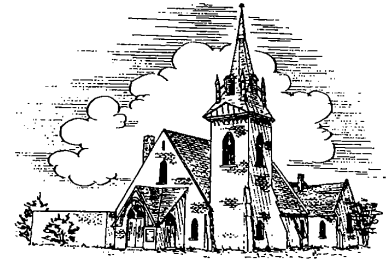


Emmanuel Anglican Church

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“HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER”

Message from the Rector

“Church isn’t like it used to be.” Most parish leaders hear these words and others similar to them often.

Our attendance is decreasing, whether it’s due to weather (good or bad), competing events, or just a plain old lack of interest. Our congregations are aging. Our commitments to our faith communities from outside parishes rarely seems to be apparent.

We can spend many waking, sleepless hours reviewing the many reasons (and there are many) for this, but it does not prevent us from facing the reality before us. Many of us try to avoid the facts and continue to go on as if there were nothing wrong.

Still others try to find solutions like offering better programmes for young people, or more enticing events for all. Others hope they will return when the members have retired, and have more time on their hands. The truth of the matter is, however, that statistics have proven that theory wrong. There are fewer retiring Baby Boomers returning to church, and many young people are raised with no religion at all.

SUMMER WORSHIP

July & August

9:00 a.m. Sunday Service

(8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Services times will resume on Sunday September 3rd)

July (Thursday) Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m.

August (Thursday) Holy Eucharist-cancelled

Holy Eucharist will resume on Thursday September 7th

Martha Grace Reese, of the Episcopal Church of the United States states that “The thought of “going back to church” when they’re in trouble will never occur to them, because they have likely never been inside a church building in the first place. For them, a church is an alien, possibly intimidating place – not a cradle of comfort and hope.” (1)

We as a people of faith are called to be “lights that shine,” called to love and serve God by worshipping as a community and serving our neighbours, the world God loves. In response to this, we find many serving on committees and councils in churches, responding to the needs of the church and the world.

Here at Emmanuel, we find members serving at the Fountain, the Food Bank, resettling refugee families, The Grove, seniors’ residences, the hospital, Seniors at Home, Meals on Wheels, and so much more. As well as serving the community we support initiatives to raise money for global needs such as Famine relief, the PWRDF, and those suffering personal disasters.

This is all combined with helping many in our own faith community as they continue through their life struggles. We pray for those who are sick, give to the poor and those in need, and care for those undergoing personal tragedies and grief.

In sight of all this ministry we do together, we are faced with the reality of our future. How will we survive? The answer, unfortunately, is not business as usual. We cannot bury our heads in the sand and hope it will all go away, and members will suddenly appear from nowhere. And the Synod Office does not provide any quick fix solutions either. The answer has to be a “made in Arnprior” one. We have to start thinking and acting now in a new way while there are still many of us still around with a deep love for Emmanuel to do that.

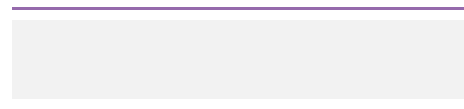
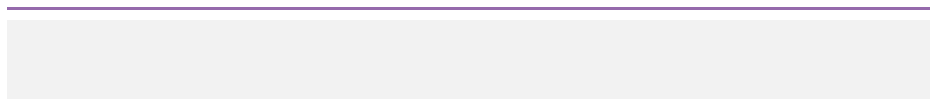
This begins with prayer. It requires thinking and acting in a Spirit-filled way that we may never have considered before. We have to rely on God more, listen to the Spirit and live out that hard work of faith a whole lot more. There is no better time to begin this journey together than right now.

We are in the church season of Pentecost, a time of growing in the Spirit. Our tradition is based on the Spirit leading us to new ways of understanding, listening and being in this world of ours. It may involve taking big risks, letting go of what’s not as important as we thought it was, and journeying in a new way.

In the roadmap of Embracing God’s Spirit, we committed to do the following:

“A new spirit is upon us, and we feel called to be open to change and willing to take risks. We feel a sense of urgency and a need to take action now. We will courageously explore new ways of being church. We will give ourselves permission to experiment, and to succeed or fail when trying new things.” (2)

We have time now to think about our future while we live out our present, and find ways of being the Body of Christ in the world. It requires courage and risk, but as people of faith it is not like we have been there before.



We have begun this journey, by taking small steps. We are working together with the parishes of Fitzroy Harbour, and Pakenham. A small committee consisting of members from all three parishes was created from a meeting held in February. The clergy will be addressing immediate needs. The Reverends Hilary Murray, Peggy Kuzmicz and I will be leading a two Saturday event on “How to lead worship”, reducing our expenses when clergy are away, and in the winter a similar “How to preach sermons” will be offered.

The large steps, of making plans to ensure we worship and serve God and one another together, will come from all of us praying and working together. So this summer, in your days of rest and relaxation, you are invited to seek out, read and pray for possibilities for Emmanuel. We will meet and share ideas one Saturday in the Fall to discuss them. No idea should seem absurd or outrageous and all suggestions will be prayerfully considered.

To embrace change isn't easy work, and the task before us seems overwhelming. May we live out our calling as Christians in the hope we have been given to meet the days, weeks and years before us.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

(Romans 15.13)

Reverend Cathy

(1) – *Martha Grace Reese Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism, 2008, page 27*

(2) – *Embracing God's Future Roadmap, Diocese of Ottawa, Practices*

From the Treasurer

A Message from the Treasurer

We regret that we must report Emmanuel's financial position at the end May this year is one of deficit (\$3,634.92). Contributing to this position are the facts that General Offerings were two thousand dollars under budget, and despite much effort by many people, our fund raising did not meet financial expectations.

THIRD ANNUAL GARAGE SALE



**Saturday, September
16th**

8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

We are in need of donations from the congregation however no clothing, large, heavy items or electronics please.

Also we would appreciate it if your donations would be delivered directly to the hall.

We will also be having a bake table so anyone wishing to donate bake goods would be greatly appreciated.

We need your support for donations as well as volunteers to set up.

For further information please contact Carolyn and Dave Kingston at 623-9035.

The Fish Fry was a great success socially but only realized a portion of the much needed income that had been budgeted based on the results of previous years. Charlotte Leitch again enthusiastically led a very willing team of helpers who ensured that all who attended went away having enjoyed a good meal and social time together. Many also enjoyed the music in the very pleasant outdoor setting provided by the large tent. Thanks are due to Charlotte and all who contributed both materially and their time and effort. Unfortunately, there were competing events in Town on the same day. As a probable consequence, the number of meals served was significantly less than in previous years. Never the less \$881 was raised, which included a \$200 donation specifically designated for the musicians. The cupcake initiative again has produced some very helpful income with \$1,775.15 having been donated to date.

Anticipating the summer and hopefully summer weather, please remember that the invoices still have to be paid and our other financial commitments met, so please find a way (the church mail slot is available 24/7) to make sure your envelope reaches the counters. We thank you for your support and look forward to two great fund raising opportunities in the Fall – a play celebrating the 150th anniversary of Confederation and a garage sale.

From the Wardens

A Message from the Wardens

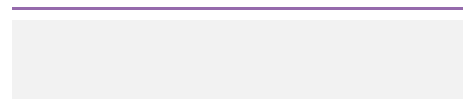
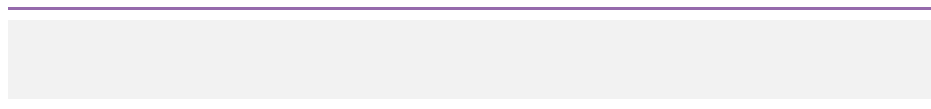
Spring, although cool and rainy awakened our senses to the glorious colours and scents that sprung up around us. Now that summer has arrived we look forward to a little more of a relaxed life, picnics, vacations, BBQ's and outdoor get together with family and friends. We need to remember we are all stewards of God's earth and in that we should do what we can to keep it healthy, safe and clean.

During the months of April to June several planned events took place: The ACW ladies made fruit pies to sell and hosted their "Tulip Tea" as a celebration event for Canada's 150th birthday. We could not have asked for better weather for the annual fish fry in May and the meal was excellent! Although attendance and profits were lower this year for these events, they should be considered successful in that they were organized well and brought community together for a good meal and fellowship. We look forward, in the fall, to the yard sale, Oktoberfest, Charlotte Leitch's play and the ACW bazaar.

Thank you to all the volunteers and those who support, in every other way, these events. You are the people who make things happen!

Although fundraising has become, undeniably, a way in which to increase funding to the Church we cannot always depend on it to compensate for deficits we experience in our general giving. Summer is approaching and, as in the past, attendance on Sundays will be down. Please consider the option of going on PAR with your giving's.

Proceeds from the Celebration jar are being used for outreach. Thank you to all who donate and let us share in your joy.



The third quarter receipts of the jar will go towards sponsoring five young children to go to Camp Wanago for a week. The second half of 2017 donations will go to the Neighbourlink Fountain.

Two workshops were held, the first being “Unbinding the Gospel” This was a six week study, led by Reverend Cathy McCaig, into real life evangelism where the approach taken was that a greater percentage of people in congregations needed to pray together, share faith experiences and willingly share this with their community. In doing so they were able to achieve healthier and stronger Churches. This was by no means an easy concept to grasp and our group often struggled with some of the content. The most predominant message was that prayer, individual or by group, and deepening spiritual relationships motivate people to evangelism.

The second workshop over six weeks dealt with “Forgiveness” and was led by Reverend Cathy McCaig and Reverend Hilary Murray. This study was based on the stages and pitfalls one can experience while struggling to be able to forgive. This workshop was very informative and many great, and at times deep, discussions evolved. It felt as though we all walked away with a greater appreciation and understanding of how complex and sensitive the process of forgiveness can be, if we can forgive at all.

The BIG GIVE was held June 3rd. Emmanuel Anglican Church shared expenses, and a few volunteers to help with the BBQ at St. John’s Lutheran Church.

Coffee hour will be taking a break for July and August but we look forward to gathering for friendship and serving up goodies come September.

Thank you to all the leaders and volunteers who support these groups and make Emmanuel what it is: the Alter Guild, Readers, Intercessors, Lay Assistants, Greeters, Servers, Anglican Church Women, Anglican Church Men, Organist, Choir, Secretary, Treasurer, Counters, Synod Members, PWRDF, Coffee Hour, Pastoral Care, Property Management and Maintenance, the Refugee Committee and those who volunteer their time out in the community.

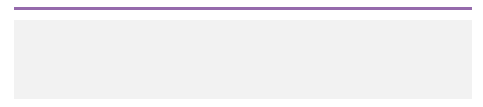
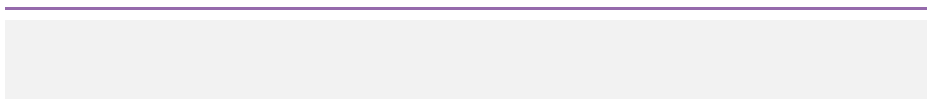
Thank you to Reverend Cathy for her guidance, understanding and compassion to us and to the parishioners of Emmanuel. Her inspirational services challenge us to become God’s disciples and go into the community to love and serve with compassion and understanding to those in need.

In closing we, the wardens, hope you have a safe, happy and memorable summer.

Wardens:

Geoff Barnes

Diane Bresson



Friendship at Emmanuel

We would enjoy having you join us at 10:00 a.m. on the last Thursday of each month, (except for July and August,) for Holy Eucharist and a social time afterwards. Our theme hymn is “**Bind us together in love.**” We support each other in happy times, and during our trials. We supported the Arnprior, Braeside, Mc Nab Home Support by attending the Pancake Breakfast at Island View Suites on April 12th. We also supported the Arnprior and District Memorial Hospital by attending the Rib Fest at Island View Suites on June 14th. For information about our group, please contact Lorraine Sly at (613) 623-5046.

Refugee Families

In October 2015 Project Arnprior Welcome first met and decided there was enough community support in Arnprior to sponsor two refugee families. The first family, from Syria, father, mother, two daughters and one son, arrived in Arnprior in February 2016. They have adjusted well to life in Canada; the girls love school, father and mother are working hard to learn English as a second language, the first son is fast becoming bilingual in English and Arabic, and a new Canadian baby, a boy, arrived in December.

With the first family well-established, Project Arnprior Welcome is in the process of sponsoring the second one. This is a smaller family, a mother and her teen-aged daughter. They are from Iran, speak Farsi, are educated and the mother is a hair-dresser and owned her own business in Iran. They are currently in Ankara, Turkey and cannot return to their home country because they fear for their safety. They will arrive in Arnprior this summer and Project Arnprior Welcome is looking forward to welcoming them to Canada and helping them to settle into a new, safe and prosperous life.

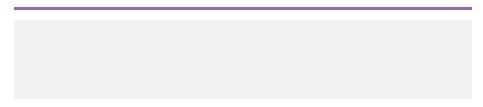
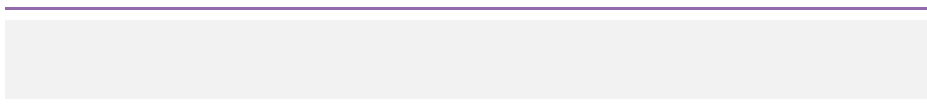
We would not have been able to do this important work without the help of the Refugee Office at the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa and we are grateful for their ongoing expert support.

INFORMATION NIGHT ON SECOND REFUGEE FAMILY

The Project Arnprior Welcome Project will be hosting an information night on **July 5, 2017**. Commencing at **7 pm at Emmanuel Anglican Church on 287 Harriett Street, Arnprior.**

The committee will be providing a briefing on the progress of the second family and their needs once they arrive. The committee urgently needs volunteers who will be committed to serve as coordinators in several areas such as, financial planning and education, driver coordinator, social contact, and arranging medical support. You will be asked to serve on the main committee as main coordinators. There is also a need for many volunteers to do the driving for appointments and ESL training.

A description of these duties will be discussed at the information night. Please consider helping, especially if you have expertise in any of the above areas.



It should also be noted that due to the culture of the family and the fact that they have no male in the household it is preferred that the above volunteers be female, or unless a couple can volunteer together.

The committee cannot stress enough that we are not looking for monetary donations, your kind generosity during the initial drive was sufficient to fund this second family

For further information you can contact Katherine Gatenby-Miller at 622-0509

