

Dear Friends:

February 2019

As we write this letter, we are experiencing a deep freeze with rain in the forecast ~ such a mixed bag. It is hard to imagine that spring is just a short six weeks away. But the days are getting longer and some of the bright winter days have been breath-taking. We really do live in a part of the world that embraces the change of seasons.

With the change of seasons, comes our regular communication to the parish. We believe that, as your Wardens, communication is one of primary responsibilities. For some, it may be too much/too often and for others not enough, so we just stick to it! Over the last few years, as we have migrated to more digital forms of communication (e.g. weekly bulletins, website, Facebook and Instagram), we recognize that not everyone has migrated to these new forms so hence a letter. Interestingly enough sometimes the written form gets more attention. You simply never know.

Included in this update are a number of things that we believe would be of interest and, as is our practice, a financial summary is included. With that said, kindly take time to read what is in store for the next couple of months as we head into the Holy Season of Lent ~ albeit it late this year.

DISCIPLESIP

Children, Youth & Family Ministry

Looking backward – Many of our families took part in our Advent Family Event and Children's Christmas Pageant "Fumbly, Bumbly Angels". And who knew that glow sticks on Christmas Eve would be just the thing when singing *Silent Night*. Tina you are so very creative! We encourage you to take a peek at the photos on our website at: <https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/archived-events-2018> ~ there you will find lots of life and some pretty spectacular Christmas sweaters. Once again, we kicked off the New Year with Snow Tubing at Chicopee in Kitchener. This year the weather was more seasonal for which they were grateful especially since one of the group was experiencing a Canadian winter for the first time.

And looking forward - Our Youth Group will continue its focus on prayer & service throughout Lent. Amongst the events planned is a movie night where we will gather to watch the 2015 hit movie "War Room" ~ a compelling drama with humour and heart that explores the power of prayer. In terms of service, our Youth Group will be engaged in a number of events supporting Regeneration Outreach Community. The full January to June schedule is posted at: <http://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/youth>.



And Mark Your Calendars...while there is lots more planned, we want to draw your attention to:



Who can say no to a spring evening in Rome? **Bella Roma** will be held on Saturday, May 4th @ 6:00 pm. Think old world charm and a yummy dinner graciously served by our youth. More details to follow but we wanted to take this opportunity to let you know. This will be a ticketed event with proceeds to be directed to Children & Youth programming.

Summer Children's Church Sunday School does take a break just because the schools do! Cool Church (for ages 4 – 12) will run from June 16 to September 8 at our 10:00 am service.

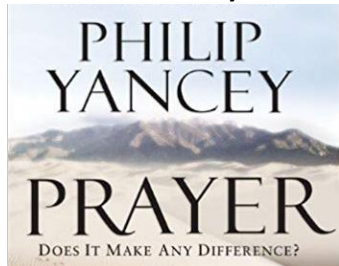


Summer Day Camp will be held Monday, August 12 to Friday, August 16 for children aged 4 - 12 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Extended care will be available. Early Bird registration for Christ Church families will be April 15 to April 30. This year's theme, *Shipwrecked*, is a departure from the ancient world. In the coming weeks, make sure to check our website or weekly bulletin for more info.



EXPLORE ~ DISCUSS ~ PRACTICE
This Lent, why not join a small group?

Adult Lenten Study



In his most powerful book since What's So Amazing About Grace? and The Jesus I Never Knew, Philip Yancey explores the intimate place where God and humans meet in Prayer.

Polls reveal that 90 percent of people pray. Yet prayer, which should be the most nourishing and uplifting time of the believer's day, can also be frustrating, confusing, and fraught with mystery. Writing as a fellow pilgrim, Yancey probes such questions as:

- Is God listening
- Why should God care about me?
- If God knows everything, what's the point of prayer?
- Why do answers to prayer seem so inconsistent?
- Why does God sometimes seem close and sometimes seem far away?

Yancey tackles the tough questions and in the process comes up with a fresh new approach to this timeless topic. "I have learned to pray as a privilege, not a duty," he says, and he invites you to join him on this all-important journey.

Join our leaders and hosts for these small groups comprising of 6 sessions as we journey through Lent together.

Group	Hosts	Location	Start Date	Time
1	Chris & Maria	5 Alexander Street	Thursday, March 7	7:00 pm
2	Martha	10 Purple Finch	Saturday, March 9	9:00 am
3	Michelle	Christ Church	Sunday, March 10	12:30 pm
4	Byron & Kim	51 Major William Sharpe	Wednesday, March 13	7:00 pm

Sign-up sheets & books for sell (\$20) are in the Parish Office

OUTREACH



"What makes you get up in the morning?"

"Well I like breathing and walking and eating...I used to work in the early mornings and so I am used to waking up at 3am. I've never been married, don't have a girlfriend and so I've never needed anyone else to complete me."

There is currently being underneath some trees outside. If only we were all able... See More



Dave is currently living underneath some trees outside. If only we were all able to be grateful for simply being alive.

Byron Gilmore is again captaining our Christ Church team for the Coldest Night of the Year Walk on February 23, 2019 in support of Regeneration Outreach Community. Please consider joining our team or sponsoring a team member. ***Last year our small but mighty team raised whopping \$7,300!***

Our relationship with Regen runs deep ~ it is one of three 3 local ministries that we partner with. The other two being Knight's Table and Ste. Louise. All three of these ministries operate in our neighbourhood. By partnering, "we do infinitely more than we can ask for or imagine."

You can simply make a direct donation by following the link below or use offering envelopes located in the Parish Office. The latter will be receipted by Christ Church but the funds will be directed to Coldest Night of the Year.



Christ Church Youth at serving breakfast before church in October.

About Direct Donation – this link below takes you to the Brampton location page. Select "Team" and scroll until you see the Christ Church Team. You may sponsor either the team or an individual member ~ it's that easy!
<https://canada.cnoy.org/location/brampton>

SCENES OF PARISH LIFE



"For it is in the giving that we receive" (Francis of Assisi) ~ Our Youth Group created Blessing Bags for Regeneration and another successful Caring & Sharing season under the leadership of Jean Jamieson.



Both our Choir and Praise Team provided special worship opportunities during Advent. Each Sunday in Advent, families were invited to light the Advent Wreath



There were Children & Youth everywhere from reading the lessons at Lessons & Carols to angels waiting in the wings.



Our Parish Fellowship Group at their Christmas luncheon



Our intrepid snow tubers in early January



Christian Voice International presented a workshop on persecuted Pakistanis.

CHRIST CHURCH BRAMPTON
PANCAKE SUPPER
TUESDAY MARCH 5, 2019
5:30 - 7:30 PM
\$5 SINGLE / \$20 FAMILY
Includes Sausages, Beverage & Dessert!!

Our Sidesmen Will Be Cookin' Up a Storm on Pancake Tuesday... JOIN US!!

There will be a Family Lenten Service @ 6:30pm in the Church

AND don't forget our Pancake Supper on Tuesday, March 5. Proceeds will be directed to Ste. Louise Outreach Centre.

LITURGY & WORSHIP

On Sunday, February 24th we will gather to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Ordination to the Priesthood of The Rev'd Vic Reigel. Please do plan to join us for this momentous occasion and stay for the reception following the 10:45 service.

The sidebar to the right highlights just some of our services that we have planned throughout Lent but there is more that we would like to draw your attention to:

- **Family Lenten Service (Tuesday, March 5 @ 6:30 pm)**
Enjoy the Pancake Supper and then join our student, Michelle Jones and Tina Clarke, Director ~ Family Ministry, in the church for a brief worship service on the eve of Ash Wednesday. They will help you and your family develop some new holy habits ~ *think prayer!*
- **Family Good Friday Service (Friday, April 19th @ 9:00 am)**
Again this year, our family service will be an interactive service that tells the story of Holy Week. Join us in the auditorium.
- **Prayer Rooms (Good Friday & Holy Saturday ~ various times)**
Throughout Good Friday & Holy Saturday you and your family will have the opportunity to explore a variety of styles of prayer (Word, Meditation, Intercession, Music & Art). In our busy lives it is not often you have the solemn beauty of the church to yourself. Do not be concerned someone will be available to provide access and guidance.



- ✠ **Sunday, April 14, 2019 – Palm Sunday**
 - 7:45 am - Said Eucharist
 - 9:00 am - Contemporary Eucharist
 - **11:00 am** – Choral Eucharist
- ✠ **Thursday, April 18, 2019 – Maundy Thursday**
 - 7:00 pm with foot washing and stripping of the altar
- ✠ **Friday, April 19, 2019 – Good Friday**
 - 9:00 am Family Service
 - 11:00 am Commemoration of Our Lord's Passion
 - 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm Prayer Rooms
 - 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
- ✠ **Saturday, April 20, 2017 – Holy Saturday**
 - 9:00 am – 6:00 pm Prayer Rooms
 - Easter Vigil @ 7:00 pm at St. James the Apostle
- ✠ **Sunday, April 21, 2015 – Easter Sunday**
 - 7:45 am - Said Eucharist
 - 9:00 am - Contemporary Eucharist
 - 11:00 am – Choral Eucharist



March 6, 2019 Services

Eucharist with
Imposition of the Ashes at:

- 10:30 am @ Peel Manor
- 12:30 pm @ Christ Church
- 7:00 pm @ Christ Church

Good Friday April 19, 2019



The Right Reverend Jenny Anderson, Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of Toronto will be worshipping with us at:

- 9:00 am Family Service
- 11:00 am
Commemoration of our Lord's Passion

Good Friday 2017



Good Friday 2018



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

F2019 FINANCIAL RESULTS – QUARTER 2 (December 31, 2018)

As at December 31, 2018, we are half way through our fiscal year. We believe that as your Wardens reporting on our financial position is important ~ there should be no surprises. It will be no secret that we keep a close eye on our financial position. It is this time of year, we start giving serious thought to next year's budget that starts in July. Below are our results for the second quarter of our fiscal year (*July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018*).

Key Points:

- Our General Offering remains steady with an increase of 5.7% (*we budgeted a 7% increase*) from the last period last year; however our Christmas offerings decreased 50% year over year resulting in an overall decline in donations.
- With our Christmas attendance up by 25%, we have puzzled over this decrease. One plausible explanation is that some members on PAR simply take their annual commitment and divide it by 12 and do not "top-up". A couple of folks have actually indicated this to us.
- The flip side of this, is that PAR donations are up 10% in the first 6 months which is exactly what we expected based on the 2018 Stewardship commitment. Thanks be to God.
- The circled number below is our area of concern. Slippage in the level of donations has a habit of creeping up over time and our only real wiggle room to correct this either to see an increase offering (*at a minimum to what was budgeted*) or find reductions in other areas. With our expenses running tight and without touching programming, this is no easy task.
- The variance in Salaries & Benefits is a result of a retroactive increase of 3% processed in this quarter (*there were no increases in the previous year*). The variance in Repairs & Maintenance is a result of an unexpected replacement of a roof top HVAC unit. We expect to see both of these variances to level out by the year-end.

Christ Church (Brampton)			Actual			Budget 2019 Qtr 1 & 2		
Statement of Operations			General Fund	Future Ministries	Total	General Fund	Future Ministries	Total
For the period ended Dec 31, 2018			31-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec
Revenue								
Donations	\$	175,620			\$ 175,620	\$ 179,193		\$ 179,193
Rental income		13,200			13,200	13,200		\$ 13,200
Other income		5,156			5,156	7,500		\$ 7,500
Investment income		3,312			3,312	3,750		\$ 3,750
Memorial income					-			
HST rebates		5,950			5,950	5,379		\$ 5,379
Program Offset		2,126			2,126	2,000		\$ 2,000
Grant income				5,000	\$ 5,000		5,000	\$ 5,000
Total revenue	\$	205,364	\$	5,000	\$ 210,364	\$ 211,022	\$ 5,000	\$ 216,022
Expenditures								
Salaries and benefits	\$	109,104	\$	12,224	\$ 121,328	\$ 106,047	\$ 11,913	\$ 117,960
Diocesan allotment		34,200			34,200	34,773		\$ 34,773
Repairs and maintenance		26,993			26,993	23,825		\$ 23,825
Utilities		9,548			9,548	10,439		\$ 10,439
Insurance		8,603			8,603	7,990		\$ 7,990
Harmonized sales tax expense		7,680			7,680	7,684		\$ 7,684
Special Projects					-			\$ -
Program education		4,718			4,718	4,272		\$ 4,272
Music		489			489	990		\$ 990
Outreach expenses		300			300	3,412		\$ 3,412
Professional fees		3,000			3,000	3,090		\$ 3,090
Admin expenses		12,642			12,642	12,352		\$ 12,352
Bank charges and interest		517			517	708		\$ 708
Total expenditures	\$	217,794	\$	12,224	\$ 230,018	\$ 215,583	\$ 11,913	\$ 227,496
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before other items								
	\$	(12,430)	\$	(7,224)	\$ (19,654)	\$ (4,561)	\$ (6,913)	\$ (11,474)

Property

A huge shout-out to our wonderful Property Committee under the leadership of Steve Hughes. We are so very thankful for their diligence, attention and effort. In January alone:

- ✓ A day was spent with an auditor from Ecclesiastical Insurance reviewing our operations and physical building. As a matter of practice, audits are done on a periodic basis and we do not expect anything of significance ~ good news when you are audited!
- ✓ All our lights were replaced with energy-efficient, long-lasting LED bulbs. In December, Steve brought forward for Corporation's approval the Alectra Small Business Lighting Program. The annual savings of \$4,142 greatly outweighed the initial cost of \$3,069. We look forward for years to come of this investment.

Corporation Planning Day – Remember that first Polar Vortex Saturday in January? That is when the Corporation met early in the morning for their planning day. We have found over the years, particularly when new Wardens are appointed or elected, that bringing the group together it is time well spent. Brampton is a dynamic city of close to 600,000 ~ the 9th largest city in Canada. And we are young! 27% of us are aged 19 years or younger. The big nut to crack is to discern on how to best partner with God in our own time and place. Equal parts exciting and daunting!



Welcome Michelle Jones As a Postulant with the Diocese of Toronto, Michelle joined in January for her last student placement prior to Ordination to the Diaconate in May. As a way of introduction, Michelle, writes:

Hello peoples of Christ Church Brampton! My name is Michelle Jones and I graduated from the M. Div. programme at Trinity College last May. I am extremely happy to be completing my final placement at your church in preparation for ordination in May to the diaconate with the Toronto Diocese. My husband Brad, 13 year-old daughter Lily and our very large poodle live twenty minutes up McLaughlin Road in Inglewood.



This will be my fourth placement in two years: St. Peter's, Erindale, St. Francis of Assisi, Meadowvale, Christ Church Bolton, and now CCB. Engaging fully in the lives of each community; falling in love with each; and having to say good-bye has left me a little dizzy! However, I have learned to make short periods of time as meaningful as possible. While I'm certainly getting better at learning names quickly, I was so happy to see all those name tags! Byron will have me involved in a variety of ministries so I am sure our paths will cross soon

Stewardship – As you review your enclosed 2018 Tax Receipt, prayerfully consider your offerings to Christ Church. Does it reflect your Christian faith? Are you doing your part for your beloved community of Christ Church? For those parishioners who have made a Stewardship Pledge for Fiscal 2019, please note pledge tracking is included. Ideally, as we are half way through the fiscal year, your commitment should be at 50%. Please accept our profound thanks for those who are keeping their pledge commitments current. Contact our Envelope Secretary, Carolynne Atkinson at 905-453-8323 or email at: carolynneat@yahoo.ca should you require more information or wish to move to monthly Pre-Authorized Remittance.

Our Ask - This Lent, consider inviting someone to church ~ let the task of invitation become your new holy habit. It is the personal invitation that people respond to.

OUR THANKS

In closing, we offer our deepest thanks to all those who join us in partnering with God and His mission in Brampton and beyond. We looking forward to seeing over the season of Lent and into Easter.

Jonathan Tyner
Rector's Warden

Sonia Sobers
People's Warden

Shumaila Desrochers
Deputy Rector's Warden

Stephen Nilam
Deputy People's Warden