St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church 1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6



Weekly Newsletter

Dear friends,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We are continuing the weekly newsletter for the foreseeable future. Please send any

news items or announcements for the newsletter to <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u> with the word newsletter in the subject line.

Shout Outs

If you would like some special occasion like an anniversary or birthday acknowledged in the Sunday service, Fr Julian will be more than happy to announce it. However, it must be into either Father Julian or the office by Wednesday Evening for it to be included in the service for the following Sunday.

Live Streaming

The service will be streamed at 10 am on Sunday. Here are the links for the <u>service</u> and the <u>bulletin</u>. The link is also available on the home page of our website.

Directories Available

At long last, the directories are ready for distribution. There are a number of directories already printed and there will be a sign-up sheet if these run out. Please see Cynthia Greer to collect your directory. (She will be easy to find as she is on coffee this weekend.) If you wish an electronic version, please contact the office.

Welcome Elaine!

Elaine Graham is our new music director. Born in Toronto, her dad was posted to Ottawa with the federal government in 1963 when Elaine was a year old. Her parents rented a house off Meadowlands and attended St. Mark's while they were waiting for their new house to be built. The Graham family were long time members of St. Richard's Anglican (now Julian of Norwich), where Elaine sang in the choir and learned to play

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the organ under the tutelage of Godfrey Hewitt.

Elaine studied at Western, Laval and the University of Ottawa, earning degrees in music, French and education.

For 29 years, she was a teacher at Carson Grove Elementary School, which has a high population of immigrant and refugee children. She loved the multicultural nature of the school, and amongst other things, facilitated school assemblies celebrating important cultural and religious days such as Eid, Chinese New Year, Diwali and Christmas.

On the music side, her first organist/choir director position was at McLeod-Stewarton United Church (now Centretown United) from 1989-2009. From 2010-2019, she was associate music director at St. Peter's Lutheran where she lea a children's choir. Since then, Elaine has substituted and held interim positions at several United and Anglican churches in the Ottawa area.

Elaine is happy to be at St. Marks, to help lead the choir and congregation in their worship. Aside from music, Elaine enjoys playing hockey and softball.

Tulipathon Walk for the Multifaith Housing Initiative



The annual Tulipathon Walk organized by The Multifaith Housing Initiative, is being held on Sunday, May 26. Registration will begin at 2:00

pm, followed by opening ceremonies at 2:45 and the start of the walk at 3 pm. It starts and finishes at Commissioners Park across from Dows Lake. People from many faith groups will be walking in support of the important mission to provide safe and affordable housing for low-income families, veterans, and others in need of a home in a supportive community. MHI has more than 70 faith groups who are invited to walk among the tulips and raise money for tenants who live at MHI communities. This year, we have an extra incentive to donate to the Tulipathon here at St. Mark's. An anonymous parishioner will be matching donations up to \$1,000! This means that your \$10 donation becomes \$20, your \$20 donation becomes \$40, your \$40 donation becomes \$80, and your \$50 donation becomes \$100 etc.

Please consider walking with the St. Mark's team along the Canal and making our presence known. You can complete the walk in 20 to 30 minutes. If you are unable to walk, then a donation towards our church's contribution would be very welcome.

See either Brian Harrison or Laurie Slaughter for further information on donating and walking. We need you!

Coffee, Company & Conversation

Thursday, May 9, was a morning of Bridge and Games at CCC, as usual with tasty snacks.

Next week Meg Stikl from A.I.M. Fitness and Rogers TV: will be giving a presentation and demonstration on Fitness and Healthy Aging for older adults.

Hopefully in May, CCC will not have to cancelled due to inclement weather conditions!

St Mark's @ 75



Rev Jessica Worden and Sheila Pitt ministering to residents of the Perley-Rideau.

Branches of Hope

A project of the Diocesan Working Group of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) in the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa in 2024 What are the goals of this project?

Inspired by the Communion Forest (throughout the worldwide Anglican Communion) there are 2 goals:

To help "green" the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa region through the distribution of tree seedlings; and

Support tree growing by our PWRDF partner in Uganda.

How will you reach these goals?

Through support from Christ Church Cathedral, red maple and black spruce seedlings are available

Donations of \$10 per seedling will support our partner in Uganda (St. Jude Family Projects) to conserve soil through tree planting. This partner also provides educational programs to local and international students.

Donations of \$10 per tree (or more) are suggested but not required. You may donate here: <u>pwrdf.org/branchesofhope</u>.

WE HAVE TREES WHICH HAVE TO GO THIS WEEK. (They were distributed at the clergy meeting) Let the office know if you want one.

Quilts

Debra Dynes has just completed an online fundraising auction to raise money to fund a summer program for the children.

There were some quilts in the auction but not all of them sold and as I helped to measure and evaluate them, I volunteered to bring them to the church and CCC to offer them to you.

All the quilts are machine quilted. There are 4 lap/sofa size, good for an afternoon nap, minimum bid \$100 and two small, one could work as a knee cover for someone in a wheelchair or for a child, the other is definitely a child's quilt made in fabric with minions on it, these two had a minimum bid of \$40. (pictures on the next page.

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Two Smaller Ones



Spring Outreach

St Mark's Outreach Spring Campaign is focused on the nutritional health of the children living in the Debra Dynes community. The Family House is currently making lunches for 50+ children a day and giving out supper to 25 children. Some nourishing suggestions that I received from Barbara are :

- Apple sauce and puddings in individual sizes Granola bars, prepackaged cookies e.g. bear paws
- No Name cheese packets with crackers, pretzels or breadsticks
- Loblaws and Costco gift cards used to buy fresh fruit and vegetables, buns, bagels, cream cheese and cold cuts.
- Brown lunch bags and plastic sandwich bags (not fold-over.)

"Lack of food and money to purchase food has left our families in a very bad place. What we are seeing is quite awful as they struggle with high food prices and rents." - Barbara Carroll, Executive Director of Debra Dynes Family House

Let us do what we can to help the children in the Debra Dynes community.

Joan, Outreach.

Office Hours

The office will be open Monday and Friday mornings from 9:30 am to noon and Wednesday morning from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Please call ahead to make sure someone is there.

E-Transfers to the Church

We can accept e-transfers to the main church account. We cannot do autodeposit because of the type of account but you may e-transfer money to <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>. You will be required to give a question. Please either make the answer obvious or email the office and let them know the answer to the question. This option has no cost to the church.

Donations to the Church

We are extremely fortunate at St Mark's that there are a number of people who use Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). If you are not on PAR, we would encourage you to continue your donations. Of course, putting a cheque in the mail is always a great option for getting your donation to us. If you wish to make a donation by credit card, you may do so at CanadaHelps.

https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/47820.

Contacting the Church

You may contact the office at 613-224-7431 or <u>stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca</u>. Messages are being monitored. Email is faster.

Comments and Suggestions

If you have anything you would like to see in next week's newsletter, please email the church at stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca