



St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 5:17

July 12, 2024

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 stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca with the word newsletter in the subject line.

Summer Newsletter

Please send any news items or announcements for the newsletter to joangrayer@yahoo.ca and also to stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca

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.

- Karen Barber will celebrate her birthday on Thursday, July 18

Live Streaming

The service will be streamed at 9 am on Sunday. Here are the links for the [service](#) and the [bulletin](#). The link is also available on the home page of our website.

Summer Sign-up Rosters

The summer sign-up rosters are posted in the link. **Please make sure to sign up.** This is a great time to try out different jobs. If you are interested in trying a job that you have not done before, please speak to Joy as some jobs require training. Every Sunday during the summer we need people to open, act as sidespeople, read, offer intercession, assist

Summer Schedule

Sunday, June 30 – Sunday, September 1.

Sunday service at 9 am.

Summer office hours

9:30 am – 12 noon, Tuesday and Friday

with communion, serve, make lemonade, count, and close.

Summer Camps

Again this year, we will have two summer camps operating in the church. Both camps will be in full swing this week.

Celebrating Bahamian Independence on July 14



This coming Sunday, we welcome the Bahamas High Commission and the Bahamian diaspora as they join us to celebrate the 51st anniversary of Bahamian Independence.

The service itself will feature a couple of hymns from the West Indies, including All Things Bright and Beautiful which includes mangoes, sea grapes, grouper, crab and lobster.

Following the service there will be an enhanced time of fellowship with many tasty treats and cold drinks.

Hope to see you there!

History Of Bahamas Independence Day

The history of the Bahamas Islands starts with the Lucayans inhabiting the islands between 500 A.D. and 800 A.D. The Lucayans were a branch of the Tainos from the Caribbean islands at the time. For many centuries, they lived on their own without foreign interference until 1492. Christopher Columbus saw the islands, and Spanish ships followed him. They enslaved the native population, resulting in the island becoming deserted in 1513. English colonists started settling on the island in 1648.

The shallow water of the island made it difficult for the large ships to reach it. But it also provided easy passage to smaller ships. Pirates took advantage of this geography, and as a result, the place became a haven for pirates. Nassau on New Providence Island in the Bahamas was the stronghold of a loose confederacy of pirates between 1706 and 1718. The British took harsh measures, and the Bahamas became a colony in 1718. Further migrations happened after the American Revolutionary War. Thousands of American loyalists received land grants in the Bahamas and settled there. They also brought with them forced laborers and established plantations. Soon, the Bahamas was populated by enslaved African people. The Bahamas became a haven for the freed slaves when it abolished slavery. Today, 90% of the population are Afro-Bahamians.

The Bahamas then gained independence in 1973, led by Sir Lynden O. Pindling. Pindling's actions earned him the name "Father of the Nation" of the Bahamas. He was pivotal in the independence of the nation. Queen Elizabeth II became the "Queen of the Nation." Most of the country's economy is driven by tourism and offshore finance.

Debra Dynes Family House

It is time to start gathering supplies for the upcoming school year. Debra Dynes Family House has provided this list of supplies that are needed.

See end of newsletter for more information about supplies needed.

Please help as much as you can ...

Cash and cheques can be given directly to me.

Thanks in advance for your anticipated generosity.

Joan H
Outreach



Stewardship Moment

As we embark upon our annual summer activities, I thought I would share what I like to think of as a modern parable.

There was a farmer who grew excellent quality corn. Every year he won the award for the best grown corn. One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbours. "How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbours when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?" the reporter asked.

"Why sir," said the farmer, "Didn't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbours grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbours grow good corn."

So is with our lives... Those who want to live meaningfully and well must help enrich the lives of others, for the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches.

And those who choose to be happy must help

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others find happiness, for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all....

I see our community of St. Mark's as that cornfield. The congregation is nurtured with the word of God and the challenge of creating the dream of heaven here on earth has been given to us. We are asked to be the hands and feet of God in our communities and in our lives. We share these gifts with others to ensure that our environment is rich and productive and in return we are enriched and prosper.

It's easy to pray and be thankful for our blessings. We soak in the love of God like our skin soaks in the warmth of the sun and then our little prayers and sacrifices seem to be as fragrant and as full of purpose as a field of summer wildflowers.

Over the summer, please remember the needs of St. Mark's, in your prayers and with your donations.

Michael Perkin, Stewardship

Report from the Treasurer:

Up until the end of March, we were in pretty good shape financially. Unfortunately, April was a bit of a disastrous month. Not only did we have larger than expected expenses due to the blockage by roots of the sewer line from the hall, collections fell off sharply and were ~\$4,500 less than expected for the month. We recovered a little bit in May, with expenses down and collections closer to expected. However, at the end of May our expenses exceeded our income by ~\$14,600. This amount is ~\$1,500 than budgeted and exceeds the amount of accumulated funds. Having our income exceed our expenses at this time of year is expected. In our typical cash flow situation, our year-to-date expenses and income will not be balanced until December 31 (in a good year). It is, however, a little worrying to be almost \$7,000 behind in our collections income heading in to the summer.

Is it time to update your COVID vaccine?

Ottawa Public Health is holding a spring vaccination campaign. It includes the recommendation that people over 65 who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine in the past 6 months should do so now. A typical early-summer spike in cases is expected and research has shown that COVID-19 can still cause serious illness among older adults – even more severe than seasonal influenza. If you are eligible for a COVID shot, vaccines are available at pharmacies and at some neighbourhood health and wellness hubs. More information is available at ottawapublichealth.ca

Georgia Roberts & Michael Perkin
St Mark's pandemic team

Office Hours

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

Emails Addresses for Key People

The wardens, as well as the paid staff (Fr Julian, Joy and Elaine) all have email addresses in the StMarksOttawa domain. They are:

Fr Julian: Frjulian@stmarksottawa.ca

Joy: stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca

Elaine: Elaine@stmarksottawa.ca

Suzanne Bisson: Suzanne@stmarksottawa.ca

Janis Perkin : Janis@stmarksottawa.ca

Joseph Amuah : Joseph@stmarksottawa.ca

John Hancock : John@stmarksottawa.ca

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 stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca. 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 stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca. 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

DEBRA DYNES FAMILY HOUSE

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Each year, we distribute school supplies to elementary, high school, and post secondary students. There is always a gap that needs to be filled- especially for those going to high school and post secondary! Your help goes a long way and ensures back-to-school costs are not a barrier to learning.

SUPPLIES NEEDED	HOW YOU CAN HELP
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-backpacks-binders-duotangs-notebooks-math sets-scientific calculators-lined and graph paper-glue sticks-highlighters-pens-erasers-pencil sharpeners-rulers-pencil cases-crayons, pencil crayons, and markers	<p style="text-align: center;">Personal Cheque or Cash</p> <p>Personal cheques can be made out to Debra Dynes Family House. We are happy to make arrangements to receive cheques/cash without contact. You can also mail a cheque to the following address:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Debra Dynes Family House 955 Debra Avenue, Unit 85 Ottawa, ON K2C 0J5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Online</p> <p>You can make a donation through Canada Helps at:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-debra-dynes-family-house-inc/</p>



info@debradynes.com 613-224-3824 955 Debra Ave, Unit 85 debradynesfamilyhouse.com