

THANKSGIVING 2021

Matt's Media



The Newsletter of St. Matthew's Anglican Church, Islington

Published October 10, 2021

We acknowledge that we are in the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Anishnabe peoples, on whose land and by whose waters we gather to talk, listen, learn, worship, share and heal together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.

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From the Pastor

Rev. Philip Stonhouse

Hello to my St. Matt's Family,

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (*Romans 15:13*)

What's next? This is a question I keep asking, and I imagine many of you are asking the same thing. We have been through so much change and have had to adapt continuously. We will still have to be adaptable for some time. I know this period is not without its growing pains and loss as we miss many people and are restricted from doing many things because of COVID-19, but I also believe that with all this change and adaptation there is a lot of potential. We could hunker down and double down on the way we have done things, or we could take this new potential and follow the Holy Spirit on a path to even greater life and service.

At St. Matthew's, we have learned a lot through COVID. We have learned that online worship offers a great opportunity for people who can't get to church on Sundays. We have learned that it becomes a great way for new people to learn about us without any pressure. We have learned that community is still real online, even if it is a bit harder. Online worship is not something we want to give up on. So, thank you to all those who have continuously stepped up to the challenge of technology, particularly Colin, Mary Anne, Emily, Helen and Dawn, and all those stepping up now. Please, if YOU have any willingness to try, we would love your help as well.

Online worship is not the limit of our adaptation though, as we have found that phone calls can make a big difference with people's isolation, loneliness or to someone's mood. Thank you to all the "Friends for Friends" and Welcome Team members who continue in this work. We have also learned that a few pots of soup and chili can do more than just fill a few bellies. We are so thankful as we celebrate the success of the Soup's On program and now look to what we can do next in Outreach.

... continued

From the Pastor *(continued)*

Of course, we want to go further still. How can we be even more welcoming? How can we build community even more? How can we worship and learn in such a way that we invite others on this amazing journey with us and Christ? These are questions that I would encourage all of you to ponder. As, hopefully, more and more people come in person, these questions will become more and more relevant. I and many others have experienced the love of Christ shared in this church that makes it a family. Our church has an immense opportunity to welcome and invite people into the loving community of Christ, which we know people need; thankfully, more are realizing this need.

That is why I would like all of you to join me in experimenting, in looking forward and watching for where the Spirit is leading us. I have already been watching with hopeful eyes and I see good things happening as I meet new families, new people inquiring about faith, and a new interest in Jesus. It does not mean that it will be easy, or that we can just sit back. What it means is that the Holy Spirit is already moving and now we have the opportunity to join in the amazing work that is already being done. Maybe He is opening an opportunity for you as children go back to school, or in the condos being built, in new neighbours that move in, in a stranger who stops to chat or in so many other ways. We already have been learning how to adapt, now we just need to faithfully watch and courageously step out when the Holy Spirit makes room for the Good News of Jesus Christ.

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (*Acts 1:8*)

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. Philip

We (Still) Need to Grow our Tech Support Team

Please help keep our services online. This is a great opportunity to try something new in service of your church.

- No experience required.
- Not sure you can do it? You can! You'll be trained.
- A little nervous? That's OK. Everyone probably will be. But you'll be trained, and you'll be part of a team.
- Don't want to commit every week? That's why we need a team—to share the workload.

All you need is a desire to learn and to be available once monthly on Sunday morning.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Karen Lee at karen@leeco.ca or 905-625-3456.

"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." (*2 Corinthians 9:12*)

Wardens' Report

Karen Lee, Stuart Watt, Marguerite Locke and Lianne Thompson

Happy Thanksgiving 2021! We do hope that you and your families are keeping well and safe as we continue to learn how to adapt our lives in the era of COVID-19.

Despite COVID-19, the past few months have been a busy time at St. Matthew's. In September we resumed in-person worship for three more services: Sunday 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday 10:30 a.m. In-person and online worship continues for Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on Zoom and YouTube.

Club Matt has resumed in person on Sunday during the 9:30 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. Unity services. Many thanks to Dawn Mercer, Linda Dickson, and all the volunteers for their dedication in leading the Club Matt program. Messy Church resumed on September 25 in person and will continue monthly until late spring.

We want to acknowledge and express thanks to Rev. Philip and all the readers in the Dramatic Reading of the Gospel of Mark held on September 16.

In August we bade farewell to Colin Hall, our technical expert, as he and the family have relocated to Goderich, Ontario. They will be greatly missed, but we are very grateful for his many contributions to our technical department.

Many thanks to our Tech Team: Helen Prankie, Emily Crump, Mary Anne Perta, and Noel Martin, for volunteering to continue providing online worship.

Gradually, many of our former tenants are resuming meeting in the gymnasium and abiding by all COVID protocols. Kingsley School is operating as usual. The school's play space should be ready for their use this fall.

Outlined below is the summary of our financial status as of August 31, 2021.

Operating Fund	2021 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Income	\$175,273	\$168,763	\$198,483
Expenses	\$189,318	\$180,094	\$201,870
Net Operations	(\$14,045)	(\$11,331)	(\$3,387)

Thank you for your continued financial support.

Thanksgiving Offering 2021

Gifts received through our Thanksgiving envelopes will be directed towards reducing our current deficit.

As always, we give thanks to God for God's continued provision and care for St. Matthew's.

Blessings to you all.

What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind? A maybe!
I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage. I lost my case!
When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane!

Worship & Events

Sun Oct 17	All Ages Service: 9:30 a.m.	In person
	BAS (Book of Alternative Services) Service: 11:00 a.m.	In person & online
Wed Oct 20	BCP (Book of Common Prayer) Service: 10:30 a.m.	In person
	Film Series - Jesus Christ Superstar: 7:30 p.m.	In person & online
Sun Oct 24	All Ages Service: 9:30 a.m.	In person
	BAS Service: 11:00 a.m.	In person & online
Wed Oct 27	BCP Service: 10:30 a.m.	In person
Fri Oct 29	Youth Group Games Night: 7:30 p.m.	In person
	St. Matthew's Mini Market opens for online purchases	Online
Sat Oct 30	Messy Church: 4:00 p.m.	In person
Sun Oct 31	All Ages Service: 9:30 a.m.	In person
	BAS Service: 11:00 a.m.	In person & online
Tues Nov 2	All Souls Taizé Service: 7:30 p.m.	In person & online
Wed Nov 3	BCP Service: 10:30 a.m.	In person
Sat Nov 6	Men's Breakfast: 8:00 a.m.	Online
	Contact Colin Hall for the Zoom link: colinhall1999@gmail.com	
Sun Nov 7	Unity Service: 10:00 a.m.	In person & online
	Drive-thought Communion: 11:30 a.m.-noon	In person
	St. Matthew's Mini Market: following the service	In person
Sun Nov 14	BCP Service: 8:00 a.m.	In person
	All Ages Service: 9:30 a.m.	In person
	BAS Service: 11:00 a.m.	In person & online
Sun Nov 21	All Ages Service: 9:30 a.m.	In person
	BAS Service: 11:00 a.m.	In person & online



Anti-racism with André Lyn

From early conversations as a community and working group, we thought it would be helpful to start on common footing as we move forward together. We invited an expert from the diocese to help us. On Thursday, June 17, we welcomed André Lyn as he spoke to St. Matthew's via Zoom.

André Lyn is one of the co-chairs for the Bishop's Committee on Intercultural Ministry and much more. He has given many talks around the diocese on Racism, Bias, and Microaggressions, all of them rooted strongly in our Scriptures and who we are in Jesus Christ.

After numerous conversations with Rev. Philip, André gave a talk created just for our context and congregation. The evening was engaging and educational, and our new understanding will serve us well as we move forward with this important work.



Indigenous Studies

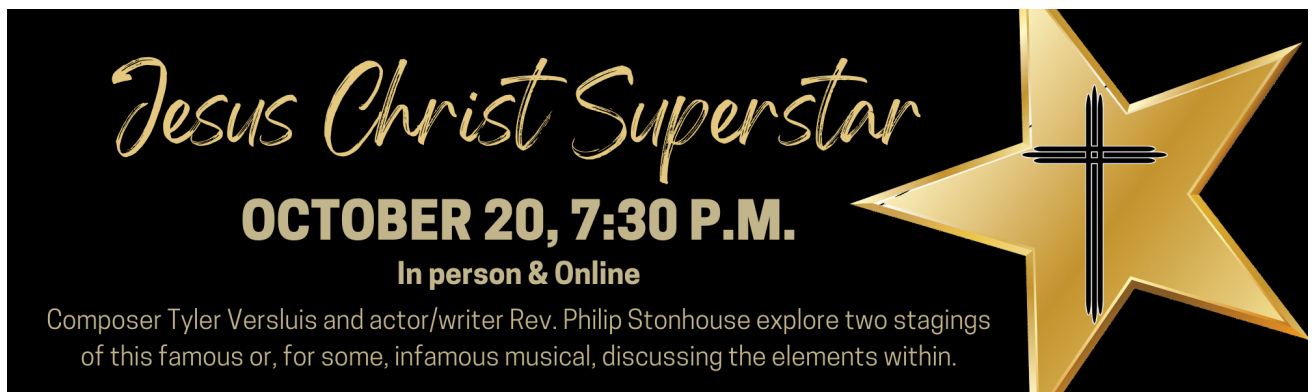
Doctrine of Discovery, Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts. This award-winning documentary, produced by Anglican Video in collaboration with the Primate's Commission on the Doctrine of Discovery, Reconciliation and Justice provides an opportunity to learn about historical truths and their ongoing effects. Its title references a proclamation, by a Pope in the 1400s, that any land where the people weren't Christian could be claimed by the Roman Catholic Church. Enter Christopher Columbus!

You can watch this hour-long video on YouTube at <https://www.anglican.ca/primate/tfc/drj/doctrineofdiscovery/>.

A three-part Zoom Series was offered in June by two parishes, St. John's Port Hope and St. Paul's Perrytown, for people who had watched the documentary.

Outreach Ministries Celebration

A Celebration and discussion of St. Matthew's Outreach Ministries, including our Soup's On program, was held on May 26 on Zoom. Our guests were Rev. Leigh Kern and Zachary Grant of Toronto Urban Native Ministry (TUNM). We enjoyed meeting and getting to know Rev. Leigh and Zach. Previously, only Deborah and Nancy Hurn had met them - every week while delivering the soup or stew or casseroles or salads. We were impressed with their resourcefulness and dedication during COVID to homeless individuals who sought warmth and food and solutions at Holy Trinity Church beside the Eaton Centre downtown.

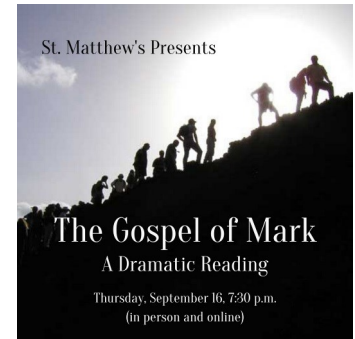


Jesus Christ Superstar
OCTOBER 20, 7:30 P.M.
In person & Online
Composer Tyler Versluis and actor/writer Rev. Philip Stonhouse explore two stagings of this famous or, for some, infamous musical, discussing the elements within.

Gospel of Mark: A Dramatic Reading

This reading of the entire book of Mark took place at St. Matthew's on Thursday evening, September 16, over the course of 1½ hours. It was simultaneously viewed on Zoom and recorded for YouTube. The 19 readers (three of whom were reading from home on the Zoom link) were parishioners, actors, former Clergy, and staff. A brief intermission was enjoyed with a 'loot bag' snack of cookies and candy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zFRle-HpOC4>



Parish Council

Parish Council (formerly Advisory Board) was held on June 2, 2021 on Zoom. Twenty-five parishioners attended.

Reports were read from all Ministries.

The discussion question was: "What would you like St. Matthew's to look like in 10 years?" The discussions in two "Breakout Rooms" were recorded by Jeff Bonner and Sue Hampton. Youth would like to be more involved and learn how to speak about our faith and celebrations at school.

The Welcoming Committee would soon deliver Ice Cream Cone Cards to the kids. Marguerite Locke pitched the Christmas Mart for parishioners to contribute and to promote attending it to relatives and friends. The parish would be encouraged to watch the film, "Doctrine of Discovery," on YouTube and to reflect on our personal knowledge or ignorance about residential schools and racism.

The meeting scheduled for September 25 has been postponed until after Thanksgiving. Two potential items for discussion are Worship and Vaccine Requirements.

Out of the Cold—COVID Edition 2.0

Ted Hampton

In light of the continuing pandemic we will once again not have the opportunity to host our guests at the church as we have in previous years. We are aiming to expand our supports to other ministries by including a hot meal program this year.

We will continue our programming from last year partnering with St. Felix House, TUNM, and Church of the Holy Trinity. Our support will include food, toiletry and clothing supplies as well as hot meals and lunches. Please continue your generous donations of men's clothing items, backpacks, running shoes, and travel size toiletries and we will make sure that they get into the hands of those who need them during these unprecedented times.

We would like to thank St Matthew's for the continued use of the facilities for collecting, packaging and shipping the needed items without which the ministry would not be possible.

Chancel News

Mary Gleeson

We hope everyone had a relaxing and refreshing summer. That time of year always seems to pass too quickly. Thanks to those who contributed altar flowers. These were appreciated by worshipers in church and by those watching from home.

The flower calendar is now in the Narthex. To sign up for altar flowers, please call or email the office.

Thanks to Richard Farrar for giving us access to Bridget's store of fabric. Our very talented sewers, Sandra Wilson and Pat Currie, used some of this fabric to make new purificators. As well, crosses were beautifully stitched onto a pall and a new pall cover was made. All of this work was done by hand; we are most grateful to these ladies for giving their time and talent to this painstaking task. As well, Sandra made new bows to decorate the pews at weddings.



Pew bow for weddings



Purificators



Pall cover with stitched cross

As we slowly begin to offer more in-church services, we hope to resume Chancel duties in a limited fashion, whether in pairs or singly. At the time of writing, only people in the same COVID bubble are allowed to be in the Sacristy together, and there are additional diocesan guidelines that must be followed.

Blessing of Backpacks: September 12, 2021



Welcoming Committee

Deborah Hurn

The Welcoming Committee met on Wednesday, September 22.

- The Diocesan Vaccination Policy was explained. It applies to all volunteers doing in-person ministry (newcomers, in homes or on patios). They must show proof of second vaccination to any Warden, who will make confidential note of it.
- All parishioners are encouraged to greet newcomers and ask: “Is there anything you want to know?” and “Would like to meet our Priest?” Rev. Philip would like to meet them.
- Toronto Urban Native Ministry (TUNM) will receive support for their Thanksgiving Feast (cookies) on October 6 when Marguerite delivers warm clothing that has been donated.
- St. Matthew’s Christmas Mini Mart will be selling crafts and baking on November 7 in-person as well as taking orders for future deliveries. There will be in-person sales on November 7 and online sales between October 29 and November 6.
- To replace the social aspect of chopping preparation for Soup’s On, which is no longer needed by TUNM, casseroles will be prepared and frozen for delivery to parishioners when there is a need.
- Christmas gifts (25) for Friends for Friends will be prepared in November. Items (in saran or individual containers) will be received by November 8 for delivery on December 1 or 8.

Order Your Anglican Church Calendar

Complete with beautiful pictures and important liturgical dates, the calendar is only \$6. Cash or cheques can be dropped through the church mail slot, or pay by e-transfer.

Place your order with the office by phone or email by October 31.

416-231-4014 / office@saintmatts.ca

Calendars must be pre-ordered.



Will glass coffins be a success? Remains to be seen!

*What's the difference between a hip-po and a zippo?
One is really heavy and the other is a little lighter.*

Hear about the new restaurant called Karma? There's no menu - you get what you deserve!

I went to buy some camouflage trousers yesterday but couldn't find any!

A cross-eyed teacher couldn't control his pupils.

St. Matthew's Remembers

When we heard that the remains of 215 children were found buried at a former residential school in B.C., we mourned—as a nation and within the St. Matthew's church community. Like many others, we placed shoes on our steps to commemorate those young lives so tragically lost. Of all the children who attended residential schools, 6,000 never returned home. Our prayers are with the families, the survivors, and the indigenous community.



Every Child Matters

Sandra Wilson has created a picture to honour September 30, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. When you are next visiting the church, be sure to view it in the Narthex. It is a multimedia piece featuring an orange shirt, indigenous colours, and beads and feathers. Thank you, Sandra, for sharing your creativity with St. Matthew's.



Warm Clothing Drive for Toronto Urban Native Ministry

Thank you to all parishioners and friends who donated warm clothing and gear to the TUNM clothing drive just completed on Wednesday, October 6, 2021. The donations were delivered to Toronto Urban Native Ministry in Holy Trinity Anglican Church facilities that afternoon and gratefully received by Zachary Grant, coordinator of TUNM.

As part of St. Matthew's contribution, 20 sleeping bags were purchased with Outreach funds and donated along with delicious home-baked cookies for Thanksgiving treats for the clients. Stay tuned for communications on other Outreach initiatives with TUNM and our parish.

Help Make the Mini Market Marvellous and Merry!

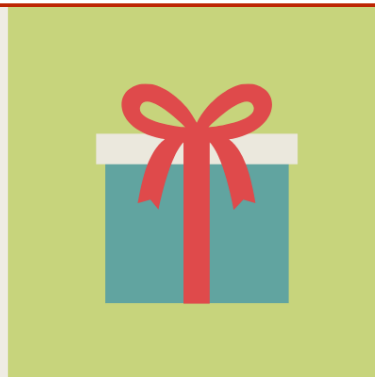


- **Everyone - get involved! Contribute and Shop!** Consider your contribution from ideas below or other creative suggestions.
- **Donation ideas:**
 - * HANDMADE crafts, knitted goods, quilting, woodworking, jams, jellies, preserves
 - * BAKED GOODIES: fresh cookies/cakes/pastries to be delivered at specific time(s) to the purchaser's home. (e.g. You might donate two dozen homemade cookies delivered twice during the year.)
 - * DELICIOUS MEAL provided at an agreed date to the purchaser's residence
 - * ANY GOODS OR SERVICES that would be nice Christmas gifts or tempting treats
 - * GIFT BASKETS: create a themed gift basket as a special Christmas treat
 - * USED BOOKS AND PUZZLES for cozying up with this winter (for in person purchase only).
- **Send a photo of your donation no later than October 27/21** (although earlier is helpful) via email to saintmattsmarket@outlook.com so it may be posted on the Market website. If your donation is a gift certificate, please email information to Marguerite to upload the details on our website.
- **If you wish to buy an item online**, you only need to notify the team via email at: saintmattsmarket@outlook.com.
- **Deliver items for in person sales** to the church office doors on **Friday**, November 5, between 1-3 pm OR on **Saturday**, Nov. 6 between 10-12 noon.
- **Shopping in the gym** in person will occur at **11:15 a.m. on Sunday Nov. 7** immediately following the Unity service.
- **Pay by cash or cheque payable to "St. Matthew's Church."** All purchases will be available for payment and pick up on the afternoon of **Sunday Nov. 7 after 11:15 a.m.**

We look forward to participation by **All Ages of the Parish** as you are able.
 Questions? Call Marguerite Locke at 416-587-4444. Or email mdlocke@hotmail.com or office@saintmatts.ca

What to do & when to do it!

Now until October 27:	Send photo of donation to saintmattsmarket@outlook.com
October 30-Nov. 6:	Browse the market website & buy
November 5, 1-3 p.m.:	Deliver items for in person market to church office doors
November 6, 10-noon:	Deliver items for in person market to church office doors
No later than Nov. 6:	Buy an item online via email to saintmattsmarket@outlook.com
November 7:	Come to the market!



CHRISTMAS MINI MARKET FUNDRAISER

**SHOWCASING THE TALENTS AND CREATIVITY
OF PARISHIONERS**

Participate by Donating

Craft items
Knitted goods
Woodworking
Preserves
Baked goods
Gift certificates
Gift baskets

Used books and puzzles (for in-person purchase only)

And by Attending (either online or in person)

Questions or donations? Contact Marguerite Locke at
mdlocke@hotmail.com or call the office at 416-231-4014

**In person Sunday, November 7th
Online through saintmatts.ca (Oct 29 - Nov 6)**

Beauty and Christ's Sacrifice

Tyler Versluis

Simone Weil (1909-1943) was a French philosopher, mystic and political activist. Born into a family of Alsatian Jews, she embraced Marxism, Bolshevism and later anarchism in her early adult life. She volunteered as a fighter on the Republican side during the Spanish Civil War, but became disillusioned with politics and war after witnessing the Republican brutalities against their Falangist foes. She became interested in Christianity starting after 1935, and her writings became increasingly mystical after 1937. Despite her interest in Catholicism she never converted, as she believed converting would mean she would have to give up her interest in other religious traditions, such as Hinduism, ancient Greek and Egyptian mythology, and Buddhism.

Simone Weil's body of writing is currently popular amongst young philosophers and mystics, who are attracted to her socialist politics, gender non-conforming attitudes and unorthodox approach to religion. The fact that Weil never converted rings with the Millennial-age zeitgeist, who are quite possibly the most hesitant and non-committal generation to ever live.

Weil's most popular theological quote is her most puzzling: "Beauty will save the world." According to Weil, beauty was the most obvious and provable evidence of the divine. Weil used examples like naturally occurring geometry and symmetries in nature as evidence, as well as humanity's natural urge to express the divine through the senses (visual art, music), allowing the divine to permeate our souls.

It is certainly true that the "sensual" arts often grant us the easiest access to the divine, whether it is a religious painting by Rogier van der Weyden or a Christmas motet by William Byrd. However, the beauty of Christianity often manifests itself in strange ways. We consume the blood and flesh of our leader. We hang elaborate and expensive images of Him in absolute agony on the instrument of torture on which He died. We sing hymns about stripping our clothes and being drenched in a fountain of His blood:

Lay aside the garments that are stained with sin,
And be washed in the blood of the Lamb,
There's a fountain flowing for the soul unclean,
O be washed in the blood of the Lamb.¹

Over the years I have realized that Christianity is a religion that embraces ironies, contradictions and paradoxes, so perhaps it is no surprise that we seek out the beauty of Christ in unusual ways: through His agony, through a desire to bathe in the crimson flood of His sacrifice and somehow emerge cleaner than ever before. That Jesus overturned that last cardinal law of nature – death – is certainly the capstone of this world of contradictions. But in the end, beauty is a contradiction unto itself, because the world we inhabit only produces ugliness without God. As Simone Weil mentions, beauty must be incarnated in the world, in the same way that Jesus was incarnated as the Son of Man. We must grow in stewardship of this holy beauty to serve Him better.

In His service,

Tyler Versluis

¹ Have You Been To Jesus For the Cleansing Pow'r, music and text by E.A. Hoffmann (1839-1929)

Messy Church

Jeff Bonner & Dawn Mercer

The final Messy Church of last season was held online on May 29 and celebrated Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit appeared like tongues of flame on the Disciples' Heads.



Unusual deliveries for Messy Church.



Thanks for the... watermelon?



Pentecost flames from melons.



Coltrane enjoys Messy Church.

Our first in-person Messy Church took place on September 25 and focused on Indigenous Reconciliation to prepare for the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30.



Messy Church is a church experience for families – all generation and friend relationships. It is scheduled for the final Saturday of each month until the end of May (except December) 4-6 pm including dinner. Free.

COVID-19 Notice: Until further notice, even now that St. Matthew's has re-opened, please contact us if you are interested in attending. We plan to meet in person but, understand that we need to be flexible to adapt to any necessary changes. Also, we need to know how many people to provide for.

Mark Your Calendars for Messy Church in 2021-2022!

Oct 30
Nov 27
Jan 29
Feb 26
March 26
April 30
May 28



Club Matt

Jeff Bonner, Linda Dickson, Dawn Mercer, Jenna Wukasch, Amanda Boyd

On-line Program

The Club Matt program continued online through the summer in the 9:30 a.m. service, but with a more relaxed and casual format. With the challenges of engaging children through Zoom and the ongoing concern about ‘Zoom fatigue,’ our aim was to keep the service short (under half an hour) and with a more conversational tone to foster interaction with the children.

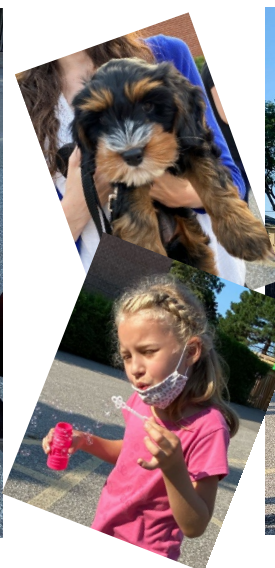
For our weekly learning, we focused on the Parables of Jesus – special stories that He used to help people understand complicated ideas. We began with the Parable of the Mustard Seed and a great visual presentation by Dawn with many kinds of seeds. Another highlight was the Parable of the Two Builders and a fun model play by Lianne showing the house on sand being washed away by water. Our parables through the rest of the summer included the ‘lost-and-found’ series in Luke 15 (coin, sheep, Prodigal Son), the Parable of the Sower, the Good Samaritan and other well-known parables.

The music was always a great part of our worship time, but through the last few weeks of the summer we had special fun learning a new hymn from Tyler with lots of actions, called *The Butterfly Song*, which we also used in our first in-person service on September 12th.

In-person Gatherings

In July, after many months in front of computer screens for school and church (Club Matt and Messy Church) and with the critical mass of immunization increasing, Diocesan guidelines provided opportunity/permission to organize children and families for in-person gatherings – outside with adequate distancing and mask wearing. We were delighted, and explored ways for families to gather and be safe. We settled on a parking lot “Pizza Party” on July 23. Jeff put together the pizza order with directions from each family. Families brought their own veggies etc. It was a “no touch” event for which we set out a table and chairs for each family. We are thankful to Lianne for recording the pleasure in that gathering in pictures, some of which are shared here.

In the parking lot, children played games at a safe distance. Phrases like, “I didn’t know you were so big!” or “That’s what you look like!” were interspersed with squeals of pleasure and delighted laughter. It was the first time kids had met Rev. Philip in person and they were surprised and pleased especially when he introduced their new puppy. “There is nothing like dogs and babies to get a crowd.” (So sorry it was not possible to include the whole St Matts community.)



Club Matt (continued)

Pool and Picnic Gathering

Since it was not possible to have a parish picnic this year, we planned a small gathering of Club Matt families on August 29. The few families who were around spread out outside at the Hurn's backyard and into the park. We carefully met the Diocesan guidelines so it was outside and distanced; masks were used to go inside. Although it was a small gathering with only pre-packaged drinks and snacks, the sounds of fun and laughter even from the most timid little ones reminded us all of what getting "back to normal" would be like.

These glimpses of our St Matthew's family were a ray of sunshine in a time when the pandemic is still not over and reminded us that with care and planning it is safe to do some modified in-person activities.



Bloggers Wanted

We're looking for parishioners to share their faith story on our blog. We know that not everyone loves to write, so we are happy to have a conversation with you and then write the blog (ensuring your complete approval of the final product, of course.)

All ages welcome. Please call or email the office.

I have a few jokes about unemployed people, but none of them work.

*Two windmills are standing in a wind farm. One asks, "What's your favourite kind of music?"
The other says, "I'm a big metal fan."*

Youth Group Update

Christine Ivy

Thank you to all of those who have been continually praying for the youth and their place in the church. Thank you also to our youth for your patience and all the ways you have still been serving and participating in this community. We are excited to be able to relaunch some in-person gatherings. Here is tentatively what is planned:

1. **Sunday Discussions:** Every other Sunday during the 9:30 service's sermon time we will invite youth to join Pastor Christine in the youth room for a discussion of the Bible reading for the day. This is an opportunity for teens to talk with others their age, ask questions, and learn about the Bible. If you like sermons, you can still catch the sermons in the off weeks.
2. **Games/Sports Night:** The last Friday of every month our youth and other youth groups are meeting to play games in our gym. Our first games night was held September 24 to great success with youth from St. Matthew's, St. Olave's, and All Saints Kingsway.
3. **Diocesan or Radiate (Pioneer Camp – Intervarsity) Retreat:** In discussion with our youth we want to go on one of these amazing retreats. I know many youth look forward to these every year.

If you have any youth in your life please let them know about what we have planned. Please also reach out to us so that we know of your interest. We will call you soon.



Weiler Memorial Bench, by Garry Weiler

Shortly after our mother Charlotte Weiler passed away, my brother Wayne and I decided to donate a memorial bench with bronze plaque and concrete pad base to St. Matthew's to honour our parents and also to comfort visitors to St. Matthew's with a place to sit and relax while outdoors. Charlotte enjoyed attending St. Matthew's since the 1960s. Wayne and I attended Sunday school and received confirmation at St. Matthew's and we have many nice memories of attending church services with our parents many years ago. Our father Norman Weiler passed away in 1983 but Charlotte continued to attend St. Matthew's for many years. She also attended Wednesday services and really enjoyed the company of all the many friends she made there over the years. In her last few years of life Charlotte wasn't able to attend church but she really appreciated Ann Sim coming to her home and the Long Term Care facility to give her Communion. It really made her feel connected to St. Matthew's. We hope that this memorial bench will provide comfort for many people visiting St. Matthew's for many years.

Editor's note: Garry also offered to and painted the storage doors under the overhang. Thank you.



Church Records

Baptisms

Ally Irene Violet Knight
August 8, 2021

Jeffrey Malekimood
August 15, 2021

Weddings

Don Purser & Suzan Jones
September 18, 2021

Deaths

Milton Dorman
June 15, 2021

Joyce Nicholls
July 9, 2021

*Grant to them Eternal Rest, O Lord,
And let light perpetual shine on them!
May they Rest in Peace & Rise in Glory*

St. Matthew's Community News

St. Matthew's Lilies Growing in Gleeson's Garden

"Here are the lilies that I have brought home from church in 2019 and 2020, and planted in the garden. I can't believe my good fortune. A miracle indeed!!" *Mary*

Long-time parishioner **Marj McConnell** has celebrated her 98th birthday! She lived on Bloor Street right across from the church and was in the choir for many years. Now she lives in Barrie to be close to family.



Colin Hall, Thank You

On July 25th, we honoured and thanked Colin Hall for his many years of dedication to St. Matthew's. We are excited for Colin and his family as they begin a new chapter in Goderich. We are very grateful for his generous contribution of time and talent, particularly throughout the pandemic. Fortunately, he will still worship with us and run Men's Breakfast on Zoom.

Rev. Milton Dorman, our Associate Priest since 2013 at St. Matthew's, died on June 15, 2021 after a long illness. He was best known to the 8:00 a.m. congregation and to his faithful friends who visited him at the Westbury Residence. His obituary is available here: <https://www.wardfuneralhomes.com/memorials/reverend-milton-dorman/4646348/>

Rev. Ray Bray, a former Curate at St. Matthew's in 1960-63 (approx.), died on August 14, 2021 at the age 90 in the BC Interior. Nancy Hurn was informed by Rev. Jim Boyles who knew him at St. Matthew's. For the obituary: <https://www.bowersfuneralservice.com/obituary/Raymond-Bray/>

Vaccine Appointments: Many parishioners were assisted in obtaining their first and second vaccinations against COVID-19. Barb Landry was very proactive in determining websites and phone numbers to make early bookings.

The Trinity: A one-night class on Divine Loving Community was offered by Rev. Philip on Zoom on June 3, 2021. It addressed the questions: What is the Trinity?, What does the Bible say about it? and How does it change our perspective? He also reflected on art representations of the Trinity.

Richard Farrar shared that Bridget's name has now been inscribed in the Royal British Legion's *Never Forget Book of Remembrance*, by their calligrapher. The book is kept at RBL's headquarters at Haig House in London.



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ALL SOULS TAIZE

November 2, 7:30 p.m.
In person & online



Pastoral Care: Pastoral visits can be offered over the phone, by email or via Zoom. Due to current pandemic restrictions, we cannot offer visits. Please contact the office at 416-231-4014 or office@saintmatts.ca.

Partners in Prayer: Should you desire prayer for yourself or for another person, please make details known to Bob Holloway at 416-253-4909 or rholloway@sympatico.ca. If necessary, the request can be transmitted through the church office.

Cycle of Prayer: "Beloved, pray for us." This is Paul's way of asking the Thessalonians to pray for him (5:25) and it expresses the genuine need for believers to support one another through prayer. Each Sunday, we will be praying for individuals and families of St. Matthew's in the Prayers of the People. Each week, a few names will be mentioned in our prayers and we will have the opportunity to support one another through prayer. Please take the time to remember these people during the week in your own prayers as well. If you do not wish to be included in our "Cycle of Prayer" please let the office know and we will be sure to keep your name off the list.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Prayer Shawls are provided to those who need the warmth and comfort of God and St. Matthew's. If you would like a shawl for someone, please contact the office at 416-231-4014 or office@saintmatts.ca. If you are knitting shawls for this ministry, please contact the office to arrange to drop them off.

Join Us

Wednesday
10:30 a.m. BCP service
(in person & on YouTube)

Messy Church
Last Saturday of the month
Youth Games/Sports Night
Last Friday night of the month



Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
9:30 - 3:30

The office is operating remotely.
Telephone and email messages will
be checked and returned during
office hours.

GIFT Groups

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Quiet (in person)
(2nd Sunday of each month)

9:30 a.m. Casual (in person)

11:00 a.m. Classic (in person & online)

12:10 p.m. Online Coffee Hour

The Rev. Philip Stonhouse, Priest-in-charge
416-231-3060 / philipstonhouse@saintmatts.ca

The Rev. Gail Marshall, Deacon
The Rev. Merv Mercer, Honorary Assistant
Christine Ivy, Youth & Discipleship Assoc. Pastor
Jeff Bonner, Family Ministry Associate
Tyler Versluis, Music Director and Organist
Tom Travaglini, Sexton/Verger
Lisa Tait, Parish Administrator



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