



st. christopher's

Messenger

October 2023 | Issue 259

FROM THE RECTOR'S STUDY



We are in a season of rebuilding at St. Christopher's. Rebuilding means growing numerically in our programs and in our worship. Rebuilding means attending with renewed energy to the ways we care for one another as a congregation. And rebuilding means exploring new dimensions of the faith that sustains us in good times and in challenging times.

St. Christopher's was made for this season! So much of the rebuilding we are doing depends upon the character of the relationships that draw us and hold us together. We know that people in our society and people in our neighbourhood are hungry for ways to connect with communities of care. St. Christopher's is just such a community. We know people try out a place like St. Christopher's because someone they know invites them. And they choose to stay because of how they are treated once they have ventured through the door. St. Christopher's was made for this season because we

are a vibrant and inclusive community of care.

We have a lot to give. We are known for the ways we welcome and nourish our guests through our outreach ministries. We have a vision for how God's gracious activity among us connects us with God's work in the world. As we become an intentionally inviting congregation, people will find their place with us in the work God is calling us to.

Because we have a lot to give, because of our vision of vibrant, life-giving, inclusive ministry, we are entering a season of stewardship this fall. For the last 10 or 12 months the leadership team has been talking about the need for a stewardship campaign at St. Christopher's. We need a campaign to relieve the financial pressure we are experiencing so we have the time we need to continue rebuilding after the turbulent times we have been through.

Our stewardship campaign launches at the start of October. The moving St. Christopher's Talks moments at the start

of our services in September and October have been part of the campaign - reminders that St. Christopher's is our spiritual home. It's our church. Our mission is our shared responsibility. And our financial health is our shared responsibility. As campaign season arrives in October, please listen, pray and respond. With God's help, together, we will embrace the future God is calling us to.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the congregational meeting after the 9:30 service on Sunday, October 1. We will celebrate all we have accomplished through our first parish Mission Action Plan and listen for the Holy Spirit's direction for our renewed Mission Action Plan. Your point of view is important - we need your voice to be represented in this important conversation.

We are returning to the Mission Action planning process because our MAP is intended to have a 12-18 month lifespan. We want to be responsive to God's call as things unfold at St. Christopher's, and in our neighbourhood,

and as people join our congregation bringing new points of view and new skills. Please look for the summary of some of the great things we accomplished through our work on our first Mission Action Plan elsewhere in the pages of this Messenger. There is much to celebrate!

On Saturday, October 14, we will gather to tour the Mohawk Institute in Brantford. This former Indian Residential School was operated by the Anglican Church until 1922, when the Government of Canada took over responsibility. Today, the facility is maintained by the Woodland Cultural Centre, which offers opportunities for learning about the history and legacy of the Indian Residential School system. It is an opportunity for embodied learning, as we will hear the stories of some of the children who were brought to the school and see the spaces where they spent their days and nights. Please contact the

office by telephone (905-634-1809) or email (staff@stcb.ca) to sign up.

Finally, I am inviting people who have recently arrived at St. Christopher's to join me for a two-part series on how to connect with our church. First and foremost it's a chance to connect with St. Christopher's people. And it's a chance to ask questions and find out more about how things work at our church. These two evenings are designed for people who have recently arrived at St. Christopher's, but they are open to anyone who wants to know more about our congregation, and anyone who wants to find new ways to connect at St. Christopher's!



REV. CANON DR.
PENNY ANDERSON
RECTOR

PASTORAL CARE



PASTORAL CARE WORKSHOPS

You are invited to participate in a workshop where we will explore the ways in which we can support and journey with those who are grieving the death of a loved one. Death is a part of life, and as members of the Christian community we are in a unique position to be able to offer loving and intentional

support.

The workshop will be offered twice: Monday, October 23 from 1 to 4 pm; and Wednesday, October 25 from 6 to 9 pm. Both sessions will take place in person in the Family Room at the church. Please contact me if you wish to participate.

Offering this workshop was based on a brief survey recently taken with a group of pastoral care volunteers. Other topics for future workshops include:

➤ Supporting people approaching the end of their lives, including effectively responding to the physical, emotional,

practical, and spiritual needs of those who are dying.

- The importance of “being with” those in need and how to care for them with meaningful presence.
- Praying with people you visit and looking at various options for prayer.
- Practical issues, e.g.,

- leading worship,
- distributing communion,
- etc.

➤ Maintaining appropriate boundaries when providing pastoral care.

If you have ideas for additional topics or if you would like to join our team of pastoral care volunteers, I would love to hear from you.

WORSHIP IN LONG-TERM CARE AND RETIREMENT

I’m delighted to share with you that we have recently expanded our reach into long-term care and retirement homes. For some time, we have provided regular worship at Billings Court Long-term Care and Christopher Terrace Retirement Home. Last month we added Pearl and Pine Retirement and Tansley Woods Retirement/ Long-term Care. I am also

pleased that we continue to expand our team of pastoral care volunteers that join me for these worship services. My grateful thanks goes to Sandra Rudge for going to Tansley Woods; Gill Jones for going to Billings Court; Paul Tomlinson for going to Pearl and Pine; and Jan Pearce for her long-term and ongoing commitment to the residents of Christopher Terrace.

St. Christopher’s has begun collaborating with the staff at St. Luke’s, Burlington to ensure we are leading worship and providing appropriate support to our parishioners who are living in long-term care and retirement homes. If you are aware of any additional homes that could use our support, please let me know.

Lastly, if you would like

to join our growing list of volunteers, I would be so pleased to hear from you.

With blessings,

DAVID MONTGOMERY
ASSISTANT CURATE



WARDENS' REPORT



Summer has ended and the leaves on the trees are beginning to change colours, but there are signs of new life at St. Christopher's.

The backpack program culminated in the blessing of the backpacks on Sunday September 10th. Thanks to all involved in this program.

The Corn Roast on September 22nd was a great success. Around 120 people attended and were fed including our neighbours and parishioners. The weather was as good as we possibly could hope for, the atmosphere was relaxed and comfortable, and we enjoyed music provided by John Steven.

At the beginning of each service on Sunday we have been listening to stories of what St. Christopher's means to individuals in our congregation. The stories are heartfelt and inspirational. They set a background to our fall stewardship campaign.

The theme of the September Jazz Vespers was Back to School and was very enjoyable. The next Jazz Vespers is on Sunday October 22nd at 4pm.

We are having significant success with our social media platform, Instagram, thanks in large part to the efforts of our own Shannon Mac.

Consider taking part

in the Labyrinth walk on Saturday, September 30 at 10am at Central Park, Burlington. This will be facilitated by Belinda Beer.

We are revitalizing and renewing our Mission Action Plan on Sunday October 1st following the 9:30 am service. This is an important activity for all of us to take part in as we re-envision who we want to be.

Don't forget Trivia night on Friday October 13th in the Great Hall at 7pm.

Our tour of the Mohawk Institute in Brantford will be on Saturday, October 14. Sign up on Sunday in the Narthex or contact the office staff@stcb.ca or call 905-634-1809.

Al Nicolls is one of the four wardens (Amy Collard, Carolyn Henderson, Al Nicolls, & Paul Shelton) who, along with our Rector, Rev. Canon Dr. Penny Anderson, make up St. Christopher's Corporation
AL NICOLLS
WARDEN



PROPERTY UPDATE



I think the question is – what hasn't been done around St. Christopher's since our last report in the spring! The dynamic duo of Chris Jones, Facilities Coordinator and Mike Peroune, Property Committee is busy every week working on a variety of projects. Sam Gamage, our Custodian has also assisted in many instances. Here are just a few of the projects...

- The paint on the west steps of the north doors was peeling and looking unkempt. Muriatic acid was applied on two occasions and with much brush scrubbing and elbow grease, the concrete is clean and tidy.
- Parking lot lines have been renewed with fresh paint and handicapped parking spots marked with new signage.
- Asphalt holes in the northeast driveway and centre of the north lot have been cleaned out, filled with fresh asphalt and smoothed in order to patch our parking lot until

such time as a complete repaving is possible.

- Trees with upper branches reaching onto our roof have been trimmed.
- Bonnie & Chris Grant graciously donated a large smart TV for our Family Room. A flexible arm has been installed to hold this new TV in the place of the former one. This new TV will greatly enhance the You Are Not Alone meetings held in-person and on Zoom. The old TV will be moved to the Youth Room, enabling that space to be used for hybrid meetings as well.
- One of our HVAC units is found above the back west closet of the Great Hall. Currently the only access to this unit is via a ladder extended through a drop-down door. Our facilities/property team has cut a small hole in the drywall between the storage room directly at the back of the Great Hall and this HVAC room. Eventually they will make this hole into a doorway and install a

fire door there. This will allow us more orderly and additional storage. It will also make access much safer for the moving of Christmas trees and HVAC maintenance routines.

- Our HVAC units have all been outfitted with new filters. This is something that our HVAC maintenance providers did in the past. This saves us money for this service.
- A temporary wall of 1/4" plywood has been installed between the kitchen and the Great Hall, allowing activities, meetings, and events to occur simultaneously in both places. Our team will be building four removeable panels that will place easily on the counter and store to the left of the opening. We are excited in anticipation of this installation. The rolling door was heavy, difficult to use, expensive to replace and has outlived its usefulness here.
- Floor waxing continues

- the Clothing Store and back south hall floors have been stripped and waxed for preservation and appearance.

- General maintenance continues with a broken lamp in the Family Room being repaired and a toilet being repaired in the ladies' washroom.
- A shade tent was installed with expertise and attention to detail in our Community Garden in the summer months. This enabled the tender plants beneath it to grow and thrive for eventual harvesting to our Tuesday night table and Community Market.
- The irrigation system in the Community Garden was repaired for reliable use over the hottest summer days.

Special thanks to all who have been active in our Garden Club this year. Sandi Smith led this group comprised of Bill Brown, Lynda Clark, Dave Evans, and Ewa Jacobs. A very large sumac tree was removed around the

mailbox, new grass was planted in that place, all gardens were weeded on various occasions, perennials were separated and culled, extensive brush and weeds were gathered and taken to the transfer station. The result is that our gardens are looking better than ever! Our recent Neighbourhood Corn Roast was able to take place on our front lawn in the midst of our lovingly tended beds.

Outside groups are visiting more often for condo meetings, sorority socials, music recitals, birthday and anniversary parties, tai chi and much more. Special security, cleaning and maintenance occurs with each visit.

This building requires a lot of care and maintenance each week, as you can see, in a variety of different places. We are so thankful that we are now more able to assess and fix things ourselves, with the very special people who make this possible.

Thank you!

MUSIC & THE PERFORMING ARTS



October is one of those months of the year when we, in Southern Ontario, are reminded that the earth travels through space on a tilt. Our northern hemisphere is beginning to point away from the sun, causing the all-too-familiar cold weather and short days. Having recently watched the latest David Attenborough documentary, *Our Planet II*, I'm aware that this tilt drives all types of animal behaviour. From the globe-spanning migrations of blue whales to the timing of births to the rhythms of busy honey bees, life on earth is driven by the changing seasons.

The tilt of our planet relative to its orbital plane also drives human behaviour because we are, after all, animals. I've been giving our outlook on seasonal patterns a great deal of

thought in recent months as I try to bring to life a series of character pieces by Tchaikovsky entitled... wait for it... *The Seasons*.

In 1875, a Russian music magazine, *The Nouvellist*, commissioned Tchaikovsky to compose 12 pieces for solo piano and then published one each month the subsequent year. The magazine provided the subject matter – excerpts of Russian poetry reflective of a given month – and Tchaikovsky dutifully composed to order. Being a bit of a big spender, he wrote most of his works with the inspiration of monetary reward. But this does not detract from his genius. Tchaikovsky is widely regarded as one of the greatest melody writers of all time (*Romeo and Juliet*) and was a first-rate pianist (*First Piano Concerto*). These two facts combine to

make *The Seasons* one of the best-loved examples of late-Romantic piano music.

The music is accessible for both the player and the listener. *The Nouvellist* intended the pieces to be playable by amateur musicians who subscribed to their magazine and character pieces were as popular with audiences in the late 19th C. as they are now. With plenty of exceptions, listeners often find it easier to connect with music that has stated subject matter.

Nationalism was all the rage in 1875 and Tchaikovsky, being an artist with aristocratic connections, was no exception. He had a deep love for the country of his birth and the pieces in *The Seasons* are undeniably Russian in character although I believe they are also universal. November

depicts a brisk sleigh ride, April paints the first flower of spring and July is the sound of workers in the wheat fields. October is written as a lament, appropriate for the most liminal month of the year.

Even though this concert would be appropriate in any month, I wanted to present it in October

because the awareness of changing seasons is hanging in the fall air. I hope this will give an extra, if intangible, connection to the music. Our beautiful St. Christopher's sanctuary will also enhance this music about creation and the joys of living. I hope to see you there on Friday, October 20th 2023 at 7.00pm.



ANDY ELMHIRST
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

CELEBRATE OUR MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS THROUGH OUR MISSION ACTION PLAN!

Practices that can help us engage more deeply with one another and get more comfortable talking about our faith:

- Highlight a phrase of the week (or a phrase of the month) people can reflect on.
- Offer opportunities for people to engage spiritually with making art, or reflect together upon the artwork of others.
- Gather groups that hike in nature, or go together on prayer walks.
- Provide questions people can discuss prior to the service as people gather, or during social time following services.

Action:

- *Labyrinth walks with Belinda Beers*
- *Watercolour Classes with Cheryl Goldring*

Practices that can help us re-shape our parish culture to empower one another for ministry:

- As soon as possible: hold events like breakfasts and potlucks to rejuvenate our feeling of community.
- Monitor our front door: create new ways to welcome newcomers and integrate them into the congregation.
- Monitor our back door: follow-up with people we haven't seen at church for a while.
- Make best use of online tools to connect with people.

Action:

- *70th Anniversary / Penny's Induction Celebration*
- *Two Coffee Houses*
- *Newcomers' Wine and Cheese*
- *We've Missed You – event to connect with people we haven't seen since before COVID*
- *International Potluck*
- *Music in the Garden*
- *Corn Roast*

Practices that can help us learn "missional listening" in our interactions with people we encounter in our neighbourhood:

- Train volunteers to speak with people when they come into our building for events like the Christmas Market, a rummage sale or a plant sale. The goal is to listen to the stories people bring, to learn to listen for God at work in their lives. Those involved in these conversations will meet and share insights with one another after events, create a strategy for sharing insights with others involved in "missional listening," and plan for upcoming events.
- Carry out an "environmental scan" of our building and surrounding property to look for ways we can reflect the core values of our congregation to people passing by outside, or passing through our building. Add symbols, signs, pamphlets, artwork, and other media that reflect messages about our commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Search for information about who lives near our church available through sources such as Community Development Halton. Share patterns within the congregation to spur curiosity and conversation about ways we might use what we have learned to connect and hear the stories of our geographic neighbours.
- Build relationships with our Ward 2 Councillor's office, libraries, and schools to share information about community or outreach events at St. Christopher's to create opportunities for missional listening.

Action:

- *In-depth demographic analysis of the neighbourhood around St. Christopher's*
- *Missional Listening training for 2 groups*
- *St. Christopher's Talks – Sunday mornings in the fall of 2023*
- *Corn Roast – sent invitations to 3,600 households within a 1km radius of our church*
- *Cooking for the Corn Roast!*

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRIES



School is in session. The weather is getting cooler, and I think it is fair to say, Fall has arrived! While it is always hard to let go of summer, we really do thrive on the routine and the fresh start that a new school year brings, and I'm so happy to see that many of you have included our children and youth programs as part of your back to school routine. Our hope is that kids come to church and are made to feel safe, loved and valued by their church community and by each other.

The Blessing of the Backpacks was a wonderful start to our new school year, with children bringing their backpacks to church and having the congregation pray over their upcoming school year and all the possibilities and opportunities it holds.

We pray that our youth will have all the tools they need to go out into this new year ready to share God's love with others.

Our GIFT program has launched, and it's off to a great start! The energy in the room has been palpable and it's wonderful to see the kids getting reacquainted with old friends and making new ones. We are so grateful to the GIFT volunteer team who have helped get us off to a great start and share in our enthusiasm for the future.

Youth Group launched with a successful first meeting on September 24th and almost a dozen middle schoolers and high schoolers in attendance. We have some bible study, cooking activities and off-site field trips planned in the near future. With

all their enthusiasm and creativity, I am excited to see what God has planned for this energetic group!

Grannie's Place continues to be a steadfast, loving environment for our littlest members, thanks to the wonderful team ready to welcome them each week. If you see the Grannie's Place volunteers, please thank them - and maybe pour them a coffee. It's not uncommon for them to look after a set of twins and a set of triplets on any given Sunday!

Looking ahead, we see more events on the horizon. October will kick off with a Youth Spaghetti Night for the children and the grown-ups they travel with. Our Youth Tech Team will launch this month too, offering our older youth an opportunity to learn some

new skills and assist with our children's programming (think high school volunteer hours!).

Speaking of volunteering, we continue to seek volunteers who are willing to step in and help on occasion with the Sunday morning GIFT program and the Sunday evening youth group. The time commitment is not extensive and the rewards are

great. The kids are always enthusiastic about getting to know the members of our congregation and to hear your stories! We invite you to join this fun and welcoming team of volunteers and a fantastic group of kids!

Thank you to everyone for your enthusiastic support as we have launched our fall program. This is the start of a wonderful thing!



CARRIE FORD-JONES
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRY



Coming Up ...

Spaghetti Supper

Take the night off cooking! Children, and the adults they travel with, are invited to join us Sunday, October 1st from 5-7pm.

Email carrie@stcb.ca if you'd like to attend.

Movie Night

Kids come for a special Christmas movie night in early December. We'll be watching 'The Star' while the adults get their Christmas shopping done!



Youth Group

All youth welcome - 11 years+

Gathering times will be 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from 6.30-8.30pm.

Oct. 22 – Laser Tag | Oct. 29 – Hallowe'en Party



G.I.F.T.

Growing in Faith Together

All children welcome - JK-12 years

Children's program on Sunday mornings (beginning September 10) during the 9.30am worship service.

Join us this fall for our "Wonderfully Made" series and learn about all the ways God makes us special.

Contact Carrie Ford-Jones, our Children's and Youth Ministry Coordinator at carrie@stcb.ca with questions or if you would like to volunteer.



Grannie's Place

Our passionate and dedicated volunteers are ready to welcome you to Grannie's Place on Sunday mornings during the 9.30am worship service.

They offer childcare for infants and toddlers ages 0-3 years.

Contact Carrie Ford-Jones, our Children's and Youth Ministry Coordinator at carrie@stcb.ca with questions or if you would like to volunteer.



We hope you have been following your eblasts and social media posts to see that October is an action packed month here at St. Christopher's!

The Open Doors Trivia Night fundraiser on October 13th promises to be a fun evening of fellowship and good eats! It will be professionally run by a Trivia company whose main goal is to ensure that you have a blast while raising much needed dollars for community programming.

Our fundraising goal for this event aims to help specifically with operational costs related to the Community Market. Compared to 2022, the market has seen a 26%

increase in guest registration (117 new households to date!), with a simultaneous significant decrease in monthly donations. While we actively seek outside funding, we are looking to this evening as a way to help fill ever widening gaps.

So get your tickets and assemble your teams! Tickets are on sale through the office or online at Eventbrite, search Open Doors Trivia Night.

Another not to be missed event is the bi-annual Rummage Sale!! Beginning Wednesday, October 18th at 12pm, donations of your "in good repair" rummage will be gratefully accepted until Thursday, October 19th at 5pm. Sales will commence on Friday,

October 20th and continue on the morning of Saturday October 21st. Please check Better Impact for available shifts to volunteer your time, or email volunteer@stcb.ca.

In other news, have you noticed that Halloween falls on a TUESDAY????!! Shannon and I have been planning ways to host an exciting evening with community. We would like to set up small stations for volunteers to hand out candy to guests and make kids feel special. This is a great opportunity for folks who live in apartment or condo style dwellings and may not see a lot of kids come to their door. If this interests you, please call the office and speak to Shannon or myself about how to get involved!

OCT. RUMMAGE



FRI 20 2.30-5.30 PM

SAT 21 8.30-11.30 AM

Gently used, working, and clean items
can be dropped off at the church

Wed. 18 Oct. – noon to 5.30pm

Thur. 19 Oct. – 9.30am to 5pm

Please do not bring anything oversized without calling the church first so that we can ensure accommodations are made. Thank you for your generosity!

Volunteers can sign up for shifts for the Rummage Sale through Better Impact. If you are not enrolled in Better Impact, please email volunteer@stcb.ca today to get started.

COMMUNITY MARKET SHOPPING LIST

Your generous support continues to
help folks in the neighborhood
access the food they need
to sustain their families.

- ☐ canned fruits & vegetables
- ☐ school safe snacks and juice boxes
- ☐ healthy cereals for all ages
- ☐ cooking oil, flour, sugar
- ☐ rice, pasta, and spices
- ☐ canned legumes
(lentils, chickpeas, kidney beans)

If you are able, please consider these items in
your next shop. Donations are collected in the
black bin Monday - Friday 9:30am - 4pm and
before and after worship on Sundays.

Thank you



CHRISTINA MULDER
OPEN DOORS
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS



Join **علا**

for

TRIVIA NIGHT

FRIDAY OCTOBER 13TH
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM
GAME PLAY STARTS AT 7PM

Come solo and join a team, or
assemble your brightest folks.
(teams of 4 or 6)

Food and refreshments
available for purchase!

All proceeds in support of
Open Doors Programming



Tickets are \$25/pp
on sale in office
Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm
or
online at Eventbrite.ca
<https://opendoorstrivianight.eventbrite.ca> @

Mohawk Institute Tour Saturday, October 14



The Mohawk Institute is the closest former Indian Residential School to us. In addition to seeing the rooms in the school where Indigenous children spent their days and nights, we will hear the stories of some of the children who attend the school, and we will hear the stories of some of the survivors.

It's important to sign-up for the tour because we will be carpooling to the site near Brantford. Please contact the office by telephone (905-634-1809) or email (staff@stcb.ca) to sign up.

We will leave from the St. Christopher's parking lot at 9.30am on October 14 so we can be on time for our tour at 10.30am.



Order of Niagara

We are so pleased that Bishop Susan is admitting Jan Pearce to the Order of Niagara this year. This honour recognizes Jan's quiet leadership in our congregation, especially in the area of pastoral care, and in our neighbourhood as an advocate for mental health supports and supports for care partners. The Order of Niagara service will take place at 4pm on October 29 at Christ's Church Cathedral in Hamilton. Please congratulate Jan when you see her.



St. Christopher's Connects

You're invited! If you have recently arrived at St. Christopher's and you want to know more about how to connect to people and programs. If you have questions about how things work at St. Christopher's. If you've been at St. Christopher's for 2 weeks or 20 years, you're invited!

Join Canon Penny for a two-part series.

Find out more about your church!

Tuesday, October 17 & October 24 at 7pm in the Family Room

Mental Health Care Partners' Support Group



Hybrid Gathering

Monday | Oct 23 | 7pm

please request Zoom link from the church office

You Are Not Alone



Wed. | Oct. 18 | 7pm

OCT RUMMAGE



FRIDAY 20 2.30 PM - 5.30 PM
SATURDAY 21 8.30 AM - 11.30 AM

Gently used, working, and clean items can be dropped off at the church

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Only at the 8 O'Clock

This fall we are offering worship experiences that happen only at the early service.

Here are the special features for this month:

Thanksgiving Sunday, October 8th – Healing Service

Sunday, October 22 – Bring Your Big Questions



Ginger Group

Calling everyone 55+ or retired! Our gatherings will launch again in October from 11.30am-1.30pm. This midday event features an informative speaker and a delicious lunch. It is a wonderful way to meet friends and make new ones at St. Christopher's and beyond. Share common ideas and learn new ways. The first event will be held Monday, Oct. 16. Contact Winston and John at staff@stcb.ca for details.



Bridge Group

Welcome to those wishing to join us for a game of bridge. Our St. Christopher's Bridge Group will meet on October 16 and 30 from 2-4pm in the Narthex. Do you wish to learn? Experienced bridge players will be available to teach. Light refreshments will be provided. You don't need to be a part of St. Christopher's to join this group. Please contact Pat and Liz at staff@stcb.ca for more information.



Sunday
22 Oct.
2023

St. Christopher's
662 Guelph Line
Burlington

4.00pm
Free Will
Offering



Men's Cooking Groups

Men's Cooking is mobilizing once again! Men's Cooking #1 will be in the kitchen Monday, October 23, and Men's Cooking Group #2 will return on Monday, October 30, each at 10.30am. Come and learn how to be a proficient cook. Share your skills and knowledge if you are already experienced in the kitchen. Please contact Gerry or Bob at staff@stcb.ca if you are interested.

DID YOU KNOW?



Our diocese began a new look forward for the parishes in the Diocese of Niagara. This new look was called MAP (Mission Action Plan).

St. Christopher's picked up on this action by forming three forward-looking committees. Two of these teams recently collaborated on the Corn Roast.

Fullness of Life in the Neighbourhood was headed up by Fred Grigsby, which looked into our neighbourhood, and moved ahead to reach out to those nearby. This included introducing ourselves to the people in the district surrounding us. This hardworking committee was responsible for creating flyers, and sending 3,000+

of them via post to tell people about us and to invite them to the corn roast on September 22nd.

Gail Grant headed up the second MAP committee, Reshaping Culture to Enable Ministry, which was charged with the task of getting to know each other and planning the corn roast, which, as mentioned above was on September 22nd. The two MAP teams worked together to make this corn roast happen.

Corn, hot dogs, lemonade, cheese cake desserts, brownies, tea and coffee, music (thank you John Stephen), and good will (thank you Parish Council) were dispensed on the front lawn and in the narthex.

This event was a wonderful picture of our mission in action!

Word is out that the cooks, under the supervision of John Reszitaryk, the welcoming with our wardens and Parish Council and Penny and our staff, the running around in the kitchen and narthex with lemonade and coffee and tea, the set up with everyone pitching in, and the take down with all hands on board, resulted in a bang-up success! Nobody counted the people!! But sages estimate over 150 adults, and children! It sure was a great night with lots of corn, wieners and buns, lemonade, cheesecake, etc!!! Hope you were there!

Here's to the next MAP undertaking !



JUDY JUPP



Andy Elmhirst Recital

October 20 @ 7.00pm

Our Director of Music, Andy Elmhirst, performs *The Seasons* by Tchaikovsky - a set of 12 character pieces for solo piano that each represent one month of the year. From a winter's sleigh ride to a summer's wheat harvest, the pieces are diverse and evocative. Tchaikovsky's considerable gift for melody is on full display, making *The Seasons* one of the best-loved examples of late-Romantic piano music. All are welcome, pay-what-you-can.