

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

From the Incumbent's Desk...

My dear friends,

As I write this newsletter article, I am feeling so many emotions as the end of my time here at St. George on Yonge is coming to an end. What a wonderful time we've had over these 3 ½ years!! And I mean that with all sincerity. It hasn't always been easy, without stresses and challenges. However, I have had no doubt personally that God was very present, and at work in all we endeavored to do. And I felt very blessed by the privilege of serving alongside you and ministering with you.

These times of transition often lead to anxiety about the future. And yet, the saying is so true is that the only real constant in life is change. Change happens all around us and change happens progressively within us to as human beings. Life brings about change as we grow older in years and we can't do the things we once did. Families that grow into adulthood brings a change in relationships that although is right and appropriate also brings sadness too in letting go. And yet, it is a natural part of life both as parents and as children.

Transition of leadership in the church can result in a parish surviving the "in between time". I pray that here at St. George on Yonge, it won't be just about surviving, but of building on the foundations we have laid in our time together. The hopes and visions for ministry here on the corner of Yonge and Churchill have not changed; there is still a desire to connect with the wider community; there is the hope to build relationships beyond the walls of the church; there is a desire to serve faithfully in our gospel mandate to go out and proclaim the gospel. None of that changes with my leaving St. George on Yonge. So my prayer is that you will continue to invest yourselves and your energy in doing those things as a part of the ministry here at St. Georges.

You can and you will make a difference, with God's help, always discerning the way forward through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

I have been most grateful for the support and encouragement along the way. And, I appreciated that when things didn't go as we had hoped, that there wasn't judgement or blame. We were in this together!! I pray that you will continue to uphold, support and encourage your future clergy in the same way. That is a gift for which I was most appreciative and something others will value too. It is about working together, alongside one another that God's work of being agents for Jesus Christ can happen; it about partnership. That is the body of Christ coming alive, each part gifted to contribute through the gifts given, received and offered back.

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Don't be afraid to be adventurous. Ministry is an adventure with more possibilities than we can imagine or expect. That is what attracted me to this parish in the first place. It takes courage to make the kind of decisions you made in selling off your land and in building a new parish church and worship space. You know what it means to take risks. Keep doing that for the sake of the kingdom of God. That too is a gift you offer to this community where you are active, visible, engaged, and recognized. And personally, I'd rather risk with faith and trust than to hold back out of fear. So go into the future, and unstable and unpredictable as it feels, with boldness and conviction. And then see what God accomplishes!! You might well be surprised!!!

Finally, as brothers and sisters in Christ, I ask you to pray for me, and know that I will be praying for you. We are always connected to each other as members of the body of Christ.

There will be a *"Celebration of Ministry"* at St. Paul's Uxbridge in the fall. I will confirm that with Craig so it can be publicized here at St. George on Yonge. I hope some of you will come to Uxbridge on that day. I think that is part of the leaving and beginning for both you and me. It will be good to see you there and to welcome you.

Beth, Nathaniel and Patrick join with me in saying thank you for welcoming us, embracing us and bringing us into the life of St. George on Yonge. We will remember it with fondness and love. Our prayers are with you in all you do, and in all that God does through you.

God bless,

Mark ✝

Community Lunch

On Saturday, May 6th about 20 guests joined a group of SGY parishioners for our 2nd community lunch featuring lasagna, garlic bread, salads, fruit, desserts and beverages accompanied by background music. Although the weather outside was cool and cloudy (but not raining), the atmosphere in the Parish Hall was warm and cheery with a lot of animated conversations happening around the tables.

Father Mark opened the lunch by offering a grace of thanksgiving for the food we were about to receive and also for our community. Our guests then formed a line to receive food served to them from the buffet tables.

The lunch was a great success due to the following volunteers - Father Mark, Doug and Dennis Heyes, Jackie Coxworthy, Kien Siu, Sangeeta Randive, John and Laura Pummell – who welcomed our guests into our church home. A few years ago members of SGY expressed the desire for our parish to develop more outreach initiatives. In deed in welcoming and serving a meal to these guests who very much appreciated the food and warmth of our hospitality, perhaps a seed is planted to continue with more of events like this on a regular basis and let's see where the Spirit takes us.



Reflections on my trip to Afganistan

Afghanistan is an ancient land full of tradition which was for good reason called the "Paris of the East" in the past because of its beauty and liberal ethos. The last few decades have changed all that, unfortunately, and it is now in the news for all the wrong reasons. I went there for my work with a Non Governmental Organization recently.

The country is beautiful and flying to Kabul over the mountains is spectacular with vistas of vast, stark beauty. Kabul itself is in a valley ringed by snow-capped mountains. The weather was a perfect 20°C and sunny.

The uncertain security situation is top of everyone's mind and this mentality is embedded into every aspect of life and work. A normal life with socializing, shopping and outings is hard to contemplate, especially for expatriates. The expatriate lifestyle involves going from the guest house to the office in the mornings and back to the guest house in the evenings, and literally nothing else. Everyone is watchful and doesn't let their guard down for even a moment.

And yet, in the midst of all this, there is much joy, laughter and hospitality. The people are nice to a fault and extremely hospitable. Colleagues felt really bad that they couldn't take me to their homes to visit because of the security problems.

Life goes on normally, on the surface at least. Resilience, optimism and acceptance are all blended into a never-say-die attitude as people try to make light of their circumstances. Children play noisily late into the evenings. The streets are chock full of chaotic traffic just like any other big city. Modern glass-walled malls rub shoulders with small jostling neighbourhood markets.

Let us pray for the people there as they hope for a more peaceful future.

Michael Dodsworth, May, 2017

AWARE Weekend

It is with great pleasure I tell you all I had an Amazing, Spiritually refreshing weekend at AWARE (Anglican Alive Renewed Enriched). It was wonderful to have fellowship with likeminded women looking towards the same goal. I am encouraged that there is always life outside of St. George's and it is an excellent opportunity to fellowship and gaining new connections with our Church sisters across the daises. It was a weekend of prayers, workshops and crafts. The Speaker Marty was amazing, her message was that of Generosity, forgiveness, faith, love, gratitude and submission. Who knew you could have so much fun praying to GOD with your fellow women. The Taizi service was amazing. It is an experience I wish to share with my immediate church sisters. Hope some of you would join me next year and hopefully it can become a tradition for St. George's Anglican to attend.

Collene Happi



Parish Life Survey

Thank you to everyone who filled out the survey. Preliminary results are truly showing what a diverse congregation we are with many different interests. Results are being compiled and the committee will be meeting sometime over the summer to look at the results to consider what events could be done. Thanks to those who wrote their names legibly and volunteered to help with events. Events will only happen with enough people to help.

If you haven't filled out the survey yet, it's at the end of the newsletter for your use.

Leadership 2017

Incumbent	The Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan
Assistant Curate	The Rev. Leonard Leader
Honorary Associate	The Rev. Canon Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD
Associate, Mandarin Ministry	Morning Wang
Organist & Director of Music	Michael Leach
Parish Administrator	Craig Gustafson
Custodian	Philip Ikhuoria
Children's Ministry Co-ordinator	Geoff Clennett

Church School



St. George Sunday Children's Program

Our last day before the summer break will be June 4th. We will be starting up in September the Sunday after labour day. Nursery facilities and play area will be available for parents to use during the 10:30 service.

As previously announced Geoff Clennett is retiring from the Church School with his last day of teaching June 4th.

Teachers are needed for the nursery and a few other age groups. Anyone interested in joining the teaching team please speak to Kathy Baillie or Leonard Leader.



Are you on facebook??
St. George on Yonge is there too!!

Be sure to look us up and "like" us at ...

<https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgeonyonge>



Tulip Cross in the Church school garden

Announcements

ESL Conversational Classes: Tuesdays, 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.

Separate beginner- and intermediate-level sections are offered. No registration needed.

Proverbs Class: Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Mandarin Bible Study: Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.

Taizé Service: Please plan to join us the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Sponsored by the St. George on Yonge Mandarin Fellowship. Bilingual in English & Mandarin. A quiet service of song, prayer, and reflection that is meditative and contemplative. The next dates are **June 1, July 6; August 3; September 7**. Everyone welcome!

Food Bank: The second Sunday of each month is “Food Bank Sunday” and we will try to fill our shopping cart. Upcoming dates are **June 11, July 9; August 13; September 10**. The cart will be presented at the Altar along with the offerings that day as a symbol of our gift in reaching out to the hungry in our community. When you are shopping remember to pick up some non-perishable canned goods. And remember Jesus saying “When you did it for the least of these, you did it for me.”

More Tales to Tell featuring Hazel and

Manfred:

ALL NEW Tales of interesting people and the things they say and do. Saturday, June 10 at 2:00 p.m. No tickets but donations requested. All proceeds go to the church.

Pub Knights: Come join the Knights on the 4th Thursday every month. The longest journey begins with just one small step. Take that first step and join the Knights for spirited

conversation, a cold beverage, and great food at the “Frog & Firkin” (4854 Yonge Street, across from the Sheppard Centre on Yonge Street). The next dates are **June 22, July 27; August 24; September 28**.

The Altar Flower Request Form is available from the Ushers. If you would like flowers placed, please complete the form and place on the offertory plate or mail to the office in an envelope with a donation **at least 2 weeks in advance**. Suggested donation is \$50. Thank you.

Did You Know? Bulletins along with recordings of the service (sermons and announcements) are available on our website. Click on the “Latest Sermon” or “The Sermon Archive” links on the front page. Bulletins are available through the “Next Service” link on the front page; from there you can look at past services. If you cannot make it to the service, we hope you will feel connected to us via these tools!

Please remember that we strive to keep our building a seafood- and nut-sensitive environment. For the safety of our congregation, and the children in the daycare, please remember to refrain from bringing food that contains peanuts, tree nuts, fish, and seafood into the building. Thank you.

Coffee Hour: Everyone is invited to share in some refreshments in the Parish Hall after the service. Come and meet someone new, catch up with your friends, and have some tasty treats.

When you finish, please follow this guide for disposing of waste.

Organics bin (green): napkin, paper plate, food scraps, plants, paper towel, tissues

Recycle bin (blue): plastic cutlery (rinsed), Styrofoam cups, pop cans, foil, milk

cartons, juice boxes

Garbage (black): stir sticks, straws, toothpicks, plastic candy wrappers

Let's all work together to reduce our footprint on the earth.

Members of the Parish Staff will be on vacation for different parts of the summer.

In an emergency, please call the church and, when prompted, dial "1" to be forwarded to the emergency church cellular phone. The phone is carried by members of the pastoral staff on a rotational basis. You can reach this phone any time – day or night!

Community Notices

Yonge Churchill Child Care Centre: Full day summer camps **AND** before and after school programmes are available! Please see the flyer on the Welcome Desk for contact information.

Free Daily Devotional Books are Available in the Library that help readers spend time each day in God's Word.

Large and Regular Print: Forward Day by Day is a booklet of daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer. It is also available via e-mail, cassette, and braille. It is also available in Spanish.

www.forwardmovement.org/subscriptions.aspx

Regular Print: Our Daily Bread is published by RBC Ministries. Each daily thought is designed to draw the reader into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ and to evoke responses of worship, love, trust, and obedience. It is also available on radio, podcast, e-mail, and mobile. For social networking users, it is available on Twitter and Facebook. It is available in more than 40 languages.

www.odb.org/about

Music at St. George

1. On July 15th at 7:30 the Korean Canadian Chamber Concerts will present their *Summer Breeze* concert. The concert will be performed by 4 flute players with percussion and will be mainly new, but not the alienating contemporary, music. Admission is \$20, \$10 for students.
2. *Music at St. George on Yonge* will be presenting a concert in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm on Sunday, November 5th. The concert entitled *Music for the Soul* will be led by Toronto Symphony Orchestra violinist James Wallenberg, supported admirably by Judy Gershon and Renee Bouthot. In the first half of the programme Mozart's Sonata for Piano and Violin K. 454 a variety of Hebrew songs and melodies as well as Schubert's Ave Maria. The second half will include Beethoven's Romance #2 in F Major Op. 50, as well as works by Stephen Sondheim, Leonard Bernstein, Leonard Cohen and Vittorio Monti. While the November date is somewhat in the future, and there will be more publicity to follow, it is recommended that you keep the date open for this very special concert.

Alan Sperling

Advanced notice:

We will be having a Church Bazaar sometime in October. During your cleanups, please put aside any treasures for donating to the sale. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please speak to Lorraine Baillie, Laura Pummell or Geraldine Sperling. Volunteers will be needed and will be organized closer to the date.

Services

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Said Eucharist (BAS 1962)
 9:00 a.m. Mandarin Fellowship
 10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist (BAS)
 3rd Sunday of the month (AAWE)

BAS 1962 (Book of Alternate Services) uses the 1962 rite which is the traditional language as in the BCP (Book of Common Prayer)

Mandarin Fellowship is offered in the Sanctuary. We hope our Mandarin Fellowship can be a "harbour for love," where we seek truth together, while experiencing and receiving the abundant grace of God.

衷心欢迎您来到圣乔治教会大家庭，我们的国语团契每周日上午9点举行主日聚会。

盼望国语团契可以成为一个爱的港湾，在这里我们一起寻求上帝的真理，一起经历上

帝的同在，一起领受上帝的恩典。

BAS (Book of Alternate Services) uses contemporary, inclusive-language

AAWE (Amazing, Awesome, Alternate Worship Experience) is a Communion service that is more informal with alternative music and prayers

The next edition of the newsletter will be available on Sunday, September 17.

The deadline is Sunday, September 3 at 8:46 p.m.

Email articles to the editor: Kathy Baillie at fambail@hotmail.com



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

St George on Yonge – Parish Life Survey

Please circle your response and mark your top 5

Type	Activity	Would probably attend		Could help with it		Top 5
Active	Apple Picking/Outings	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Active	Church outside cleanup	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Active	Exercise Class	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Active	Gardening	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Active	Hiking/Walking group	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Active	Sports. What kind? _____	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Bible Study or Book Study/Club	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Camera/Photography Club	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Dinner Club (at a restaurant)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Evening Dance (Barn Dance)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Go to a show or movie	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Movie Night with snacks	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Outreach – e.g., singing at seniors’ homes	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Outreach – Other? _____	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Performance Night	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Picnic	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Sing along	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Activity	Small group get-togethers in homes (social)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Craft night	Flower Arranging	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Craft night	Jewellery Making/Bead Work	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Craft night	Knitting Club	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Fundraiser	Bazaar or other sale, Craft Sale, Auction	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Games night	Card Playing – euchre, bridge, other	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Games night	Games Night or Afternoon	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Games night	Karaoke Night	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Games night	Murder Mystery	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Special day	Carol Singing a week before Xmas	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Special day	Donuts for Dads (Father’s Day)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Special day	Easter Egg Hunt (community or Sunday)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Special day	Muffins for Mother’s Day	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Special day	New Year’s Eve Party	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Special day	Reading of A Christmas Carol	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Special day	St. George’s Day Celebration	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Sunday activity	Ethnic/Cultural Dress Sunday	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Sunday activity	Indigenous speakers/education	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Sunday activity	Lunch ‘n Learn (after Sunday service)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Sunday activity	Meditation/Mindfulness training	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Sunday activity	Parish Lunch or Dinner (Italian)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Sunday activity	Salad Social (Get to know you)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Sunday activity	Sunday Sundae (after Church in the summer)	YES	NO	YES	NO	
Other	Suggestion: _____	YES	NO	YES	NO	

I could possibly drive people to an event: YES NO

Name _____