



Connections

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Matthew 4: 4

Volume 1
Number 7
August 1 to 15
2019

International Youth Day

There are 1.8 billion young people between 10 and 24 years of age in the world. This is the largest youth population in history. But the sad fact about these young people is that 1 in 10 of the world's children live in conflict zones and 24 million of them are not in school.

The United Nations has designated August 12 to celebrate the role of young men and women as partners in change and to raise awareness of the problems facing the world's young people.

This year's theme is "Transforming Education" and focuses on efforts being made to make education more inclusive and accessible for youth everywhere, including efforts by youth themselves.

We in Canada like to think that every young person has the opportunity to pursue whatever career or profession he or she finds fulfilling, but studies show that this is not always the case. Financial constraints, lack of equipment in remote areas and other limitations make the dream of a positive future just that - an impossible dream for many.

Two stories in the issue of Connections focus on young people - one concerns our efforts as a congregation in Operation Backpack and the other has to do with the interesting summer camp called STEM camp which rents space in our building for children to focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, essential areas to fit them for today's world.

Quality education not only benefits the young person; it benefits society at large, a society in which they will be the leaders in business and professional life, politics and the Church.



BACK TO SCHOOL WITH A NEW BACKPACK

In the last issue of *Connections* we told you about Christ Church's annual collection of school supplies for needy young people. This year, in addition to the youngsters coming through Family Residence and other local shelters, we have youth living at the YouthLink shelter and residence and going back to school or college. So we need more

supplies and more large backpacks than usual. The best backpacks come with lunch bag, pencil case and water bottle included.

Here's a list of what we need to fill them:

Wax crayons, colouring books, pocket Kleenex
Pencils, pencil crayons, sharpeners, pencil cases

Yellow highlighters

Binders, three hole punches that fit in the binders

Reusable lunch bags, sandwich boxes and water bottles

Lined paper for binders, duotang covers.

If you prefer to have us do the shopping for you, we will gladly accept cash donations.

If you have any questions, ask Deacon Jacquie, Ann Rice or Anna Mary Keen.



Scripture readings for August 11

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23;
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40



STEM camp

Christ Church is one of several locations in the Toronto area where boys and girls from 5 to 13 enjoy a camp with a difference.

STEM Camp is a Canadian not for profit based out of Embro, Ontario, operating over 45 anglophone and bilingual summer camps across Ontario in 2019 and employing over 300 college and university students.

The STEM Camp mission is to inspire Canadian youth through participating in hands-on activities in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

To quote from their brochure, this organization believes...

- in the power of curiosity and wonder
- that children need to explore the world around them
- that curious kids become confident, creative adults, who have developed excellent thinking skills to be used to help change the world

Counsellors come from three groups: teachers who want to do something in the summer, graduates of Teacher Colleges across Ontario and university and college students looking for summer employment (a few secondary school students are hired each year as well). Each counsellor has a background in at least one of the STEM areas and experience working with children.

Softball in the Summer

The Christ Church/St. Bede's SAYM softball team will play the Wesley Chapel nine at Viola Desmond Park on August 13. This diamond is at 85 Hupfield Trail, between Sewell's and Neilson, north of McLevin. All games start at 7 pm.

Next up will be our team and The Community on August 20 at Corvette Park, between Midland and Kennedy, north of St. Clair.

The final game of the regular season will see Christ Church/St. Bede pitted against St. Paul's Church, at the same park.

On Saturday, September 7, with the first pitch at 9 am, all the teams will participate in a grand tournament at Audley Park in Ajax. This park is at the corner of Taunton and Audley Road.



A Father's Sacrifice

Some of our neighbours will be celebrating Eid al-Adha on August 12, an Islamic festival to commemorate the willingness of Ibrahim (also known as Abraham) to follow Allah's (God's) command to sacrifice



his adult son, Isaac. He obeyed and took Isaac to Mount Moriah. Just as he was about to sacrifice him, an angel stopped him and gave him a ram to sacrifice in his son's place.

Muslims around the world observe this event. At Eid al-Adha, many Muslims make a special effort to pray and listen to a sermon at a mosque. They also wear new clothes, visit family members and friends and may symbolically sacrifice an animal in an act known as *qurbani*. This represents the animal that Abraham sacrificed.

People also give money to enable poorer members of their local community and around the world to eat a meat-based meal.

In the period around Eid al-Adha, many Muslims travel to Mecca and the surrounding area in Saudi Arabia to perform the Hajj pilgrimage. Muslims may plan and save for many years to enable them to take part in this event, which is one of the five pillars of Islam.

It happened in August

August 15, 1456 Henry Cremer finishes binding the first volume of the two-volume *Gutenberg Bible*. When completed, this bible becomes the first full length book to be printed in the West, and the first printed edition of the scriptures.

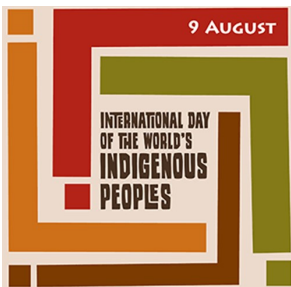
August 10, 1933 Wycliffe Bible Translators gets its start at a Day of Prayer for the Tribes of Latin America. It is now one of the largest interdenominational missionary agencies in the world.

August 1, 1953 C.S. Lewis writes; "How little people know who think holiness is dull. When one meets the real thing, it is irresistible".

The importance of language

There are an estimated 370 million indigenous people in the world, living across 90 countries. They make up less than 5 per cent of the world's population, but account for 15 per cent of the poorest. They speak an overwhelming majority of the world's 7,000 languages and represent 5,000 different cultures.

Indigenous peoples are inheritors and practitioners of unique cultures and ways of



relating to people and the environment. They have retained social, cultural, economic and political characteristics that are distinct from those of the dominant societies in which they live. Despite their

cultural differences, indigenous peoples from around the world share common problems related to the protection of their rights as distinct peoples.

In order to raise awareness of the needs of these population groups, every August 9 commemorates the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

This year's observance is dedicated to Indigenous Peoples' Languages. The large majority of the languages in danger are spoken by indigenous peoples. That is why, on this International Day, the goal is to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize and promote them at both national and international levels.

Languages play a crucially important role in the daily lives of all peoples, are pivotal in the areas of human rights protection, peace building and sustainable development, through ensuring cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue. to a variety of factors. Many of them are indigenous languages.

We are asked to pray for

Viggy, Annet, Carol, Cathy, Barb, Dushy, Anne, Joan, Bill, Peter, John, Corinne, Myrna, Hannah, Diane and David, Anna and her family, Ken and his family



The ninth day of the month of Av (which coincides with July and/or August), is the major day of communal mourning in the Jewish calendar. Although a large number of disasters are said to have befallen the Jews on this day, the major commemoration is of the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem in 586 B.C.E. and 70 C.E., respectively. Central to the observance of this day is fasting.

During the course of the centuries, a number of tragedies have clustered around this day, from the expulsions of the Jews from England and Spain to more localized disasters. Tisha B'Av is therefore observed as a day of communal mourning, which is expressed through fasting and the abstention from pleasurable activities and extraneous diversions.

January to June Financial Facts

Our parish treasurer tells us that contributions for the upkeep and work of Christ Church were up by \$3,200 compared to 2018 and our total expenses were down by \$1,911.

This is good news, although we are still running an operating deficit of \$5,273 (compared to \$10,384 for the same period last year).

On the income side, regular givings were about the same as 2018, but fees for rental of our space increased by \$1,798 and our Outreach Project Fund was supported by \$1,320 more than January to June last year.

Our investment in new furnaces resulted in a savings in heating costs of \$1,488, and we also saved \$1,341 on a new copier and \$1062 on our Diocesan assessment.

We spent \$1,555 more on outreach (the Deacon's Cupboard, YouthLink, backpacks and community lunches). It was the generosity of the Christ Church family that made this increase possible.

Finally, and with great hope for the future, we have received another \$15,960 for our Rejuvenate Fund, making a total of \$101,687 up to the end of June. We have used \$39,683 of this amount on necessary updates, with plans for more to come.

