

St. George's Anglican Church: 5350 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario

From Pam's Desk

As I write this, we have entered into a new year, and a new stage in the life of St. George on Yonge – a period of interim ministry during the selection process for a new Incumbent. Although transitions are hard for everyone, we are in a position to continue to grow and thrive during this time. At his farewell party, Rev. Steve Shaw spoke about “Team St. George,” the staff and lay leaders who continue to support and enable the ministries of this place. During a recent bout with the flu, I had the opportunity to see just how strong and committed “Team St. George” really is. That week, worship and meetings took place as planned, programs were offered, people were welcomed, bulletins were prepared, the building was maintained, and pastoral care continued. The team didn't miss a beat!

While “Team St. George” was holding down the fort at the church, at home I was supported by “Team Pam.” During that week of illness, several family members and friends called daily to see if I needed anything, and came to walk my dogs. One neighbour came to pick up the dogs and brought a bag full of ginger ale, soup, and applesauce! This same neighbour is always quick to shovel an elderly person's driveway, to offer a ride to the store, or invite someone in for a cup of tea. She lives her life in a way that shows a generous and committed faith.

This idea of faith as something that is lived, not just believed, will be a theme for us during Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we will hear this passage from the Prophet Isaiah:

Is not this the fast that I choose: to lose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

While corporate worship and spiritual disciplines are an important way to live out our faith, in this passage the Lord makes it clear he doesn't want empty rituals from us; He wants our faith to be lived out in a way that brings a foretaste of the kingdom of God to the world. Rather than “giving up” something for Lent, we might ask ourselves what we could “take on.” Is there a relationship that needs to be repaired, or a lonely person you could reach out to? Is there a service you could perform for another, or a cause you could commit to support? What “fast” will you offer to the Lord?

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At St. George on Yonge, there will be several opportunities to engage in conversation about these ideas during Lent. Our Christian Conversations Lenten program is called "Love Life Live Lent," and will provide opportunities to discuss what it means to be a Christian at home, at work or school, in your neighbourhood, and in the world. Our Baptism and Confirmation candidates will meet to discuss the promises they will make, and how that will shape the way they live. I will also lead the Wednesday Morning Seniors Group in a two week discussion entitled "Faith and Hope in Life and in Lent." We hope you will be able to join us for one of these programs.

God's blessings.

Pam

Parish Selection Committee News

The Parish Selection Committee has been hard at work lately making decisions regarding the Parish Profile that will be produced and provided to Bishop Patrick Yu for clergy to have access to. This is the vehicle used by clergy in determining if they are interested in putting their name forward to be considered for the open position here. At the same time we have put together a survey to allow every member of the congregation to have input into providing potential candidates a clear and accurate picture of not only our current parish but also our future hopes and dreams. This survey will be made available both online, as well as in paper format, in the next few weeks. Once the data has been input and analysis has occurred the Profile will be ready for final production.

Doug Heyes, Egan Done, Max Wynter, Geraldine Sperling, Kathy Baillie, Angela Goodwill

Warden's Report

As you are all aware, this past Christmas we all said goodbye to Steve and Chris. We would like to thank everyone involved in putting together the farewell celebration held for them in December. The entertainment was fantastic, and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to thank both of them for all the hard work these past 4 years. The response to our request for members of the congregation to contribute to parting gifts for Steve was overwhelming. We were able to not only obtain a 2-year family membership for Steve and Chris at the ROM (as well as related facilities around the world) we were able to forward a gift to the Scott Mission on Steve's behalf for \$ 881.00. These gifts meant a great deal to Steve, and he was deeply appreciative of everyone's efforts.

With Steve moving on to the next phase we have welcomed Pam as the Interim Priest in Charge, and everyone is working hard to bring her up to speed on all aspects of the goings on here at St. George on Yonge. We are also, with the assistance of Richard, attempting to work out the budget for next year, and will be presenting this to everyone at our Vestry later in February. It has been a very challenging year, with the delays in the start-up of the Daycare reducing our expected funds incoming and we are now in the final stages of arranging for the Mortgage on our building with the TD Bank.

Doug Heyes, Egan Done

Senior's Wednesday Group:

On January 16, the Seniors' Wednesday Group resumed its weekly meetings. So far this year, we have enjoyed an interesting reading by Hazel Perkins, and a travelogue of Vienna. With Janet Kirk's guidance, we have planned some interesting programs for each week of this season. During Lent we look forward to Rev. Pam Prideaux preparing us for Easter.

All seniors are welcome to join us for coffee and cookies and fellowship in our comfortable meeting room from 10 am to noon most Wednesdays between January and May. See the weekly parish announcements for upcoming programs.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Beecham

Prayer Group

At the end of December 2012 the Prayer Group lost two of its members, Chris and Steve Shaw. We have been blessed to have two persons join the group: Raj Sircar and Doug Heyes. We are praying that others will respond to the call and be a part of this ministry that is so essential in the life of the church. There is room for many more!

The group meets on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month at 10am in the meeting room on the first floor. Members of the group are Janet Kirk, Muriel Thompson, Lori Grauds, Raj Sircar, Doug Heyes, Stephen Powell and Margie Lyttle. The group is committed to praying for prayer requests as they are submitted. Every request is held in strict confidence. Would you commit to intercede on behalf of the sick or the troubled? The Prayer Group welcomes you.

Why is prayer so essential in the life of the church?

"Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of The Lord. Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and The Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven."

(James 5:13 to 15 New Living Translation Bible)

Our Prayer Group will be the hosts of World Day of Prayer on March 1, 2013 at 7pm. Lori Grauds is our representative and will give more details soon. The Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for June 8, 2013. The entire congregation is invited to these events.

We look forward to having many opportunities to meet, study and pray with other prayer groups in this area and the diocese.

Submitted by
Margie Lyttle, group leader

Church School & Youth Happenings - Winter/Spring 2013:



HAPPY NEW YEAR WITH A QUICK LOOK BACK!
As we step into this New Year I wish to thank everyone in our church school, children, youth and teachers for the very meaningful Nativity Service on December 23rd.

We must give special thanks to our Youth, to Stephen Powell and Geoff Clennett for their leadership in preparing the lovely gifts from both the Jr. and Sr. Youth for Steve and Chris Shaw. This also would never have been accomplished without the generous use of Elizabeth Beecham's Studio and the time, teaching and commitment of Elizabeth. The gift from the church school is thanks to the vision and execution of detail by Geoff Clennett.

THIS NEW YEAR:

February and March will be very busy months for our congregation.

Please make note of St. George's celebration of BLACK HISTORY. The service will take place on Sunday, February 10th. All children and youth are invited to join the rest of the congregation for this service. The Nursery/Kindergarten space will be open for those wishing to use its facilities.

LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER:

The church school staff have met and planned our annual Lenten Event to take place on Sunday, February 17th beginning at 10:00 a.m. This event is for all children and youth. Please note the earlier time.

This year's theme is: "Serve the Lord with Gladness". We will focus on different ways we too can serve the Lord with gladness.

This annual event includes worship, games, music, and creative activities. Please join us February 17th.

HOLY WEEK:

All are welcome to join us for Good Friday Stations of the Cross. This Family Service takes place on Friday, March 29th beginning at 9:00 a. m. in the Sanctuary and traveling both inside and outside (weather permitting) as we follow the steps of Jesus to the cross.

Families are invited to join us for juice and hot cross buns in the parish hall following this service.

Note: Rehearsal for this service – Saturday, March 23rd 10:00 a. m.

JUST FOR FUN:

CALLING ALL YOUTH! Come join us for skating at North York Civic Centre on Saturday, February 9th followed by Pizza and board games in our Parish Hall.

Time: 4:00 p. m. – 8:00 p. m.

Please meet at the Parish Hall at 4:00 for skating. Those not wishing to skate are invited to either come join us at 4:00 or meet us back at the parish hall at 5:30 p. m. for pizza and games.

FAMILY BOWLING PARTY: Please mark your calendars for Saturday, February 23rd for bowling fun. 1:30 p.m – sign up with Janet Kirk.

Church School / Youth CALENDAR NOTES

Saturday, February 9th

– Youth Skating/Pizza/Games Day

Meet at the Parish Hall at 4:00 p.m.

Pick up time 8:00 p. m.

Sunday, February 10th

– Celebrating Black History – Children/Youth join in this service (Note: Nursery/Kindergarten area available for use.)

Sunday, February 17th

– LENTEN EVENT 10:00 a. m. Parish Hall
For All Children and Youth

Saturday, February 23rd

Family Bowling Party – 1:30 p.m.
Details to be announced shortly

Sunday, February 24th

Vestry Meeting
Child Care –Nursery/Kindergarten space
Please provide lunch for your child

Sunday, March 17th

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, March 23rd – 10:00 a. m.

REHEARSAL FOR GOOD FRIDAY FAMILY
SERVICE

Friday, March 29th

9:00 a. m. GOOD FRIDAY FAMILY
SERVICE –“ Stations of the Cross”

Sunday, March 31st

EASTER DAY – JESUS LIVES! ALLELUIA!

CALLING YOUNG ARTISTS!

If you are 17 or YOUNGER Faithworks invites Diocese of Toronto Sunday Schools and Youth Groups to submit art work for the 2013 Faithworks Christmas Card.

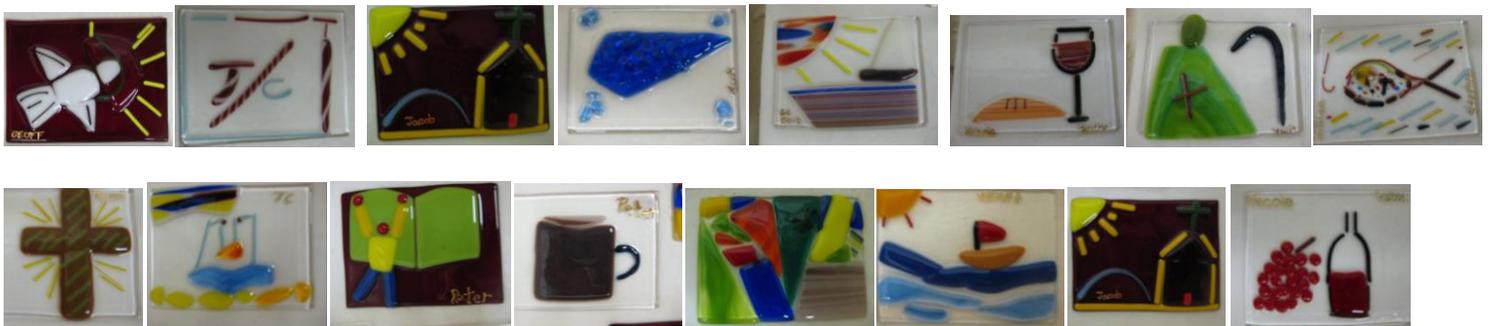
The winning artist will receive \$100 Registered education savings plan contribution. The Sunday School will receive \$100 toward the cost of art and crafts supplies plus a pizza party with the Archbishop.

Proceeds for the sale of cards will benefit our Faithworks Ministry Partners both within our Diocese and around the world.

FOR ENTRY DETAILS please speak to Janet Kirk or take down information from the flyer on the Church School Bulletin Board in the Parish Hall.

Deadline for entries is April 1st, 2013.

Pictures from Stain Glass preparation



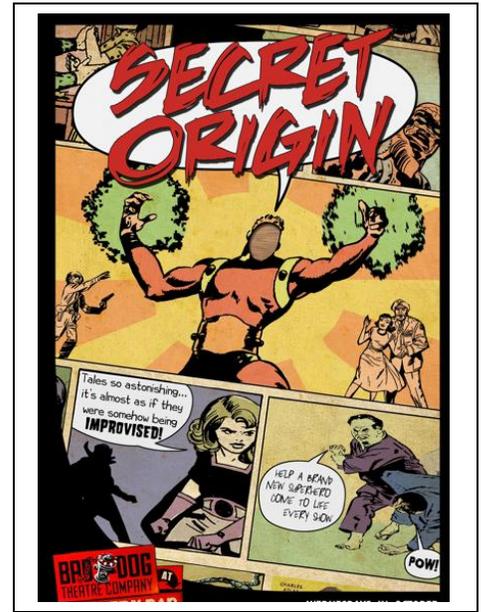
Comedy Improv returns to St. George on Yonge March 16, 2013

On Saturday March 16 at 2 pm. The Bad Dog Theatre will be returning to St. George for an all-ages Improv Comedy Show. Last year during Christmastime the Bad Dog Theatre did the hilarious show "It's a Wonderful Improvised Life", we all had a great time.

They will be returning March 16 (the last Saturday of March Break) with a new format show, "Secret Origin : An Unscripted Golden Age Comic Book"

Their talented cast will "create a brand new superhero and bring them to life. Will they be able to leap tall buildings in a single bound? Will they stalk the night in search of vengeance? Will they talk to fish? It's all up to you!" This format works very well an improvised show where the scenes are created in the moment based on audience suggestions. For more information visit their website at <http://www.baddogtheatre.com/shows/secret-origin/>

Tickets will be available late February. Please mark your calanders, bring your friends, siblings, nieces/nephews, Grandparents, Uncles/Aunts, co-workers, Grandchildren and spread the word for what promises to be a Heroically Hilarious Hootenanny.



2) Jazz Concert Swings into St. George

In a co-production with TorontoJazzBuzz.com (otherwise known as Keita Hopkinson) Jazz Pianist Mboya Nicholson thrilled our 40 plus audience on Saturday January 26 with music by Duke Ellington, Gershwin and his own compositions. Our newly tuned grand piano sounded wonderful in the Sanctuary. Many were from the congregation, but there were also many new faces smiling and tapping their feet. Thank you to all who came for a special afternoon of music, which also raised some money for the church. We hope to bring more music to the Church in the future and are open to all ideas, suggestions and help for the Concert Committee.

P.S. if anyone has a Cash Box not being used at home, it would be appreciated for a donation for use in future shows. If you can please drop it off at the office.

Thank You, the Concert Committee.

2013 World Day of Prayer

St. George on Yonge is hosting 2013 World Day of Prayer - Save the date if you can: Friday March 1st @ 7:00 pm.

The theme is "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" based on the Gospel text of Matthew 25. This year the service was written and compiled by 11 women from France.

World Day of Prayer = Informed Prayer which flows into Prayerful Action.

Our guest speaker is the Rev. Joanna Manning. Joanna is a priest at All Saints Sherborne where she is involved in outreach ministry for the homeless & marginalized.

Joanna is a former Roman Catholic nun and published author. She is a social activist in many areas and ministries.

For further information you can visit www.joannamanning.com

Early Origins & History of World Day of Prayer:

World Day Of Prayer (WDP) began as a grassroots movement in the 19th century. There were a group of Christian women from North America that initiated a vision of Christian unity to unite in prayer & action.

In 1918, five denominations were woven together through the efforts of a group of Presbyterian women. A committee was formed and it grew to become the ecumenical women's inter-church council of Canada. The first National Day of Prayer was organized on January 9th, 1920 in Canada. World Day of Prayer is now held in more than 170 countries & regions.

For Further information you can visit: www.wicc.ca

More Sites to See: Food For thought.

www.henrinouwen.org

www.larche.ca (L'arche.)

www.larchedaybreak.com

www.cslewis.org

www.ssjd.ca

www.torontojazzbuzz.blogspot.ca

www.mpiano.webs.com (Mboya Nicholson)

Respectfully submitted by Lori Grauds



DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

SERVICES

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 13

12:15 p.m. – Said Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes

7:00 p.m. – Sung Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes

Lent I

Sunday, February 17

10:00 a.m. – Lenten Event
(during regular Sunday School classes)

Lent II

Sunday, February 24

Vestry

World Day of Prayer Service

Friday, March 1

7:00 p.m.

Hosted by St. George on Yonge
Reception to follow / Everyone welcome

Lent V

Sunday, March 17

10:30 a.m. – Contemporary Eucharist

The Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday)

Sunday, March 24

8:00 a.m. – Blessing of the Palms & Said Eucharist

10:30 a.m. – Procession & Sung Eucharist

Wednesday in Holy Week

Wednesday, March 27

12:15 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28

7:00 p.m. – Eucharist with Washing of the Feet and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday

Friday, March 29

9:00 a.m. – Journey to the Cross: an All-Ages, Interactive Stations-of-the-Cross

11:00 a.m. – The Celebration of the Lord's Passion: Traditional Liturgy and Meditation on the Cross

The Chapel will be open for quiet prayer and mediation

The Great Vigil of Easter

Saturday, March 30

7:30 p.m.

Sung Eucharist & Holy Baptism

Easter Sunday: the Day of the Resurrection

Sunday, March 31

8:00 a.m. – Said Eucharist

10:30 a.m. – Sung Eucharist

Patronal Festival

Sunday, April 21

8:00 a.m. – Said Eucharist

10:30 a.m. – Confirmation & Sung Eucharist

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 12

6:00 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Wednesday, February 20

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Seniors' Moments

Saturday, February 23

1:30 p.m.

Bowling Party

Thursday, February 28

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Fergie's Knights at the Frog & Firkin
4854 Yonge Street

Note: no meeting in March. The meeting will resume on Thursday, April 25.

Wednesday, March 20

10:30 a.m.
Folding of Palm Crosses
(Hosted by the Seniors' Wednesday Group)

Saturday, March 23

10:00 a.m. – Church School/Youth Rehearsal for Good Friday
11:30 a.m. – Pizza Lunch & Servers' Rehearsal to follow

Sunday, March 24

Following 10:30 a.m. service
Newcomers' Lunch

Wednesday, March 27

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Seniors' Moments

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Vestry Meeting: Our meeting will be held on Sunday, February 24 during and following the 10:30 a.m. service.

Daylight Saving Time Begins Sunday, March 10. Please remember to set your clocks AHEAD one hour before you go to bed on Saturday.

The Altar Guild will Decorate our Church for Easter. If you wish to contribute for the purchase of lilies, please complete the "Altar Flower Request Form" (which is available from the Ushers) and place on the offertory plate in an envelope with a donation by Sunday, March 24. Thank you.

The Anglican Journal is a newspaper published monthly (except July and August) by the Anglican Church of Canada. All Canadian Anglican members are entitled to receive this publication at \$10/year. If you would like to receive the newspaper delivered to your home, please write a note for Craig Gustafson, or send him an e-mail message at office@stgerogestoronto.ca and he will add your name to the list. You can also view the newspaper on the National Church's website at www.anglicanjournal.com

Farewell to Steve & Chris Shaw



Outreach Committee

THANK YOU FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE!! It was a busy fall.

1. Thank you to everyone who has participated in our activities with Eva's Satellite –
 - We collected several bags of clothes and shoes that helped the residents beat off the winter cold. At the same time, we gathered several bags of women's and children's clothes to be sent to North York Women's Shelter (where we are building new connections).
 - About 40 people from St George and Eva's shared a harvest supper (prepared and hosted by Eva's) on Saturday November 17- special thanks to Brian Heyes and Kwame for entertaining us with a variety of lively music! And thanks to the people who donated to help fund the meal – Eva's has a very tight budget.
 - We provided Christmas gifts (movie passes and Tim Horton vouchers) to the residents and a large number of parishioners hand-signed personalized Christmas greeting cards. The gifts were paid for from special gifts from parishioners.
 - Six St. George families took time from their own Christmas Day schedule to cook and deliver a home-cooked Christmas dinner.

We have received thank you notes from Eva's expressing how important our gifts have been to the youth at Eva's: it has helped reduce their sense of isolation and reminds them they are valued members of our community – no small thing!!

2. Thank you for giving to Faithworks 2012. Final total is \$8,760, of which we keep \$1,025 for St George outreach projects. Watch for details of the 2013 Faithworks campaign. And keep reading the Faithworks project descriptions in the weekly bulletins. Thank you to Muriel Thompson and Egan Done for again coordinating the 2012 campaign.
3. Remember your weekly food bank contributions. There is a plastic bin by the table in the narthex.
4. ESL program ("English as Second Language") - Thank you to our two volunteer instructors and to the other St George parishioners who greet and offer fellowship to "students". Classes (beginner and intermediate) are offered Monday afternoons and Thursday evenings. Please help us spread the word!
5. The very successful Seniors Moments events will continue during the winter and spring- watch the bulletin. Thanks to our parishioners who have organized these events, and to the other parishioners who engage in conversation with the people from outside St George's.

 THANK YOU FOR THE CHRISTMAS CAKES!!

We sold 63 cakes (Anglo Saxon and Caribbean) and raised \$1,092 (after expenses) for St George works. Thank you to the large team of people who gave their time to this effort – it was A LOT OF WORK, and it is appreciated!

Parish Library News



The library is up & running. I have culled many out dated materials. Please sign out your book(s) with the card provided and include the date, your name and phone number. If there is no card in the book jacket, please leave your borrower information on a piece of paper. There is a card box located on the library table.

Thank you to the people who have generously donated books to the library over the past few months. Your books & support are greatly appreciated.

The archival materials and previous Church bulletins are currently in the library. There are in chronological order and will be filed and kept in the Heritage room. Have a browse as a blast from the past.

Have you read any good books lately? I am interested in compiling a reading list of suggestions from the congregation, clergy & visitors for everyone. Perhaps there is a long lost treasure of a book that is ready to be shared and waiting to be read. The reading list suggestions will be kept on the library cart for anyone to add to or peruse. Perhaps you have some books to donate for the library. They must be in good condition and not musty.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Grauds

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)

Seniors Moments

Seniors' Moments is an Outreach Committee program organized and hosted by Anne and Max Wynter. The monthly seminars are very popular and attended by seniors from the community and other churches. These informational seminars cover a full range of issues relevant to seniors including health, safety, finance, downsizing, and legal concerns.

Recently, an expert spoke about Immediate Tax-Saving Strategies that could help save thousands of dollars on 2012 tax returns. As well, attendees were informed on how to avoid the "Stealth Taxes" and develop tax efficient estate strategies that will help for years to come. To add to this finance information seminar there was also a presentation on Preventing Falls.

Coming up on February 20th will be a seminar discussing Alternative Health Care Options for Canadians. A very important issue for all seniors.



Enter into Lent with Us**Ash Wednesday Services**

*"Almighty God,
From the dust of the earth you have created us.
May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and
penitence,
And a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we
given eternal life;
Through Jesus Christ our Saviour."*

Ash Wednesday Services will take place on Wednesday, February 13, at 12:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Imposition of ashes will be offered at both services. We mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross as a reminder that we are mortal and that we are in God's hands. This ancient tradition is a sign of penitence and a reminder of our baptism, when we were also marked with a cross and claimed as Christ's own forever. Come and enter into Lent with us.

Come Pray with Us

Lent is a time of preparation, a time to prepare our hearts for the reality of what Jesus has done for us by His death on the cross on Good Friday, and His resurrection at Easter time. A time to contemplate the ways we might want to change ourselves and our lives in preparation for

His coming again. Each Wednesday throughout the year, we hold a service of Holy Eucharist in the Chapel at 12:15. This Lent, we invite you to join us for the Eucharist service, followed by a time of individual contemplative Prayer.

Contemplative Prayer can take several forms, but at its heart, it is about striving to listen for God's voice in your life. Material will be available in the Chapel to introduce participants to new ways of praying, or to support you in going deeper in your prayer life. Consider joining us on Feb. 13, Feb. 20, Feb. 27, Mar 6, Mar 13, and Mar 20. Our service begins at 12:15 and the Chapel will remain open afterward.

**Christian Conversations:
LOVE LIFE, LIVE LENT**

What does it mean to live as a Christian? How can we live out our faith in a secular society? You are invited to join us for coffee, tea and conversation each Wednesday evening in Lent from 7-8:30 p.m. Let's talk about it!

Topics: Feb 20 – Home and Family
Feb 27 – Neighbourhood and Community
March 6 – Work and School
March 13 – Global: Shine!
March 20 – Focusing on God

The next edition of the newsletter will be coming out on Sunday, March 31, 2013

Deadline is Sunday, March 17, 2013 at 4:56 p.m.

Email articles to the editor: Kathy Baillie at family.baillie@sympatico.ca



**We're on the Web! See us at:
www.StGeorgesToronto.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."**

5350 Yonge Street, North York