



# Connections

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

**SPECIAL  
ISSUE #16**

## **Task Force on Re-opening for in-person worship in September**

The Anglican bishops in the Province of Ontario have given approval for the re-opening of Sunday in-person worship on September 13. This date is, of course, dependent on the continuing decline in the number of COVID-19 infections in our area. Following Public Health guidelines, including the maintenance of physical distancing, means that our normal Sunday services will have to be modified.



To establish standards and practices for this re-opening, the

parish has appointed a Task Force, including Deb Anthony, Deacon Jacquie, Diane Dean, Eleanor Lorde, Ann Rice, Audrey Shepherd, Father Roy (chair) and Pastor Pam.

They will report back to the Parish Board after working over the next two months to ensure that the building will be a safe place for us to gather once again.

While the work of preparing for this long-awaited day is in progress, everyone will be kept informed through *Connections*. Meanwhile, the life of worship, fellowship, service and financial support goes on through online worship (access the Christ Church website) and our Zoom coffee hour on Sunday afternoon. Outreach continues through the Deacon's Cupboard food bank on Thursdays and our Treasurer is always ready to receive offerings by mail or by etransfer.

*Roy +*

## Questions and answers

**Q I have some health issues and I don't want to go back to church until I'm sure it's OK for me. What can I do?**

A Nobody should attend the in-person services unless they are comfortable doing so. People whose health is compromised, especially if they are older, should follow the advice of their doctor. They will continue to be able to enjoy worshipping online, as we are all doing this summer.

**Q Will there be a Sunday School?**

A The Christ Church Sunday School teachers are busy planning a Fall curriculum that children will find stimulating and enjoyable.



**Q How can I be sure everything will be sanitized and safe for me to touch?.**

A There will be enough time between services for every "hot spot" you might touch to be wiped clean by trained volunteers. You will wear a mask and sit at a safe distance from everyone else.

**CHRIST CHURCH SCARBOROUGH**

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**JOIN US ON OUR WEBSITE FOR SERVICES**

**ZOOM COFFEE HOUR - 1 PM ON SUNDAY**

**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85925792451**

## Seven Days of Coronavirus Prayers

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pray for the sick and their families  
that God will heal and uphold them

### PRAY FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Pray for the brave frontline workers  
that God will protect and strengthen them

### PRAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Pray for those who cannot find work  
that God will sustain them in their search

### PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

Pray for government leaders at all levels  
that God will give them wisdom and courage

### PRAY FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Pray for those about to return to school  
that God will be with them in their classrooms

### PRAY FOR THE VULNERABLE

Pray for those isolated from family or friends  
that God will move others to comfort them

### PRAY FOR THE CHURCH

Pray for all men and women of faith that God  
will lead the church in right paths at this time

*Lift up your face to God, and make your prayer  
to him; and he will hear you.*

*Job 22: 26, 27*

*Please pray for these members of our  
community and their families*

Anita F	James Y
Anne S	Jeanette M-D
Annet K	Jenille L
Beverly Barber	Joan N
Christina & Joshua	Ken K
Corinne P	Leonora & Lennox Y
Deb A	Margo P
Edna S	Philip I
Erin V	Ray T
Florence S	Sam P
Hector B	Sherri-Ann & Ron

*and for all those affected by COVID-19,  
racial discrimination or any injustice*

### The Story of the Hymn

### Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

### HE CAME TO MOCK, BUT LEFT A BELIEVER

In 1752, a young Robert Robinson attended an evangelical meeting to heckle the believers and make fun of the proceedings. Instead, he listened in awe to the words of the great preacher George Whitefield. In 1755, at the age of twenty, Robinson responded to the call he had felt three years earlier and became a Christian.

Another three years later, when preparing a sermon for his church in Norfolk, England, he wrote the words that have become one of the church's most-loved hymns: "Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace."

Using imagery of Christ as the giver of living water and the shepherd gathering his sheep back into the fold, this hymn reminds the worshipper of the ever bountiful grace of God. Like Robinson, we too are "prone to wander," and are quick to seek redemption through our own power. But God continues to bring us back from our wandering, until we sing forever before the fount of His love.



### Scripture Readings

#### July 26

Psalm 105: 1 to 11 and 45b  
Romans 8: 26 to 39  
Matthew 13: 31 to 33 and 44 to 52

#### August 2

Psalm 7: 1 to 7 and 15  
Isaiah 55: 1 to 5  
Romans 9: 1 to 5  
Matthew 14: 13 to 21

#### August 9

1 Kings 19: 9 to 18  
Psalm 85: 8 to 13  
Romans 10: 5 to 15  
Matthew 14: 22 to 33

## SCHOOLS MIGHT BE GOING BACK SOON, AND WE NEED YOUR HELP

After one of the strangest summers we have ever seen, hopefully our young people will soon be heading back to school and college, and **OPERATION BACKPACK** will once again try to help. However, due to the pandemic we will have to work a little differently.

If you feel able to shop for the school supplies listed below and bring them to the church on Thursday mornings between 11.00 and noon (i.e. after Deacon's Cupboard hours), that will be great. Otherwise, please feel free to send in a donation (clearly marked Operation Backpack) and we will attend to the shopping.



Backpacks of all sizes - JK/SK to high school/college size  
Wax crayons, colouring books, pocket Kleenex for the little ones  
Pencils, Pencil crayons, Sharpeners, Pencil cases  
Yellow highlighters  
Rulers, erasers  
Red, Blue and Black pens  
Binders, 3-hole punches that fit in the binders  
Reusable lunch bags, sandwich boxes and water bottles  
Lined paper for binders, duotang covers



If you have any questions, please email Deacon Jacque at [jacque.boutheon@sympatico.ca](mailto:jacque.boutheon@sympatico.ca) or call 416-264-4726.

### GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS

*This is the second half of an interview by Pastor Pam with Sunday School co-ordinator Deb Anthony. The first section appeared in the Pentecost edition of our quarterly newsletter The Parish Window.*

### *A Message from the Heart*

**Please tell me about your ministry as the Sunday School Co-ordinator at Christ Church.**

It takes time and energy to be involved in children's ministry but it is so worth it when the children understand who God is, are excited and growing...even when they sometimes get to class late and are spotty in their attendance. Of course, everyone is at a different level, but what a blessing to have gotten to experience the growth in their faith in these last two years. It is a treat. And it is a blessing to share this with the other teachers, as well. Sunshine comes off our kids. And I love their excitement (and mine) when planning and doing the Christmas pageant and the Easter newspaper. Or when they ask difficult questions (Joe...I am thinking of you) or they want us to teach them more.

**What has been a challenge for you in your life?**

In 2015, it was a challenge when I was first diagnosed with cancer. A new normal and an emotional roller-coaster began for me in June 27, 2015 when my journey with cancer began. My family and my life turned upside down when I was told that I had breast cancer. This included fear about what my life would look like and whether I would live through it. I ended up having a double mastectomy. After the surgery I was also diagnosed with stomach cancer. That opened up a new journey.... a long ongoing fear of whether I would survive, because it is not a curable form of cancer. I retired from nursing in 2016 to take care of my own health.

**What helped emotionally and spiritually at this time?**

I had a wonderful prayer support team at church. Whenever I had a procedure I had someone praying for me over a 24 hour period. Friends, people at my church, and others, made sure I and my family had food. We didn't have to buy food or milk for months. That support at the beginning was very strong and good.

You need to know, though, that fear was there. The breast cancer was taken care of and healed but not the stomach cancer. As of three years ago, it spread to my arms, face and my inner thighs. I had a new fear. How long would I live? With my son getting married, would I be around?

I became angry and sad. One day I was mad and the next I was fearful. The only peace that I could find was with God. A sister-in-the-faith reminded me of a passage of scripture: Psalm 34:4 "I sought the Lord and he answered me and he delivered me from all my fears". We talked every week and she said this verse to me every single week...for a whole year. Some days, upon hearing this, all I could do was cry. She would say the verse and then pray or she would say the verse and then nothing else.

I also have a husband who has challenges because, as of 2004, he is a stroke survivor.

### **What has been a challenge during this time of the pandemic?**

I have been frustrated with the health care changes during the pandemic. I cannot receive the same level of care as before. It is as basic as the fact that I can't see a doctor face to face. They are not able to examine me personally for any body changes. Some clinics that I need to have a test done are not even open. One of my cancer treatment centres is not open.

As I look back to March 7, 2020, when I was celebrating my husband Russ's birthday, I didn't think my view of things, such as fear, would be so greatly changed. This word, fear, so tried to take control. You don't see it or feel it at first; it creeps up on you. For me, it first showed in signs in the frustration of long lines or in the fact that stores are closed. Or doctors offices that are closed, or not being able to have tea or coffee dates with friends and family. And no church family. The list goes on. And then suddenly, before you know it, boredom seeps in.

Then you are quick to realize that fear is coming and it has not left me. Some of the fears that jump to mind are going to the grocery store and fearing that someone would sneeze or cough near me. Or watching somebody use hand sanitizer in a doctor's office, of course without gloves on, and then realizing that I touched the same hand sanitizer, without gloves on. And then there is the fear of not being able to help others, like my neighbours or including other friends and family.

But really, what sets my fear on edge is not being able to get proper medical appointments and tests being detained as my symptoms are changing. Or only being able to have phone-call appointments with my doctors and they can't physically examine me. And the fact that my treatment has, at times, not been available for me. And then, of course, not knowing the effect of all of this to my health or knowing whether the cancer is growing.

However, I know that God is bigger than this. He is in control, not the fear. I have great hope even during the pandemic. As my friend quoted in Psalm 34 and which I hold onto: "God delivers me from all my fear". I'd like to thank the Christ Church family for continuing to pray for me. You have, I hope, seen my name in the prayer list in *Connections*, and even though you have not known why you have been doing so, you have prayed for me. I ask that you would still continue to pray for me. I also pray that my story that I have shared will be of help to someone who has read it. I hope that sharing my story will help you know that you can have hope.

As I have mentioned, I was blessed to have a prayer circle at my time of greatest need. It could've just as easily been a prayer chain. One person phoning another person, phoning another etc. and all praying. As I am saying this, I realize that a prayer chain would be important for our church family. If you are interested in being involved please text me/phone me, Deb, at 416-508-8158 or email [tigger.anthony@rogers.com](mailto:tigger.anthony@rogers.com), and we can figure out how this tremendous form of support could work.

Deb

