



The Parish Window

THANKSGIVING 2018

"O give thanks to the
Lord for He is good; for
His steadfast love
endures forever..."

Psalm 107:1



Quarterly Newsletter

CHRIST CHURCH SCARBOROUGH VILLAGE

PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR PAM



I Thessalonians 5:18 (NRSV) "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you".

We are told in Scripture to give thanks in all circumstances. Which begs the question: Why is giving thanks so important? Let's imagine the alternative, and consider the effects. It might give us some indication of why we are urged to give thanks. The dictionary provides these opposites (antonyms).. making fun of, being critical of, to belittle, complain about, condemn, criticize, blame, etc.. Not a positive list. This is the very point! If we are not "giving thanks", I propose, it is a slippery slope toward being negative. That slippery slope may look unintentional, just being too busy, endeavouring to get from point A to B and ASAP, rather than stopping in between to smell the roses. But the not-stopping

encourages us to forget to marvel, in wonder, at the One who made them or the gift of others with whom we are on this journey. That stopping is oh so important, because it helps lift the layers of "ick" from us. You know what I mean. The stuff of the world's busyness and fear of violence, the message that says we don't "have-enough" or are "not-enough" or the pressure of "you have to make a decision NOW". The stuff which we face daily. And the tiredness that comes from the pressure of life-lack messages and hurriedness. We stop and are thankful because it is in that act that we find peace. The peace that passes all understanding. The peace that guards our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

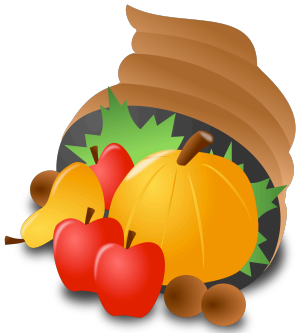
But this is not all. Giving thanks also places us in a positive attitude that makes us ready to see possibilities. Ready to see where God is at work. Giving thanks is Kingdom work. Community work. It lines us up with God and affirms that we believe God is at work in

our world. Thankfulness places us alongside the words of the Lord's prayer: Thy kingdom come, thy will be done.

With this in mind, I am looking forward to our Community Forum and Visioning Day on October 13th (9-3). We will meet with leaders in our community, for whose work we can give thanks. We can find out more about where God is at work and where there are needs. We can affirm our positive involvement in our community..for which I give thanks. This will also be an opportunity to, in openness, see if there are ways that we are called to journey together, with thanksgiving, into the future.

I Thessalonians 5:18 (the Message) "thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live".

Your Priest and Pastor
Pam



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Looking Ahead

"But this is not all. Giving thanks also places us in a positive attitude that makes us ready to see possibilities."

Why go to Church?

If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this!

If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it.

If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would

be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible & receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!

IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL

Submitted by: Swarna Thambithurai



Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish over the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth." Genesis 1:26

Take the brightest, largest, roundest Macintosh apple you can find. Clasp it in your hand as though you were holding the world in which you live.

This is the world God gave us to take care of. Remove the core with a sharp knife. At this time it is not our concern.

- Next, cut the apple in a little over half; the larger of the two pieces represents all of the *sea water* we have. We are not taking care of it very well; two examples – overfishing and billions of non-dissolvable plastics thrown into it every year.

- Cut the smaller portion that is left as follows: one third is *fresh water*, which we have been wasting with pollutants such as sewage, chemicals, acid rain, mine tailings, etc. The remaining piece is *land*.
- Cut this piece into four. One piece is mountains and forests, being reduced by clear cutting; a second piece is ice and swamps, being diminished by global warming and dammed rivers; a third represents land covered by towns, cities, factories, houses, roads, etc.
- Take the final small piece, which represents about 8% of the surface of the earth and trim the skin from it. This skin is all the land on which crops can be grown. Every year we build more houses and roads on it or overuse it and reduce its ability to grow crops.

It's a fragile earth in which we live, an island home in a massive universe. It is more than our world, it is also God's Kingdom. The ultimate ruler is God, and he has entrusted us with taking care of it. Not just our little part, but all of his creation.

Call us rulers, call us caretakers, call us managers, call us stewards - the name doesn't matter. What is important is what we do with the sacred trust God has given us.

**Submitted by:
Fr. Roy Shepherd**



PRAYER WALK



A small group of us gathered in the fellowship room, to find out what a prayer walk was and how we were going to do it. Then we went out and headed south along Markham Rd. There were 7 stops along the route in the community around the church. We walked in silence and at each stop along the way, discussed what we saw and heard during the short walk. After each discussion one person would say a short prayer and a blessing, then we would move on to next stop.

Personally I was very surprised at what I heard and saw, both the positive and the negative. I lived in this community for 26 years and didn't know everything that went on. We also discussed how we as a church could help with some of the problems in the area.

I found this a very good way to get to know a little more about the community by seeing the diversity of age and nationality. Moving forward this could prove to be a useful tool in enabling the church in becoming an integral part of the community.

Submitted by: Ann Rice

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

I am very pleased to report that we are making good progress in the completion of some of the projects on the list of the Capital Projects approved by Vestry. The following projects have been done or on their final stages of completion

1. 2 new high efficiency boilers at a cost of \$ 32,000. (includes our share of HST). These are now in operation, but it may take some time to fine tune their operation to produce optimal results.
2. The repainting of the entrance of the Church and the 3 bathrooms.
3. The Tuck Pointing of the north and east sides of the Church, and repair of the sign foundation.
4. The installation of the new Hand Railing to the Altar (Note: Although a capital expense, this was done from a donation and not the Capital Campaign fund).

As a result of serious water damage to the south wall of the Parish Hall, part of the roof of that wall had to be repaired and the floor of the Parish Hall will be refinished. \$2,500 must be paid by the Church. The balance is covered by insurance.

A meeting of the Property Committee is set for Wed. Oct. 17 at 10.15 am to review and update the status of the other Capital Projects.

We are hoping that members of the Parish will assist by supervising the remaining projects. It is very clear that projects will only be completed on a timely basis if this assistance is provided. No one will be asked to do the work. That will be done by trained persons. You will be asked to provide organizational help.

The total cost of the work to date is approximately \$41,000.00 and we still have funds on hand available for further projects of more than \$40,000.00. To date, \$82,492 has been received towards the Rejuvenate '18 campaign. Thank you everyone for your support as we undertake our renovation and upgrade program for our building and grounds.

I will be pleased to answer any questions.

Submitted by: David Baird



THE STORIES WE TELL

This Thanksgiving, I find myself being ever-so-thankful for the gift of stories, not only for the stories we read in books or watch in movies, but for the stories we each tell with our lives.

While we are the leading characters of our own stories, we have a supporting cast that brings encouragement or creates conflict along the way. We all, at one time or another, face adversity. In fact, we may encounter a villain or antagonistic force that keeps us from reaching our goals. For some, that force may be a toxic relationship, a bitter "friend", or a difficult child. For others it may be a great loss or their resurfacing insecurities. Ultimately, it is up to us to choose how we tackle these adversities or whether we accept defeat.

Through our every dialogue and action, more of our character is revealed. Are we people who stay true to our words? Are we people whose actions are full of grace and forgiveness and kindness? Or are these only virtues we preach but don't practice?

As we go about interacting with people in our lives, we give them a glimpse into our stories. They see who we really are and what has made us that way. They consider whether they want to stick around to see where our story goes.

Thus, we have the power to spread light and love through the way we live our lives, and we have the responsibility to make sure we live stories that reflect the great story of Jesus.

This brings us to the inevitable end. The Author, in this case our Father Almighty, is the only one who knows The End of our tales. How we progress and ultimately make it to the end is what makes life interesting. What lies beyond that is up to the reader's wisdom.

So my friends, I encourage you to ask yourself: What story are you telling others with your life?

Submitted by: R. Luther



THANKSGIVING QUIZ

1. On what date is Thanksgiving Day celebrated in Canada?
2. What year did Thanksgiving Day become a statutory holiday in Canada?
3. From 1921 to 1931, Thanksgiving was held together in November with which Canadian holiday?
4. Which province is the largest Canadian producer of cranberries?
5. Canadian Thanksgiving shares the date with which American holiday?
6. When and why was the first Thanksgiving Day after the Canadian Confederation held in Canada?
7. Name the 2 popular foods at a Thanksgiving dinner.

Answers:

1. 2nd May in October
2. 1879
3. Armistice Day
4. British Columbia
5. Columbus Day
6. 1872 - to celebrate the recovery of the Prince of Wales from a serious illness.
7. Mashed potatoes, Turkey



THE PARISH WINDOW



*Giving Thanks For Our Spiritual Leaders,
Members, & Ministries*



COMING UP

Visioning Day -

Oct 13, 9am – 3pm

You are invited to a Community Forum and Visioning Day @ Christ Church
Great presenters.
Lunch will be provided.

Evening of Music -

Oct 28, 4:30

Annual Christmas

Bazaar

Nov.10

Feast of Title -

Nov. 25



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Are you (or someone you know) interested in being confirmed?
Or perhaps you want to renew your commitment to God in reaffirmation?

Rev. Roy Shepherd is offering 10 classes in preparation for a confirmation service to take place on Jan. 6th.

Classes will take place after the 10:00 service and will begin on October 21st.

Please speak to Rev. Roy or call the office by October 16th (416-261-4169) to express your interest.



INVITATION

We are very blessed to have families from Bangladesh in our parish.

We are invited to join them here at Christ Church for a Eucharist service (in Bengali)
Saturday, November 10 at 5pm.

Guest presider and preacher:
The Rev. Probhudan Hira

There will be a meal following.

Please call the office at 416-261-4169 by Nov. 2 to confirm your attendance.



MILESTONES

If you or any of your loved ones have celebrated a birthday or an anniversary since the last issue of the newsletter



BAPTISM



We welcome and continue to pray for

Kristopher Keith Smith

Our newest member of CCSV baptized in August



OBITUARY



We remember with love and thanksgiving those who have died:

**Kay Persaud
Lucille Evans**

And we continue to pray for their loved ones as they grieve.



As we give thanks individually and as a church, let us remember:-

Those who are alone, and the sick and the shut-ins.



HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Fr. The desk of
Vivien van Gulick

I am taking this opportunity to let you all know what has taken place this year at Health and Wellness. Our information sessions are often co-organized with Maureen Scordamaglia of the Scarborough Senior Residence.

At the beginning of the year a workshop on planning our funeral was presented by Valerie Young of Arbor Memorial. The next presentation was about Tia Chia and we actually got to do some exercises. At the end of September Shivon Wint, a registered dietitian, came and talked about nutrition. Following this presentation Shivon prepared a binder with the information from her talk which we will have available to everyone during the coffee hours.

In the near future, a CPR course will be taking place in the parish hall and we are also working to have a speaker to come and talk to us about osteoarthritis.

A meeting of the Health and Wellness committee will take place on Sunday, November 18th following the 10 o'clock service. Please come and join us and share your thoughts and ideas.

CPR COURSE

Saturday, December 1
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in
the parish hall

Cost \$ 45.00 (book
included)

Last day for registration
and payment

Sunday, November 25

Please see Vivien van
Gulick, Lystra Walters, or
Deborah Cloakey



REJUVENATE '18 UPDATE

Fr. The desk of
Ian Campbell

In January of this year we launched our capital Campaign "Rejuvenate in '18" to fund much needed renovation and upgrade projects in the parish. We asked parishioners to make pledges of donations over a three year period from 2018 to 2020. We identified renovation and upgrade projects to be completed over a four year period at an estimated cost of \$176,000. The projects were prioritized with target projects for each of the four years.

To date, we have had pledges of **\$129,330**, and have received donations of **\$82,492**.

Thank you to everyone who has responded so generously! As a result, we have proceeded with our 1st priority project which included:

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1. **Replace furnaces Cost: \$32,000 including tax**
2. **Radiator Improvements in Church**
3. **Repointing church brickwork**
4. **Safety improvements to sidewalk and walkways,**
5. **Paint & redecorate front entrance and offices**

Installed & working! Some fine tuning to do.

To be complete next 2 weeks.

Complete

To be done: Need volunteers to help finalize project

and select contractor

Painting Complete. Office blinds being selected.

The work so far has cost about \$41,000, so we are in good shape to continue to proceed with next step projects including replacing the church floor and carpeting, and redecorating the parish hall and fellowship room.

In addition, a second year project to refinish the parish hall floor will be completed shortly, as part of insurance work to repair damage as a result of a major roof leak in the summer which was caused by one our violent storms.

Thank you for your continuing support. With your help we will be able to make our buildings, grounds and facilities a better place to worship and carry out our ministries.



Here is a picture of the inside of one of our two new furnaces. They are high efficiency (which means we should save on gas costs), modulating boilers (which means that they can adjust the heat output dynamically, resulting in more even heat delivery to the building). They do not look anything like our old boilers: there is a lot of high tech in them.



JUST A THOUGHT...

CHRIST CHURCH
SCARBOROUGH
VILLAGE

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Deacon: The Rev'd. Canon

Jacque Bouthéon

Honorary Assistant:

Fr. Roy Shepherd

Director of Music:

Dennis Thompson

Office Administrator:

Ellen Cunningham

Please call the church office to
be directed to any member of
staff or committee member.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.christchurchscarborough.com

'In all things give thanks'. 1Thess.
5:18

I know for a fact that is not my initial train of thought in the midst of trials, but with a nudge I am reminded of this prayer which gives thanks for **all** things.

'Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us.

We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.**

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things'. **ACP**

This prayer centres me, bringing peace and the awareness of God's grace; and with much gratitude giving thanks is the thing to do.

As **Henry Van Dyke** says,

'Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received. Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling. Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse'.

(This is the ultimate reminder to pray with thanksgiving for our thorns: it's all a part of God's plan)**

My God, I have never thanked Thee for my 'thorn!' I have thanked Thee a thousand times for my roses, but never once for my 'thorn;' I have been looking forward to a world where I shall get compensation for my cross as itself a present glory. Teach me the glory of my cross; teach me the value of my 'thorn.' Show me that I have climbed to Thee by the path of pain. Show me that my tears have made my rainbow'. - **George Matheson**

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

*Happy Thanksgiving
to you and family!*



Hyacinth

