



The Church of St. John the Evangelist, Kitchener

ON EAGLE'S WINGS

September 26, 2021

Available online at StJohn316.com/OEW

From the Prayer Shawl Ministry

Syd Reginato

The Prayer Shawl Ministry was delighted to send our Tristen Jessop off to begin her studies at Queens University wrapped in prayer and very best wishes from all of us at St. John's. Tristen (Jennifer Uttley's granddaughter) has been a loved member of St. John's since she was 3. Most recently she served as both a Reader and Sunday School Teacher.



A Note from Tristen:

I've been studying at Queens University for about two weeks now in the Concurrent Education program with a Bachelor of Arts. Before I left I had a visit from Syd who had a beautiful shawl and prayer to take with me on my journey. So far it has been exciting, new, terrifying, busy, but I am so very grateful that I got to take a piece of the wonderful parish I have supporting me. Thank you to everyone who was involved, it has been a true blessing to have a part of you all with me. I love you all and can't wait to tell you all about my journey sometime soon. Many thanks and love, Tristen.

The next issue of On Eagle's
Wings will be available on
October 31, 2021.

Faith Climate Justice

Kathleen Kett



“What can I do” is often the stumbling block to action. There are a number of opportunities where each of us can make a difference.

1. If you participated in the ZOOM September 10, Dr Katherine Hayhoe reviewed what we can do at a local and global level.
2. You can participate in an online event sponsored by Montreal Diocesan College, 4 evenings starting September 21. “Reading the Bible in the Season of Creation: Christian Discipleship in a time of Climate Crisis.”

Please note that The Church of St John the Evangelist is registering as a group so that anyone can participate. This is a live webinar but is also available to be seen later for a limited time. You can still take part in this event, even after the course has started.

3. Indicate your willingness to be part of a group representing The Church of St John the Evangelist with Faith Climate Justice Waterloo. Joining our vision with local faith groups can make a larger impact locally.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to speak further with me about this critical issue.

Kathleen Kett (kluscott@gmail.com, 519-500-8742)

Altar Flowers

Enid Emery, Altar Guild Flower convener

We have several Sundays available this Fall for anyone who would like to put Memorial flowers on the Altar in memory of a loved one, or as a Thank-Offering for a special event. The dates are as follows:- October 3rd & 17th, November 7th, 14th, & 21st and December 12th.

There will also be an opportunity to donate to the Christmas flowers and decorations in December.

If anyone is interested in making a contribution to our Sunday Worship in this way, please contact me at 519-896-0637 or by e-mail at "davidemery@rogers.com"

Service Broadcast "Splash" Pictures

Jonathan Malton

On Monday or Tuesday of each week, I schedule the upcoming YouTube service broadcasts. A "splash" photograph is used as a placeholder and teaser on YouTube, to be replaced by the live service broadcast on the upcoming Sunday. The pictures I have been using have generally been taken from my or Simon's collections, or submissions from parishioners, edited for size, and to which an appropriate phrase from the collect or one of the lectionary readings for the particular Sunday is added.

Some people have commented on the pictures, and expressed a wish to see them collected. A quick and unsophisticated slide show of the pictures as they appeared may be seen at <https://youtu.be/Uq7-culU7vk>

Note: please see the "description" section at this YouTube page, to get to the latest version of the slide show.

If anyone has photographs of their own which they believe might be appropriate for such a purpose, please feel free to forward them to me at jmalton@gto.net. I won't guarantee that I'll use them, but I'm running out of appropriate pictures of my own. You can see from the slideshow that I've mostly used pictures of our church, and pictures of nature or landscapes. I ask that they follow these guidelines:

- landscape orientation
- any format (bmp, png, xcf, jpeg or jpg, tiff, pdf)
- at least 1400x788 pixels
- does not include people
- please include written permission to use, the date the photograph was taken, and the name of the photographer in the body of the email
- the photograph should not appear in any commercial or other public publication

Offerings

Following are various ways that you can contribute your offerings to the Church.

1. Send weekly envelopes in the mail. You can send post-dated cheques to the office at 23 Water St. North Kitchener ON N2H 5A4
2. Drop off cash donations to the office through the mail slot in the office door. Write your name on the envelope!
3. Have an Errand Buddy pick up your donation.
4. Sign up for, or make changes to your DEFT by contacting the office (519-743-0228 or church@stjohn316.com).
5. Donate Online through Canada Helps by credit card. You can set up recurring, or one time donations. Canada Helps takes 3.75% but also provides the tax receipt directly to you and provides a donation report to us! [Here's the link: https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/48510](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/48510)

If you would like someone to pick up your offering envelope please call the church office, 519-743-0228. An errand buddy would be happy to do that.

On Celebration

Doug Woodley, member of the Stewardship Committee Working Group

For the first time in over a year, I came to the Sunday service at St. John's last week. It was a lovely late summer morning as I arrived. I was a little worried that I'd be late, but there were Charles and Jennifer at the door to welcome me and there was John, who like me, was just a few seconds late. We donned our face masks, went up the stairs to be greeted by Preston and others who were waiting for the prelude to conclude. I slipped in ahead of them and found an appropriately distanced seat.

The nave was full of the light from the stained glass windows. There were perhaps 30 people there, many of whom I knew, some as friends, others as people I only ever see in church, and several I didn't know at all. And immediately that odd, but familiar sense of both being relaxed and yet gently exalted began to happen to me. Together with everyone, I celebrated with prayers, with music, with sacred readings, a homily from Preston - a communion service. The old words, as they so often do, struck me with fresh meanings while, at the same time, reassuring me of a comforting timelessness. Through our acknowledgement and celebration of Divine Presence and Love I was connected, not only to the others there with me, but to everyone and everything.

This has been a difficult year for everyone: the pandemic, the ever-growing catastrophe of climate change, racism, opioids, and on and on. Sometimes it's been difficult to fend off despair when even attempting to do so almost seems like some kind of denial. Those are the times I need to be with those who love me, but not to gripe or complain. That just spreads the misery around. Rather, I want to defy it. And then I want to go so far beyond all that that I am overcome with the wonder of the infinite miracle of consciousness, of being a particular part of not just humanity, nor even the Earth, but of everything that is, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.

Well! It's probably extravagant of me to put it like that, especially as I sit here alone at my desk writing this. Not that extravagance is all that unwanted. In fact, sometimes it's perfectly in order. Isn't that what celebrations are?

After being raised in a typical Southern Ontario Anglican home and community, I lived with the Cree in the isolated north for several years, and one of the best things about that was learning about celebrating. In the remote community where I lived, celebrating was a fairly rare, but even so, an ordinary thing. It involved as many people as wanted to be there, and most everybody did. It involved lots to eat and drink (almost always tea), but also music (played by a few guys who had fiddles or guitars) and dancing, and some of the dancers dressed up a little, and of course there were stories and laughter and at least one (or sometimes several) elders would make a speech, and the children would run around and everyone was needed and everyone was a participant, even me. Nobody was a spectator. But it wasn't just fun. It was important. It always had an element of thanksgiving and of reaffirmations. There was a definite form to it all (although a dull observer might not see that) and then it was over and everybody went back to normal albeit somehow better off than they'd been just before.

And of course my point is this: attending last Sunday's service was for me another celebration, but a celebration transcended with the Holy Spirit in a most lovely way.

Sure, we're all in deep trouble these days but we do know how to deal with times like these and I'm certain that must always involve being aware of, being thankful for, and celebrating the love that is the essence of our Faith.