplace?

I need help in placing more focus on integrating my faith in the marketplace. This exercise is an excellent tool in achieving this goal. It has challenged me to reflect upon what's driving the separation and the importance of understanding my "ministry in the marketplace".

When making decisions I also need help in understanding which of the possible solutions to a given problem is most consistent with my faith. Given the various stakeholders and trade-offs that are involved in most issues, I often cannot clearly determine the most appropriate decision from a spiritual perspective. This challenge is made more difficult by the apparent absence in my office of colleagues who place a similar emphasis on living out their Christian faith, so I feel a sense of isolation in this regard.



## Up-Coming Services

### December 13 Advent 3

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

### December 20 Advent 4

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am A Festival of Nine Lessons  
and Carols

### December 24 Christmas Eve

7:00pm Family Service with Pageant  
10:30pm Candlelight Choral Eucharist

### December 25 Christmas Day

10:30am Holy Eucharist

### December 27 Christmas I

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Carol Sing & Eucharist

### January 3 Feast of the Epiphany

### January 10 The Baptism of Christ

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

### January 17 Epiphany 2

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist & Healing

### January 24 Epiphany 3

### January 31 Epiphany 4

### February 7 Epiphany 5

### February 14 Transfiguration

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

### February 17 Ash Wednesday

7:30pm Imposition of Ashes & Holy  
Eucharist

### February 21 Lent I

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist & Healing

### February 28 Lent 2

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist



## Notes from the Church School & Youth

By the time you read this, St. Patrick's will have welcomed us to their space and we will be singing our Advent Music and preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. What a fitting time to begin sharing worship with our brother's and sister's in Christ.

I wish to say THANK YOU very much to our church school staff and to Nick Grauds and William Clennett from our Youth Group for all their help in sorting, packing and assisting with our moving. You did an awesome job!

Note from the editor:  
Janet, you did an awesome job!

### CHURCH SCHOOL FAMILIES PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES:

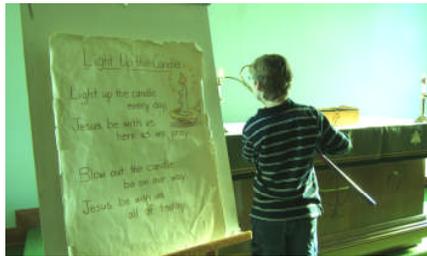
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>**, our **NATIVITY REHEARSAL** will be held at **St. Patrick's Church**. Please meet in the sanctuary at 10:00am. The rehearsal will end at 12:00 noon. If you need transportation, please let Janet know by calling 416-225-1922 or 905-764-7818.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>** beginning at 5:00 p.m. Come and join us at St. George's House to sing Christmas Carols around the fireplace. You are invited to bring one tree ornament to adorn our tree and your favourite cookies, Beverage will be provided.

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE

We ask that the Teachers arrive at 6:00 pm. Children and Youth please come at 6:15pm sharp. The Service begins at 7:00pm.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> THERE WILL BE NO CHURCH SCHOOL.**



George & Patrick: the Caterpillars



### EVENTS FOR YOUR 2010 CALENDARS:

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>. CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS AT THE 10:30AM SERVICE.**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17<sup>th</sup>** – Teacher's Meeting following the 10:30am service at St. George's House.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6<sup>th</sup> – YOUTH PARTY, ST. GEORGE'S HOUSE 7:00pm.**

Bring a friend, your favourite board game and your favourite pizza ingredients.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>. TIME: 1:00pm – 3:00pm.**

**WHAT:** Bowling party for the church school, **WHERE:** Newtonbrook Bowl

**RSVP:** BY February 9<sup>th</sup> to the parish office at 416-225-1922 or fill in the sign up sheet at the Welcome Table.

## St. George's Library Cart News:



There are Christmas stockings for sale at \$15.00 specially hand knit by Merle Blythe. You can also purchase a 2010 Church calendar at \$5.00. The Church cookbooks are still available and a good deal at \$10.00. You can purchase these items after the 10:30 service at St. Patrick's Church up until Christmas. There will also be stockings, calendars and cookbooks for sale at St. George's Church House which will be on or near the Library cart.

Advent books for all ages are on the Library cart at St. George's Church House. Please see Lori Grauds or Lucy Browning if you need assistance with the books.

### “Saint Patrick held the shamrock (Feast day March 17<sup>th</sup>)

Aloft for all to see  
And said 'Behold' this symbol  
Of the Holy Trinity  
Of Father, Son and Holy Ghost  
One yet one in three.”  
-John Irvine

### St. George's Moveable Feasts; (Feast Day April 23<sup>rd</sup>)

Behold, St. George is on the move to places near and great,  
O George, you are the defender of the Christian faith and the slayer of the dragons,

You continue to keep a keen watchful eye over us as we gravitate from the cross to the font and to the wellsprings of love, truth, and grace.

Your heart is centered with the beloved.

There is an open invitation to be with God at the table.  
-Lori Grauds

### Food for thought on the Journey:

SUMBIBAZO: Signifies to cause to coalesce, to join or knit together. New Testament Words Expository Dictionary 1966.

The Blessing of friends:

“Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born”  
- Anais Nin

“In the years to come, this Christian community of St. George's must be alert and ready-as now- to help our fellow travellers on their spiritual journey through life”. – Editor Page 31. Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow.” St. George's Anglican Church Willowdale.

Lori Grauds

## O Come Emmanuel

It is very appropriate that the congregation of St. George's had its first service with St. Patrick's on the first Sunday of Advent. This event is the answer to many prayers and hard work over some six years. It marks the end of eighty seven years of worship and fellowship in one building and the journey that will end with our return to a new worship space. This is what we have been praying, hoping, waiting for! Advent, the season of preparation, hope and waiting, has come to us in a special way.

All of us have other prayers, hopes and dreams that we long to see fulfilled. Some are praying for loved ones to be healed or for them to return from the war. Others are waiting to have the birth of a baby, to be gainfully employed or ease in their financial stress. As a congregation, we pray and wait for the construction plans to run smoothly.

Advent reminds us to be engaged in a far greater preparation – one with eternal dimensions. It is a time for soul searching with rekindled hope of new life in Christ. Our everyday waiting is not without hope because Jesus, the Incarnate Son of God, knows and supplies all our needs. As we receive from God let us share his love, his joy and compassion with others. The Prayer Team continues to pray with you, at your request.

In Psalms 42 and 43, the writer was feeling troubled. This happens to many persons at this time of the year. The writer asks questions and answers them himself:

“Why are you cast down, O my soul,  
And why are you disquieted within me?  
Hope in God, for I shall again praise  
him,  
My help and my God.”

O come, Emmanuel.

Submitted by Margie Lyttle.

## We are the Church

I am the Church, you are the Church,  
we are the Church together.  
All who follow Jesus all around the world,  
yes, we're the Church together.

The Church is **not a building**,  
the Church is **not a steeple**,  
the Church is **not a resting place**,  
**the Church is a people.**

I am the Church, you are the Church,  
we are the Church together.  
All who follow Jesus all around the world,  
yes, we're the Church together.

We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces,  
all colors and all ages, too, from all times and places.

I am the Church, you are the Church,  
we are the Church together.  
All who follow Jesus all around the world,  
yes, we're the Church together.

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## From St. Patrick's

Events planned by St. Patrick's Special Events Committee for the enjoyment and fellowship of the whole congregation. Any profit from these events will be given to St. Patrick's Capital Expenditure Fund.



<p>Sunday, December 13</p> 	<p>Bake Sale – Don't Bake? Get your Christmas goodies here. Bake? Add something new to the tried and true.</p>	<p>Taking place after the 10:30 Service</p>
<p>Sunday, December 20</p> 	<p>A festival of Carols and Lessons – Come and hear our newly merged choir. Followed by a Potluck Lunch</p>	<p>10:30 service and afterwards</p>
<p>Thursday, December 31</p> 	<p>New Year's Eve Party Come and toast the New Year a little early: Remember the Chicken Dance or the Slosh? Music, Dancing and Light refreshments</p>	<p>7:00 – 9:30 p.m. \$10.00/person</p>
<p> Sunday, January 3, 2010</p>	<p>Epiphany service to be followed by a Potluck Lunch</p>	<p>10:30 service and afterwards</p>
<p>Sunday, January 24</p>	<p>Lunch featuring Strata and Salad</p> 	<p>After the 10:30 service</p>
<p>Wednesday, February 17</p> 	<p>"From Pancakes to Ashes!" Pancake Supper Ash Wednesday service</p>	<p>6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.</p> 
<p>Sunday, February 28</p> 	<p>Soup Lunch for Lent 2</p>	

For more information on any of the events, please call the St. Patrick's Church office at 416 225-5151.



**The Journey of the Cross**



**REMEMBER, EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH**

**Sunday Services at: 8:00am & 10:30 am**  
**"To nurture our relationships with God in Christ, with one another, and with our community."**

**We're on the Web! See us at:**  
**[www.StGeorgesToronto.ca](http://www.StGeorgesToronto.ca)**

**Currently located at St. Patrick's Anglican Church**  
**1087 Lillian Street. North York**