

Dear Friends:

February 2018

In our most recent mailings (November & December 2017), we outlined our current financial situation. With a decline in decline offerings of \$32,000 in the 2-year period between 2015 and 2017 there is pressure on our 2017/2018 budget. We committed to review our fiscal results as at December 31, report our findings and outline any remedial actions that may be required (*including but not limited to staff and ministry reductions*). More details to follow but in short, we are delighted and grateful to report that Corporation made a decision in mid-January to maintain the current staffing levels and ministry plans. This is a direct result of the generosity of you, *the parishioners of Christ Church (Brampton)*, in the first half of our fiscal year. We truly are most thankful. With that said, please take time to read what is in the works for the next couple of months as we head into the Holy Season of Lent.

DISCIPLESHP

Children, Youth & Family Ministry

Looking backward – what a busy few months this has been. Under the leadership of Tina Clarke, Advent and Christmas were a resounding & joyous success. Many of our families took part in our Advent Family Event and Children's Christmas Pageant "The Not-So-Silent Night". If you haven't already, we encourage you to take a peek at the photos on our website at: <https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/copy-of-recent-events> ~ there you will find lots of life! Once again, we kicked off the New Year with Snow Tubing at Chicopee in Kitchener. Thirty intrepid folks braved the low temperature and wind-chill! And just before the return to school, we were able to sneak in a gathering of our College & Careers gang for an evening of fellowship.

And looking forward - Our Junior (Grades 6 – 8) and Senior Youth (Grades 9 – 12) groups focus throughout Lent will be on *Truth & Reconciliation*. One of our planned events on March 3rd is the Kairos Blanket Exercise. This is an interactive teaching tool that covers 500 years of Indigenous history in Canada. We are also planning a field trip to further explore our relationship with our native brothers and sisters. . The full January to June schedule is posted at: <http://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/youth>.



Confirmation

Our 2017/2018 Confirmation Program is drawing to an end with Confirmation and Reception being planned for the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday, March 31st at 7:00 pm. The Rev'd. Jeff Nowers has been preparing our candidates since last September with variety of field trips and in-class teaching. On Ash Wednesday, they will be attending Cathedral Discovery Day where they will be exploring the themes of reconciliation through engaging educational activities and getting to know their Cathedral at little better! Please plan to attend the Easter Vigil and keep our candidates in your prayers.

We remain grateful for all those that minister in this area and to those parents, grandparents and guardians that make youth faith development a priority in this world of many conflicting priorities.

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

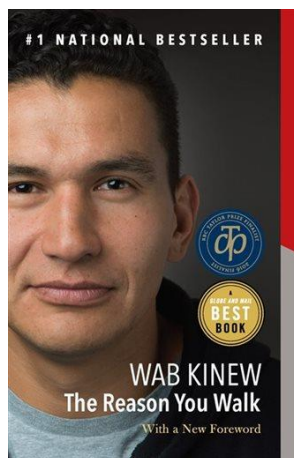
Senior Youth Retreat is once again being planned for Saturday, May 19 to Monday, May 21. This weekend away provides an opportunity to encounter scripture, explore worship and celebrate our life together as children of God.

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 17 to September 9 at our 10:00 am service.

Summer Day Camp will be held Monday, August 13 to Friday, August 17 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 is *Babylon ~ Daniel's Courage in Captivity*. In the coming weeks, make sure to check our website or weekly bulletin for more info.



Adult Lenten Study



The Reason You Walk

by Wab Kinew

Invoking hope, healing and forgiveness, *The Reason You Walk* is a poignant story of a towering but damaged father, Tobasonakwut (a beloved traditional chief and residential school survivor) and his son (the author) as they embark on a journey to repair their family bond. By turns lighthearted and solemn, Kinew gives us an inspiring vision for family and cross-cultural reconciliation, and a wider conversation about the future of aboriginal peoples.

Join our leaders and hosts for this small group 4-session study as we journey together through Lent. Books are available for \$20 and we have various time & locations ~ all available for sign-up in the Parish Office!

OUTREACH



Byron Gilmore is again captaining our Christ Church team for the Coldest Night of the Year Walk on February 24, 2017 in support of Regeneration Outreach Community. Please consider joining our team or sponsoring a team member. 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.

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>

PARISH LIFE



Everything we have read tells us the most effective way to have folks feel comfortable in coming to church is with a personal ask ~ you might just be surprised at how many are waiting for the invitation. *If you can invite someone to a Pancake Supper...why not try an invitation to Sunday morning.*



Celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on January 21, 2018. Byron preached at Grace United while we welcomed Rev'd. Lawrence Nyarko from Grace United.



Byron's Installation as an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of St. James on January 21, 2018.

Photo credit: Michael Hudson

LITURGY & WORSHIP

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, February 13th @ 6:30 pm)**
Enjoy the Pancake Supper and then join Jeff and Tina 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!*
- **Ash Wednesday Services (Wednesday, February 14th)**
See sidebar
- **Family Good Friday Service (Friday, April 14th @ 9:00 am)**
Our Family Service tells the story of Good Friday in a creative adaption of the Stations of the Cross.

HOLY WEEK

- ✠ **Sunday, March 25, 2018 – Palm Sunday**
 - 7:45 am - Said Eucharist
 - 9:00 am - Contemporary Eucharist
 - **11:00 am** – Choral Eucharist
- ✠ **Thursday, March 29, 2018 – Maundy Thursday**
 - 7:00 pm with foot washing and stripping of the altar
- ✠ **Friday, March 30, 2018 – Good Friday**
 - 9:00 am Family Service (*see above*)
 - **11:00 am** Commemoration of Our Lord's Passion (*see right*)
 - 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
- ✠ **Saturday, March 31, 2018 – Holy Saturday**
 - Easter Vigil @ 7:00 pm with Confirmation & Reception
 - Resurrection Party to follow
- ✠ **Sunday, April 1, 2018 – Easter Sunday**
 - 7:45 am - Said Eucharist
 - 9:00 am - Contemporary Eucharist
 - **11:00 am** – Choral Eucharist

As in years past, please note that services move to 11:00 am in Holy Week

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Brampton Town Hall

Bishop Jenny invites clergy and laypeople of the 5 Brampton/Bramalea parishes to participate in a discussion of the strengths and direction of ministry in the greater Brampton area. This town hall meeting will be held on February 20, 7-9 pm at St. James the Apostle, Brampton.

This is a casual gathering to explore the challenges and blessings you are experiencing as the Anglican Church in this growing area of the Diocese. Registration is required and can be done from our website.

Sunday, February 11th

The Rev'd Chris Harper will be our guest preacher at our morning services.



Chris, as both a Plains Cree and an Anglican priest, he walks in two worlds. In September 2016, he was appointed as Indigenous Native Priest of the Diocese of Toronto.



February 14th Services

Eucharist with
Imposition of the Ashes at:

- 10:30 am @ Woodhall
- 12:30 pm @ Christ Church
- 3:00 pm @ Peel Manor
- 7:00 pm @ Christ Church

The Great Vigil of Easter Saturday, March 31 @ 7:00 pm



The Right Reverend Jenny Andison, Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of Toronto will be presiding. We will be celebrating Confirmation and Reception of our 2017/2018 confirmation candidates.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

What Is Our Financial Position? Below is a snapshot of our financial position at the end of our 2nd fiscal quarter (December 31, 2017). As always, we welcome any questions that you might have ~ please just ask.

Christ Church (Brampton)	General Fund	Future Ministries	Total	Notes: 1. Our General Offerings (Donations) to Parish Operations are up 10% as compared to the same time period last year. 2. And our Christmas Offerings were up 40%. 3. This is all good news and we are cautiously optimistic that we are, collectively as a parish, recovering our decline in offerings. 4. Ideally, we would like to see our donations to Parish Operations back at the same level as they were in F2015. 5. Even with this positive turnaround, we simply cannot afford to stop the momentum. We all have a part to play in supporting our parish. So with that, we thank you for your generosity and ask that you continue to provide for the ministry at Christ Church as faithful financial stewards.
Statement of Operations	31-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec	
For the period ended December 31, 2017				
Revenue				
Donations	171,712	7,170	178,882	
Rental income	13,200		13,200	
Other income	5,328		5,328	
Investment income	2,942		2,942	
Memorial income	1,437		1,437	
HST rebates	5,429		5,429	
Program Offset	1,314		1,314	
Realized gains on sale of investments			-	
Grant income		13,750	13,750	
Total revenue	\$ 201,362	\$ 20,920	\$222,282	
Expenditures				
Salaries and benefits	99,588	38,725	138,313	
Diocesan allotment	33,181		33,181	
Repairs and maintenance	22,708		22,708	
Equipment purchases			-	
Utilities	9,417		9,417	
Harmonized sales tax expense	7,416		7,416	
Special Projects	1,937			
Insurance	5,494		5,494	
Program education	3,842		3,842	
Professional fees	3,285		3,285	
Admin expenses	11,859		11,859	
Supplies			-	
Bank charges and interest	645		645	
Total expenditures	\$ 199,372	\$ 38,725	\$236,160	
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before other items	\$ 1,990	\$ (17,805)	\$ (15,815)	
Budget July 1 to June 31, 2018	\$ (21,902)	\$ (45,416)	\$ (67,318)	

Stewardship – As you review your enclosed 2017 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? 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.

Sabbath Sabbatical – After 24 years of continuous parish ministry, we are delighted to be able to provide Byron with a Sabbath Leave. Byron will be on a 3-month Sabbath Sabbatical effective April 2, 2018. His plan is to use this time for a period of rest, spiritual renewal and education. Jeff, Martha, Ron, Sally and Tina are fully onboard with Byron's sabbatical and we are confident their abilities to "mind the shop". Please keep Byron in your prayers.

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.

Peter Harvey
Rector's Warden

Sonia Sobers
People's Warden

Shumaila Desrochers
Deputy Rector's Warden

Stephen Nilam
Deputy People's Warden