

## **From Steve's Desk**

On Sunday August 26, I announced that the "Interim" in my title was true and that I would be leaving St George's at the end of the year, my final service being December 30<sup>th</sup>.

For the last 3 years St George's has been on a course of change and we are now beginning the final part of that transition - putting in place the Ministry team. It has been my privilege to be the Interim Priest in Charge of St George on Yonge over this period of growth from the old church to our new church. Now the process to find God's person to lead the parish in the next stage of its journey is beginning.

Let me outline that process.

There must be a Vestry meeting to elect a Parish Selection Committee (PSC) to "provide advice to the Bishop on the appointment of a cleric to fill the vacancy" [Canon 10.3(d)]. This Committee will consist of the 2 Canonical Wardens and 4 members of the congregation. The Committee should be made up of people who "reflect the diverse communities within the parish" [Canon 10.3(b)]. *The Special Vestry to elect this Committee has been called for Sunday, September 16th following the 10.30 am service.*

The Canonical Wardens are charged with producing the list of names for consideration by the Vestry. The list cannot be amended by the Vestry - it is either accepted or rejected, in which case the Wardens will have to produce a new list for consideration at a subsequent vestry.

The Diocese will provide a coach to work with the Selection Committee, whose first task will be to produce a parish profile. This will be developed through focus group sessions in which everyone is encouraged to participate. The parish profile will be the basis for the eventual choice of the next Incumbent. This selection process, which is different from previous ones, usually takes between 6 and 9 months.

In terms of ministry, Pam will become the Interim Priest in Charge from January 1 until the new Incumbent is in place. Allan will remain as an Honorary Assistant until the end of the year, but will continue to step back from active duties to enjoy a well deserved retirement. Janet will continue in her

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position of Pastoral Associate during the Interregnum.

I will continue to serve you as best I can over the next four months. The fall is always a good time of re-grouping and engaging in various parish activities, and we then look forward to the wonderful season of Advent and Christmas. You will find the fall schedule set out elsewhere in this Newsletter.

As we have journeyed from the old to the new, prayer has been an integral part of all that we have done, and I encourage you to continue to look to the Lord in prayer for his guidance in the selection of the next incumbent.

The following is a prayer from the Book of Alternative Services (slightly modified) which you may find helpful, and is one we will be using regularly in our services.

*Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, look on your Church with grace, and guide the minds of those who shall choose an incumbent for this parish of St. George on Yonge, that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for your people, support and encourage us in our ministries, and reach out to those who are seeking you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## **Newcomers Lunch**

**Sunday, Oct. 14 at 12:15**

All those who have visited or become members of St. George on Yonge recently are warmly invited to a Newcomers Lunch following the 10:30 service on Oct. 14. A few of our long term members will be on hand to welcome you to our community and to tell you more about St. George's – our worship, our ministry to the community, our programs, our community life. Whether you've gotten to know us through our Sunday morning services, the Alpha Course, the E100 sessions, or another small group or event, we would love the opportunity to get to know YOU. Hope to see you there!

**WELCOME**

## **The Alpha Course Returns**

**... in ESL format!**

**Wednesday, Oct. 3,  
Starting with dinner at 6:30 p.m.**

*Is this all there is?  
What's the meaning of life?  
Does God exist?*

We are once again pleased to offer the opportunity to explore Christianity's answers to the **big questions** of life through the Alpha Course. Over 10 weeks, we will explore the basics of the Christian faith, in a relaxed and informal atmosphere, and at a pace specifically geared to people for whom English is a Second Language. Each session starts with a free dinner before we move into small group discussions. We hope to see you there!

## Church School & Youth Notes



### CHURCH SCHOOL/ YOUTH REGISTRATION,

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> before and following our 10:30 a. m. service.

A registration desk will be located near the elevator on level M (our parish hall level) Meet our teachers, have a peek at samples of our new curriculum and visit our class areas. Our Youth Class will begin promptly at 10:30 on level M.

Our children begin their morning with their families in the Sanctuary and leave for classes following our children's talk.

We rejoin our congregation at communion and will close our morning the first Sunday of each month with music, a time of sharing and prayer in our chapel.

On the THIRD SUNDAY of the month beginning in OCTOBER all families are invited to worship together for our Contemporary Service.

The second and last Sundays the children will return to their class areas following communion and meet their families at coffee hour. Babies, toddlers and children up to 4 years are to be picked up after the service from their classroom to allow the teachers time to clean up and participate in the social time.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9<sup>th</sup> marks the beginning of our new season and we look forward to welcoming all children and youth. This season we embark on a new curriculum called "Spark" for

children 2 – 12 years.

This curriculum is based on the readings for each Sunday referred to as the Lectionary. This means the readings heard in the Sanctuary will be echoed in our classes each week.

Our church school staff looks forward to sharing summer news, meeting new faces and we begin anew learning and growing together on our faith journey.

### YOUTH BREAKFAST:

This Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> our youth are gathering to cook, eat and have a time of fellowship and planning their social events for the year. If you are 13 and older come join us for breakfast. A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU.

SPEAKING OF YOUTH – in June many of our young people including our Jr. Youth gathered for a trip to St. Andrew-by-the Lake Anglican Church on Ward's Island followed by lunch, fellowship, a peek at the Dragon Boat Races, a stone-skipping contest at the beach and a game of Frisbee. Oh yes and how about those snakes we had an opportunity to pet.

Our group received a warm greeting by the congregation of St. Andrew; Melanie Grauds read one of the lessons and all participated in a special musical morning. Communion was celebrated around the altar and a delightful visiting dog received a special blessing. Food and fellowship were part of our time at St. Andrew's and we even contributed cup cakes to their lunch thanks to Jean Claude with a little help from his Mom, Colleen Happi. Special thanks go to our drivers and co-leaders for the day, Peter Grauds, Stephen Powell and Laura Snider. This was our second visit to the Island Church and their priest Michael Marshall told me our group is always welcome to come back and join in worship with this very interesting church on the Island any time we can make it.

The Youth's trip to Toronto Island and St. Andrew-by-the-lake Anglican Church



With priest Michael Marshall

*"The island trip was super fun, thanks soooo much for planning everything."* One of the youth



On Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> the Church School teachers – Geoff Clennett, Stephen Powell, Pauline Leong, Kathy Baillie and Muriel Thompson got together for a retreat run by our amazing leader Janet Kirk with assistance from Allan Kirk. The theme was doors. We had discussions and shared ideas on what kind of door we felt we are as well as time to reflect on the topic and our part in the Church and what we would do if God came to the door in our hearts. We then met to discuss what we would like to see with the Church School this year and finished off with a communion service. Many thanks to Janet and Allan for all their hard work and leadership.



## Advent Event

**SAVE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup> to CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF ADVENT**

Our whole parish family is invited to a Pot Luck Supper followed by Advent Activities, Music and Candlelight prayers. Watch the church bulletin and announcements for further details.

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## Ladies Bowling



The St. George's Ladies Bowling formed in 1951 by Ivy Dunn is still alive. We meet Wednesday Mornings at Bowlerama, in the Newtonbrook Plaza, at Yonge and Cummer.

We meet at 9:15 to 12:00 and are looking for new bowlers. It is 5 pin bowling. The cost each week is \$10.50 (\$10.00 membership plus .50 cents for a 50/50 draw). We have a Christmas roll with prizes and our banquet will be in May at Swiss Chalet (Bayview and Cummer) at no charge.

Anyone interested can contact – Margaret Cole 416 221 6412 or come out to our first day - September 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be glad to see you. It is a fun league so don't be shy.

Submitted by Margaret Cole

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## Wednesday Group

THE WEDNESDAY GROUP will begin their fall season with a lunch at the home of Margaret and Arnold Handley on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a. m. (note change of time) all seniors are welcome to join this lively group.

Each Wednesday will find our senior men and women gathering for fellowship and a varied program at 10:00 a. m. in the meeting room of level One.

Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> special guest speaker: The Rev. Steve Shaw and his topic – “Fresh Expression of Church”



## DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR: LOOKING AHEAD

### SERVICES

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>

Back-to-Church Sunday  
Invite your friends and neighbours for this very special morning

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>

Harvest Thanksgiving

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21<sup>st</sup>

10:30 a.m. – Contemporary Family Service

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28<sup>th</sup>

All Saints

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>

7:00 p.m. – All Souls

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>

Remembrance Sunday

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>

10:30 a.m. – Contemporary Family Service

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>

Advent III

5:00 p.m. – Carolling with Refreshments

7:00 p.m. – Advent Carol and Lessons

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>

10:30 a. m. – Eucharist with Christmas Nativity & Carols

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m. – Family Christmas Eve Celebration

10:30 p.m. – Eucharist

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. – Family Eucharist

### STUDIES

#### WEDNESDAYS, October 3<sup>rd</sup> to December 5<sup>th</sup>

6:30 p.m. – Alpha for ESL

7:30 p.m. – Christian Conversations

### KEY EVENTS

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m. – Natural Church Development (NCD)  
Parish Session

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>

2:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Photo Directory

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>

Special Vestry following 10:30 a.m. service

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19<sup>th</sup>

2:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Photo Directory

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>

2:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Photo Directory

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Photo Directory

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>

Newcomers Lunch

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>

4:00 p.m. – Newcomers Gathering

5:00 p.m. – Advent Event

Our whole parish family is invited to celebrate this beginning of Advent

## Back to Church Sunday -

.....September 30th

*'What would happen if each church member invited just one person to church?'*

This was the question which sparked an initiative that came to be known as "Back to Church Sunday". An idea originating in the UK in 2004, it has become the largest single local-church initiative taking place in churches across denominations worldwide.

In September, as summer vacations come to an end and our young people head back to school and college, our church life also picks up momentum. We look forward to our regular worship schedule, and the programs and gatherings that will bring us together as a community and nurture our faith.

*So it's a perfect time to think of inviting someone to church.*

Often, for many and various reasons, people have drifted away, or fallen out of the habit of coming to church. A personal invitation may bridge that gap for them. It can be a friendly nudge to encourage someone to come back.

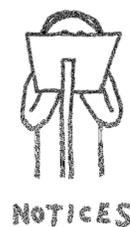
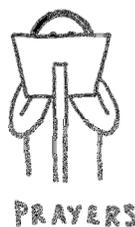
So, on one Sunday in September we focus on Back to Church – or B2CS!

Many churches have found that, with an invitation, people will be prepared to come to church for one Sunday in September – but that many will return, and become part of the community.

Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup> is B2CS at St. George as we join in the worldwide initiative. We plan to make it a special time.

Can you think of just one person to invite?

### HOW TO TELL WHAT IS GOING ON



The Newcomer's Dilemma

### Services

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (BCP)
	10:30 a.m.	Choral Eucharist (BAS)
Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (BAS)
Wednesday	12:15 p.m.	Holy Eucharist (BAS)

### Parish Library News



The library is up and running and open on Sundays for everyone. Check out the variety of books available to be borrowed.

The next edition of the newsletter will be coming out on Sunday, December 2, 2012  
**Deadline is Sunday, November 18, 2012 at 3:06– p.m.** (rush home from Church to get it done)  
 Email articles to the editor: Kathy Baillie at [family.baillie@sympatico.ca](mailto:family.baillie@sympatico.ca)



## REMEMBER, EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT ST. GEORGE ON YONGE CHURCH

**“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)**

**5350 Yonge Street, North York**