



The Parish Window

2020



Pentecost



CHRIST CHURCH SCARBOROUGH VILLAGE

Quarterly Newsletter



**Peace During The Pandemic –
PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR PAM**

Philippians 4:8 ..*Beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.*

Paul was writing from prison when he wrote these words to the church in Philippi. They are certainly just as valid for today. As we are pent up from the pandemic and challenged by what is seen on the news, we are called to think and act in ways that are true, honourable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable...that which is worthy of excellence and praise, and by doing so, we will know the peace of God.

Ways that I have found helpful to keep the right perspective is meditating on Scripture, talking to God about my frustrations/fears and by being thankful.

If we keep in mind these guidelines from the apostle Paul, we will be able to hold on to peace for ourselves. But there is another plus. We will be leaders, as Paul was, in revealing the secret of how to live...especially in these difficult times.



We are preparing for the re-opening the church and we hope that this can occur early in September. The diocese has kindly provided us a template to follow to ready us for safe re-opening.

Rev. Roy Shepherd is chairing the Christ Church 'Re-opening Task Force' and you will receive information via *Connections* about what returning to our building for worship will entail.

In the meantime, please join in the virtual worship experience through our website at www.christchurchscarborough.com, at any time. It is posted on Saturday to be ready for the following day. Join in our Coffee Hour on ZOOM at

1:00pm on Sundays (see the ZOOM invitation that is emailed out each week).

Let's pray and be patient (or, in my case, also pray for patience) as we long to gather again in worship as a faith family.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Pam



"Christ has no body now on earth, but yours, No hands but yours, No feet but yours, Yours are the eyes through which is to look out Christ's compassion to the world; Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good; Yours are the hands with which he is to bless men now".

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"They are certainly just as valid for today."

Teresa of Avila



The Gospel

What would you say if I asked you to tell me the gospel? Hint, the word "gospel" is derived from the Greek word for "good news".

If you had asked me that question sometime last year, I would have given you my simple, go-to answer: "The gospel? Oh, that's Matthew, Mark, Luke and John!" Now while it's true that Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are called the "gospels" and that they *contain* the gospel, to say that they *are* the gospel would be an understatement. If you look close enough, every book of the Bible contains the gospel. But what is the actual "good news"? Before we answer that question, let's take a look at another one.

What makes you right with God?

For a while I would have given you another simple, go-to answer: "What makes me right with God? Jesus' sacrifice on the cross!" But that was a rehearsed answer. I couldn't really tell you what it meant or how the logistics of it all fit into place. You see, no matter how hard I work, I cannot be made right with God on my own. No number of "good deeds" will do the trick, no amount of offerings, no amount of volunteering or obeying my parents. In fact, all these seemingly "good deeds" are like filthy rags in the sight of God (Isaiah 64:6).

The truth is that we are sinful people. Our hearts are deceitful (Jeremiah 17:9). We turn away from God's ways, and turn towards *our* ways and the *world's* ways. But how can a just

God, who is supposed to punish the wicked, *forgive* us when we are wicked? Wouldn't we be appalled if a Judge forgave criminals their crimes instead of having them serve time in prison even if they seemingly repented? So if God is a "Just Judge", shouldn't we be punished?

That's where Jesus takes our place. The sin of the world - even in generations yet to come - was placed on him when he died on the cross. He took on all of God's wrath - wrath that *we* deserved. Living a perfect, sinless life, he died a substitutionary death in our place. It is only through Christ - and Christ alone - that we can go to God in prayer asking for forgiveness, and receive His forgiveness, not because of anything *we've* done but because of what Christ did on the cross.

So as true Christians, we are called to repent and trust that God will forgive us because of Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. We thank Him for this beautiful gift of salvation that we receive through His grace alone. We do good deeds not to earn forgiveness (for we are already forgiven in Christ), but because we love Christ and we long to be obedient to Him (John 14:21). And in that case, our good deeds are reflections of our faith, for faith without good deeds is dead (James 2:17).

So my brothers and sisters in Christ, let me ask you once again, "What is the Gospel?" If you were asked that by a non-believing neighbour, what would you say?

As stated by 9Marks (a worldwide ministry that strives to help

churches reflect Biblical characteristics of a healthy church):

1. The gospel is the good news about what Jesus Christ has done to reconcile sinners to God. Here's the whole story:

2. The one and only God, who is holy, made us in his image to know him (Gen. 1:26-28).

3. But we sinned and cut ourselves off from him (Gen. 3; Rom. 3:23).

4. In his great love, God sent his Son Jesus to come as king and rescue his people from their enemies—most significantly their own sin (Ps. 2; Luke 1:67-79).

5. Jesus established his kingdom by acting as both a mediating priest and a priestly sacrifice—he lived a perfect life and died on the cross, thus fulfilling the law himself and taking on himself the punishment for the sins of many (Mark 10:45; John 1:14; Heb. 7:26; Rom. 3:21-26, 5:12-21); then he rose again from the dead, showing that God accepted his sacrifice and that God's wrath against us had been exhausted (Acts 2:24, Rom. 4:25).

6. He now calls us to repent of our sins and trust in Christ alone for our forgiveness (Acts 17:30, John 1:12). If we repent of our sins and trust in Christ, we are born again into a new life, an eternal life with God (John 3:16).

Isn't that the greatest news you've ever heard? This is news we *must* share!

R. Luther



A Word from Fr. Roy

"...finally beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is noble, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, and if there is anything worthy of praise, fill your mind with these things"
Philippians 4:8

There was a time when I could be labelled a 'dreamer'. Let me explain. In my early twenties, for business purposes, I had to get a Passport. So with my properly completed Form, picture and money, I went to the Passport office in Scarborough, only to be told I couldn't have a Passport because I wasn't a Canadian Citizen. I thought I was a Canadian, but I wasn't. Born in England, came to Canada from Barbados at the age of 4. Educated in Montreal from kindergarten to a university degree, always worked here, had a Canadian wife and son, and had served in the Canadian Navy in WW2. None of that made me a Canadian citizen. Fortunately, my local MP gave me a book about Canada (most of which I knew), had me take a test, swear the oath that gave me citizenship at a special ceremony and then I could apply for a Passport. That experience instilled in me a deep sense of gratitude and thanksgiving for being a part of this beautiful country.

It is an incredible gift from God and we are called to take care of this land, to preserve it for God's glory and honour, not for

ourselves, not even for my great grandson Thomas.

Every year on Canada Day, I pray this special prayer of Thanksgiving so that I don't forget that we have what Paul wrote in his letter to the Philippians.

THANKSGIVING FOR CANADA

Almighty God, you govern the nations with justice and mercy; accept our thanksgiving for this wonderful land you have given us. We remember especially those who have prepared the way for us – indigenous peoples, voyagers, teachers and farmers, workers and entrepreneurs, immigrants and refugees, advocates who fashioned our just laws. We remember all those, past and present, who have suffered injustice and poverty, lost hope, lack of opportunity, discrimination of any kind, victims who pay the price for the greed of others.

++ Keep our celebrations for our country honest as we recall the past, compassionate as we judge the present, and creative as we engage the future.

++ Deepen our appreciation for our snow-tipped mountains, green valleys, lakes, fields of golden grain, bustling cities, the energy created by millions of men and women working hard and living in harmony.

++ Continue to uphold across this land the spirit of open discussion and the freedom to dissent, the acceptance of both old and new ideas, and respect for the integrity of every person living here.

++ Guide us to be servants of peace, quick to honour the hopes

of other nations, always ready to build rather than to destroy.

++ Show us how to be people bound to you and to others in mutual trust and understanding, with courage to stand with those who are disadvantaged.

++ Give us the wisdom to be grateful for Canada without being proud and arrogant, loyal to our values and traditions, but never blind to the need for change. Finally, show us how to use all our resources and talent, personal, church and community to make Canada a caring homeland for all our citizens and our 'dreamers'. AMEN.



In Exodus 12 we find the event of the final plague, which began the exodus of the Jews from Egypt.

At that time, the blood of the sacrificial lamb was painted on the door frames of the Jews so that the Angel of Death would not enter that home.

In our time of COVID-19 and protests, may we all have the blood of Jesus, our sacrificial lamb, painted on the "door frames" of our lives through continuous prayer and praises of glory to God, and adherence to the advice of health officials, may we be passed over by the Angel of Death, and at the end of it all give thanks to our Lord God Almighty for HIS protection.

Jeanette Khan



MESSAGE FROM THE SOCIETY OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

These are momentous, stressful times we live in. It may seem that around every corner there's something to be fearful, angry, or distraught over. Our minds may habitually return to the last article we read, or video we watched, or podcast we listened to. We may feel compelled to stay up-to-date on the latest news, out of a sense of duty, from a powerful curiosity, or a need to be on top of what's going on so as to feel safe and prepared. And all of this takes a toll on us.

Psychologists have long studied what is called vicarious trauma or vicarious traumatization. This kind of trauma arises not from a first-hand experience of a traumatic event, but from witnessing such an event. Such vicarious trauma has often been seen in professionals who work in fields where witnessing traumatic events or interacting with trauma survivors is common. However, it's now known that vicarious trauma can also affect those who are regularly exposed to traumatic events in the media. Constant exposure to traumatic events in media has been shown to cause anxiety, difficulties in coping, immense fear, and feelings of hopelessness. This is especially true for those of us who have a history of trauma ourselves or just happen to be particularly sensitive.

Jesus said "blessed are the peacemakers," and as children of God that is our calling. Being a peacemaker, which is so needed in these tumultuous times, begins with being at peace ourselves. A big fan of the beatitudes himself, Gandhi once said that "there is no way to peace, peace is the way." And Martin Luther King Jr. told us to "be the peace you wish to see in the world." In other words, one of the very best gifts we can offer a troubled world is letting ourselves rest in God's presence, resting in the Peace and Joy of Christ.

If you feel yourself caught up in a cycle of fear, anger, and despair, as you digest all the latest news of a world and people in crisis, you owe it to yourself and the world to be kind to yourself, and take a break. And even Jesus needed to be alone every now and then, so you know you're in good company. In a world inundated with news 24-hours a day, here are some helpful tips on being a peacemaker, beginning with making inner peace:

- Set limits on the consumption of news media, videos, etc. Consider taking a Sabbath from all kinds of media, for a day or even longer.
- If you have trouble setting limits, put notes on the devices you use reminding yourself to ask "Is what I'm doing now nourishing for my soul?"
- Practice noticing patterns in your thoughts and feelings

around consuming traumatic news and take a break when needed.

- Make a list of things that bring you hope, peace, and joy, and practice them.
- If you feel called to do something, then do something! Consider even the smallest gestures that could turn hopelessness and anxiety into action.
- Make time for silent prayer, and practice letting God take on the cares of the world while you rest in God's presence.

Remember, your greatest contribution to God's Kingdom is to cultivate the Kingdom within. Stay informed in moderation, be kind to yourself, and be the Peace and Joy of Christ the world so needs.

Br. Nicholas Bartoli, SSJE

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Submitted By: The Rev'd Canon Jacquie Bouthéon



THE PARISH WINDOW

June Financial Report

We are entering the second half of 2020 in good financial shape. Thank you to everyone for your very faithful support of the parish during these very unusual times. In addition, due to subsidies received, we have a significant financial cushion at present, but we anticipate that we will need this cushion to cover income shortfalls between now and the end of the year.

	<u>Jan - Jun 2020</u>	<u>Jan - Jun 2019</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
<u>Operating Income</u>			
Envelopes & Open	\$55,645	\$57,933	-\$2,288
Space usage	22,024	24,759	-2,735
Outreach	5,557	2,235	3,322
Fundraising	143	3,223	-3,080
Other normal income	<u>16,607</u>	<u>17,391</u>	<u>-784</u>
Total Operating \$99,976	\$105,541	-\$5,565	
Diocesan subsidies	31,597		
Government subsidies	<u>4,248</u>		
Total Income	\$135,821	\$105,541	
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>109,764</u>	<u>110,337</u>	<u>-574</u>
Balance	<u>\$26,057</u>	<u>-\$4,796</u>	

In addition, we have also received \$9,200 for Rejuvenate projects, and, we have just received a \$7,000 outside donation that has yet to be clarified where it will be allocated.

About \$2,000 of the outreach income has been donated by non-parish people / organizations. Both the Faith Tabernacle Church and the Daycare continue to make their rental payments. We are applying to the government for the tenant rent subsidy for the Daycare. As part of this process, we, as landlord, have to agree to reduce the tenant's rent by 25% for a four month period. This 25% reduction is included in the above space usage income and is the principle reason 2020 space usage income is down from 2019.

Significant Rejuvenate and the sign projects have been completed: sign (\$15,072), sidewalks and other concrete work (\$18,180), and exterior windows painted (\$4,000)

The Diocese has covered 3 months of clergy compensation and Diocesan assessment charges. The government has covered 75% of 2 months of our staff compensation costs. These subsidies are most likely complete now, and there will be shortfalls in budgeted / expected income in the rest of the year. These will likely consume the current surplus. Shortfalls include:

1. Rental income: no summer STEM camp (\$4,000), Youthlink and miscellaneous usage (\$4,000)
2. Fundraising - possibly about \$10,000.
3. Envelope and Open offering - possibly \$4,000 to \$5,000

Summary: we are currently OK, but there can be many surprises in a year like this.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please let me know. I can be reached at Ian-Campbell@sympatico.ca or 416-265-5995.

Ian Campbell



E-Transfer

- A New Way to Make Your Offering

About 6 parishioners have started to use E-transfers to make their offering. This method may appeal to parishioners who use on-line banking. If so, please use the following instructions to set up Christ Church as a contact.

Name: Christ Church Scarborough
E-mail address: cw-christchurchscarborough@toronto.anglican.ca
Suggested security question: What is this for?
Answer: church (*all lower caps*)

Important: Put your envelope # and any allocation information in the message area. This is very important to ensure that your offering is credited to the right person/family, and allocated as you intend. The following short forms may be used:

Env# XXX Reg \$XX FW \$XX DC \$XX Cap \$XX FL \$XX CP \$XX

Where Reg = regular offering, FW = Faithworks, DC = Deacon's Cupboard, Cap = Rejuvenate Capital Campaign, FL = Flowers, CP = Candle of Presence.

If you have questions, please send me an e-mail at Ian-Campbell@sympatico.ca or telephone me at 416-265-5995.



Monthly Envelopes will be available in 2021

Tired of the number of unused envelopes you have at the end of the year? No more.

Speak to the envelope secretary for your new monthly box.

Please do so early as there will be limited amount in this first year.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS

Meet Deb Anthony in part 1 of an interview by Pastor Pam

1. Tell me about yourself!

My full name is Deborah Ann Anthony. And I was named after a friend of my mother. I was born in Oklahoma City in Oklahoma and I have a twin brother, Randy. We grew up in the United States. In school I was athletic and first took business courses in high school. In latter years I moved into the sciences. When I graduated from high school I thought I wanted to be a police officer or a veterinarian but I started working after some training as a lab tech/phlebotomist. While working in that capacity, I was encouraged to think about other career plans. Those that worked with me saw my love for people and my knowledge of the medical field and they encouraged me to go into nursing, which I did. I enjoyed my degree, completing it in record time.

2. Introduce me to your family.

Upon taking my first airplane ride and beginning my first real holiday, I met my husband Russ in May of 1979 on a beach in the Bahamas. He was born and raised in Scarborough, Ontario. We now have two grown twin boys, a daughter-in-law, a 1 1/2 year old grandson and a wonderful 10-year-old golden retriever.

3. Have you always been a person of faith?

My family went to church when I was small. I remember talking to my mother about matters of faith and reading the bible. Then in high school we moved to a new town

and stopped going to church. At the magic age of 16, when I got my license, I went back to church, although, at first, I remember sitting in the parking lot and not going in, as I was too shy. As a teenager I was shy about my faith, in general. Then when I met Russ, who is also a Christian, his family invited me to their Anglican church, and I was thankful to be going to church with others.



4. Tell me about your involvement at other churches.

At that church I was asked to join a Bible study and later given the opportunity to teach Sunday school. I had a passion for people and especially for kids. When Russ graduated from his 3rd year of University, we moved into various ministries over a period of time, beginning with Sunday school ministry, music ministry and mission work overseas with the Anglican Church. I had an opportunity to be involved as a member of a number of denominations including the Anglican, Baptist, Pentecostal, and Christian and Missionary Alliance

church; the latter we attended for a long time.

In Sunday school ministry, I enjoy working with children of all ages and particularly appreciate when they learn and grow. It is a delight when children come and want to sit and tell you how much they love Jesus. In the Alliance church, I found it rewarding when I helped young ones take steps in faith. To watch their eyes light up and to know that they really "got" the love of God was fabulous. Then, when I got to actually watch them get baptized, it made me cry.

5. How long have you been a member of Christ Church?

I have been involved at Christ Church for two years. I am grateful that 2 1/2 years ago, during a difficult time with my own health and with a friend's deteriorating health and approaching death, I received a wonderful invitation from Pastor Pam. She saw that I needed care and offered Christ Church as a place where I could come and feel loved and welcomed. And then God pushed my heart in that very direction. Since then, with the support of my friend Ann and others, I feel very welcomed and loved at Christ Church.

Do not miss Part 2 in the next issue of the Parish Window when Deb speaks about her role as Sunday School Coordinator and her joys and some of her challenges.

HAPPENINGS

Bursaries for our acolytes!

Every year, the York Scarborough Episcopal Area awards \$500 bursaries to young people who are involved in the life of their church and who are entering first-year college or university.

This year we submitted applications on behalf of two of our acolytes, Amma Ajax and Querida Linton, and we have just heard that both have been awarded bursaries.



Querida is heading to the University of Ottawa to study Linguistics and Psychology.

Amma intends to study Art History at the University of Toronto.



Both young women will be living in residence and therefore not attending Christ Church on a regular basis. However, we hope to see them from time to time and especially during holidays, reading week and the like.

Congratulations to them both on their hard work and in gaining admission to the university of their choice to pursue their fields of study.

Congratulations to all our graduates
&
to all birthday and anniversary celebrants!

We pray for all who have died and at this time we especially pray for the repose of the soul of Michelle Green (Monica Diljohn's granddaughter), and pray for God's comfort and peace on her family, and all grieving families.

Michelle's funeral service will take place at the McEachnie Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday July 11th, at 11:00 a.m. Due to limit on public gathering, may we further uphold Monica and family in prayer at some point during this time.

JUST A THOUGHT...

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.christchurchscarborough.com

We cannot deny the stress being brought on by this global pandemic. Then there is the 'pandemic' of injustices being experienced by many ...neighbours, associates, friends, someone we know. The effects of all these can trigger anger, even from the gentlest soul; faintheartedness, even from the most assured; doubt and skepticism, even in the most faithful.

History teaches us about devastating situations like this one and Ecclesiastes 1:9 tells us:

What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun.

I think when history becomes reality for 3 and 4 generations at the same time, it takes a toll on all involved. This is more so especially when they are not all in the same place or because of quarantine regulations they cannot be with the ones who are close by.

Let us in the moments of whatever emotions are swirling inside be reminded of these words from Paul in Romans,

'Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?'

And again from Teresa of Avila:

1. Let nothing Disturb you, Let nothing frighten you, Though all things pass, God does not change. Patience wins all things. But he lacks nothing who possesses God; For God alone suffices.

2. Settle yourself in solitude, and you will come upon God in yourself.

And to all who are reading this let this prayer be our strength, praying it as many times as we need with as many as we want to join us in prayer.

O God, our creator and preserver, we cry out to you along with our brothers and sisters throughout the world who are struggling to overcome the coronavirus epidemic, where so many lives have been lost already and millions more are threatened. We pray for your grace and mercy that an end to this disease will come soon; and that life, labor, community and human touch will be restored. Give us courage and strength to amend our ways of living in the face of this great human tragedy, cooperating with medical authorities to preserve our own health and safeguard others. Help us overcome our fears and give us confidence to ask this in the Name of your most blessed Son, who came and gave his life so that we might live fully, Jesus our Lord and Savior. Amen.

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Thanks to all our contributors to this edition of the Parish Window

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Hyacinth