



Connections

*I wait for the Lord; in his word is my hope.
Psalm 130: 4*

**SPECIAL
ISSUE #17**

A New Beginning brings New Hope, New Joy

The rain had stopped. From my balcony I looked out at the Carolinian forest surrounding the Guild Inn a thousand feet away. A large white cloud streaked with grey hovered above the trees, and between them was a beautiful rainbow.

What a message from the Lord!

The many shades of green in the forest symbolized the joy of celebrating the eucharist together before the lockdown in March caused by Covid-19.

The rainbow represented the many men, women and children who are maintaining our fellowship by worshipping in our online service every Sunday.

The promise and hope of the rainbow firmly touched the cloud, which will be the delight of in-person worship together on Sunday, September 13.

The few streaks of grey in the cloud tell us that our togetherness will come with some modifications in the manner of our worship because the virus is still trying to defeat us. It won't defeat us, because we are strong in the Lord and the strength of his might, as St. Paul recounts in his letter



to the young church at Ephesus (Chapter 6: verses 10 to 18)

So come to one of our Re-opening services on September 13. Register your choice of time and come at 8:30 or 10:15. Send in your Registration Form (see page 2) so we will be sure to have a seat for you.

Wear your best finery and join your friends, with a sparkle in your eye, lightness in your steps and a bright happy face,

Come with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit.

If you can't be with us, join us virtually online as a continuing member of our Christ Church fellowship.

Shalom! May God's richest blessings be with us and keep us safe.

Father Roy

for the Reopening Task Force

***Almighty God,
watchful and caring,
our source and our end,
all that we are
and all that we have is yours.
Accept us now
as we give thanks for this place
to which we will return
to praise your name,
to ask your forgiveness,
to know your healing power,
to hear your word,
and to be nourished
by the body of your Son.
Be present always
to guide and to judge,
to illumine
and to bless your people.
This we pray
in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.***



The Doors to Christ Church will be Opening Soon

Our bishops have given approval for the re-opening of Sunday in-person worship on September 13, dependent, of course, on the continuing decline in the number of COVID-19 infections in our area.

It won't be quite the same as before, because caring for our health and the health of our fellow worshippers will require wearing masks, keeping distant from each other and sanitizing everything we might touch.

We have measured our worship area and have determined that only 48 people (including chancel participants) can be accommodated at any one worship service, while still respecting the two metre distance rule.

There will be, therefore, three "main"

services, at 8:30 am, 10:15 am and online. All the services will be the same, with organ music, scriptures, preaching and prayers. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the in-person services.

Provision has been made for couples or two persons within a "bubble" to sit together

In order to make this change work, we need to know which service you plan to attend, or whether you prefer to attend the online service instead.

Please complete and return the form below so we can reserve a place for you.

Space will be allotted on a "first come-first serve" basis, so we urge you to respond as soon as possible.

✂.....

NAME (S) _____

PHONE _____ **Email** _____

I would prefer to attend the in-person service at 8:30 am.

I would prefer to attend the in-person service at 10:15 am.

I will be happy to attend either service as space permits.

I will participate in the online service at home.

Comments:

Please return by Canada Post to Christ Church Scarborough Village
155 Markham Road, Toronto ON M1M 3A1
or email office@christchurchscarborough.com
or phone 415-261-4169 and leave your name and phone number for callback.



Pastor Pam's Picks for Summertime Reading

Normally, on Sundays in June and July I would set out books for you to borrow for summer reading. As we are not gathering these days I thought I would let you know about some of my favourite authors & books and also tell you about what I hope to read this summer (and some recommends from our bishops).

THE READING MATERIAL ON MY LIST INCLUDES:

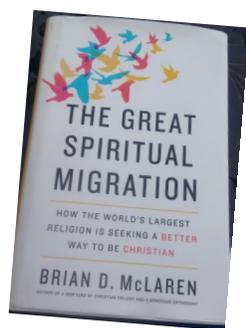
White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism (2018) - by Robin DiAngelo. This was recommended to me by a good friend a while ago. She said that it changed her life and that she thinks that everyone should read it. She is a person of colour and I take her recommend very seriously. Today I will endeavour to reserve it at the library, as I have bought many books (can you have too many?) during the pandemic.

God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and Its Aftermath, N.T. Wright. This is a brand new book and would be good for those asking questions about what the Bible has to say about the pandemic. The heading for an interview about the book was, "Did God cause the coronavirus pandemic". This is also a recommend from Bishop Kevin and will be a discussion focus at the August clericus meeting.

From a Letter from Bishop Andrew Asbil: "Four books have captured my imagination and are waiting for me under the shade of the oak tree by the lake: *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo, *Talking to Strangers* by Malcolm Gladwell and *The Autobiography of Bruce Springsteen*."

NEWBIES - JUST READ/CURRENTLY READING:

I just read and was inspired by *The Great Spiritual Migration*..how the worlds largest religion is seeking a better way to be Christian by Brian McLaren. This is a fabulous book telling of where we need to be heading as a



church. Anything by Brian McLaren is thought-provoking.

I am using *Celtic Daily Prayer* as my daily Scripture reading guide as a summer alternative to the Book of Alternative Services and am enjoying it. (Thanks to Rev. Ken Keen and Anna-Mary for the book).

Psalms for Praying..an invitation to wholeness by Nan C. Merrill. A rewriting of the Psalms for reflection/devotion.

The Dark Night of the Soul, Gerald G. May...A Psychiatrist Explores the Connection Between Darkness and Spiritual Growth.

Educated by Tara Westover. The true story of a woman as she struggles from growing up in a family who follow a branch of Mormonism.

And I will be reading some fluff books as well..light and airy but hopefully with a good story. Authors Barbara Kingsolver and Maeve Binchy come to mind.

OLDIES, BUT GOODIES:

Healing for Damaged Emotions, workbook edition, David A Seamands - this book changed my life, bringing healing of past hurts.

Co-Dependence No More by Melody Beattie (I gather that there is now a workbook edition. It is described in this way: Exercises for Learning to Stop Controlling Others and Start Caring for Yourself.

I read this book when I was diagnosed with secondary infertility and was mad at God: *Disappointment With God*, by Philip Yancey.

The Bible - read meditatively in small portions preferably by a body of water. Especially if you choose to read any of the gospel accounts by the Sea of Galilee.





CHRIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL MEET OUTSIDE IN THE BACK YARD!

Our next Sunday school gathering will NOT be a ZOOM Room meeting! All the young people of the church are invited to gather in the church back yard on **Wednesday, August the 12th at 3pm.** If you have a blanket or lawn chair, please bring it. How fabulous it will be to see everybody! This will also be an extra-special good-bye for Krystal.

There will not be a ZOOM coffee hour on August 9th as Pastor Pam is on holidays from August 4 to August 10. Coffee hour will re-ZOOM (resume) on Sunday August 16th at 1pm.

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 & | Ken K |
| Joshua | Leonora & |
| Corinne P | 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

A GRACE FOR HARD TIMES

A while back I read a story of a visiting pastor who attended a men's breakfast in the middle of a rural farming area of the country. The group had asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace at breakfast "Lord, I hate buttermilk," the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going. The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned. Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour."

The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits."



So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen."

Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today. Our life is being mixed with lots of things we don't care for.....Let's just relax and wait until the mixing is done.

Beverly Baird

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JOIN US ON OUR WEBSITE FOR WORSHIP

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR - 1 PM ON SUNDAY

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

