



St. Anne's Newsletter

Pentecost 2019

Who We Are

The Rev. Val Kenyon
Rector

The Rev. Ken Brooks
Deacon

Bishop Nigel Shaw
Honorary Assistant

Marg Wolsley
Keith Brooks
Wardens

Sophie Skaith
Ric McRae
Deputy Wardens

Phil Hallman
Music Director

Keisha Gilliland
Treasurer

Lauren Bryant-Monk
Parish Administrator

Join us for Worship

8:00am– Traditional

9:30am– Contemporary

St. Anne's Anglican Church
(Byron)

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West

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www.stannesbyron.ca



From the Rector

Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A morning person by nature, when I heard the alarm going off at 4:30am on Easter morning, though a bit earlier than usual, I rose to get ready for the first service of our Easter celebrations, Sunrise Service in the Park, scheduled to begin at 6:15am, sixteen minutes before the actual sunrise at 6:34am. I had

heard that it was a favourite of those who attended. I arrived a bit early that morning to get my bearings. As we approached the park it was still quite dark and I did find myself wondering just what I would find. It made me think of the account of Mary Magdalene heading off to Jesus' tomb while it was yet still dark, not quite sure what she could expect. The reward for Mary's faithful perseverance on that sacred morning would eventually be her encounter with Jesus.

As we gathered in the park (there would be 25 of us there in the end), as the light gradually broke upon us through the leafless trees all around us; it felt the perfect place to be a part of passing from darkness into light. It reminded me of a recent quote I had read written by Nadia Bolz Weber, author of two New York Times bestselling memoirs: *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People* and *Pastrix: The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint*.

Founder and former pastor of a Lutheran congregation House for All Sinners and Saints, Rev'd Bolz Weber reminds us that, "The Christian faith, while wildly misrepresented in so much of American culture, is really about death and resurrection. It's about how God continues to reach into the graves we dig for ourselves and pull us out, giving us new life, in ways both dramatic and small."

As we stood in the park that morning, quite literally passing from darkness to light, over 2000 years beyond that first sacred moment, the truth of God's ongoing light in our lives seemed to fill the air, in our words and in our songs, in our prayers, and in our gathering. This One who had known death and conquered it, lives forever more, still shining his light into the dark places of our lives and of our world. Thanks be to God.

So, next year, why not give it a whirl and join us. Sure it is a bit early, (Easter Sunrise April 12, 2020 is at 6:48am, so service will be at 6:30am – put that in your daytimers now) but then again, why not get a jump on a day full of wonder!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pentecost – So What Exactly is the Big Deal?



To begin, Pentecost is the great festival that marks the birth of the Christian church by the power of the Holy Spirit. The word Pentecost actually means, 'fiftieth

day' and so is celebrated fifty days after Easter. And if this were not enough, it is one of the few days in the church year that we use the colour red in our celebrations, which I suppose is just an added bonus!

To briefly recap the story of Pentecost, just ten days earlier Jesus had said goodbye to his followers returning to heaven, but not before promising to send a helper, the Holy Spirit. So as the apostles, Mary, and many of Jesus' disciples gathered these ten days later for the Jewish harvest festival that celebrated on the fiftieth day after harvest 'a sound like that of a rushing wind filled the house and tongues of fire descended and rested over each of their heads. Filled with the Spirit, this group would burst out onto the streets and speaking in a whole variety of languages, they would proclaim the Gospel, preaching boldly and welcoming 3,000 souls into their gathering that day. The Church was born!

Interestingly enough the Day of Pentecost is followed by first Trinity Sunday and then the *season of Pentecost*, the longest of the liturgical season (this year running from June 23rd to November 24), a season centered on the work of the Holy Spirit in the day-to-day lives of Christians with an emphasis on evangelism, mission, stewardship and other acts of love and mercy empowered by God's gift of the Holy Spirit.

So while we marvel at Christmas in God's gift to us of His Son, and at Easter in that same Son's triumph over the power of sin and death, without the gift of God's Spirit at Pentecost, empowering, guiding and directed the growth of the Church, where would we be today? So yes, Pentecost, it's a big deal! As we focus on this season on the work that God strives to do in our hearts and in our lives, we call upon this Spirit to be the force of change in us, through us, and all around us. Happy Birthday!

Five Marks of Mission – Five Marks of Love

As you read this Easter/Pentecost newsletter we find ourselves midway through the season of Easter headed towards the day of Pentecost, (June 9, 2019) the day that marks the birthday of the Church. For six weeks within the season of Easter we have been learning about the Five Marks of Mission – the Five Marks of Love. These five Marks have been around since 1984 but have not been as central as they might have been in our focus. They are, however, a wonderful checklist of the breadth of expressions possible as we strive to be a part of what God is doing in and through us in the everyday life in which we live.

**TELL
TEACH
TEND
TRANSFORM
TREASURE**

The Society of St John the Evangelism created a wonderful way to remember these five expressions of mission: Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform, Treasure. I hope that our review of these important aspects of mission are and will continue to find space in the centre of the way we view our ministry at St Anne's and indeed the way we see our service to the world all around us.

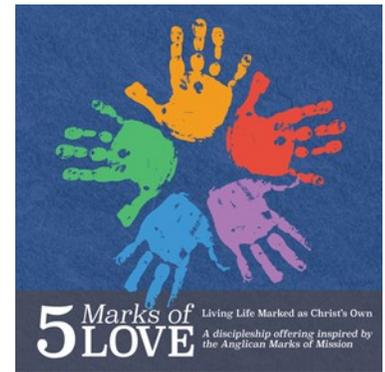
Any feedback from this series is always welcome. Looking forward to hearing from you. *Rev'd Val*

Summer Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions for our Summer Newsletter is **Sunday, June 9**. The Newsletter will be published on Sunday, June 23rd. Please send all submissions to the office.

MEMORIAL PRAYERS

Ian Skaith	March 10, 2019
Lillian Dunlop	April 8, 2019



Christ
is
Risen!

What would YOU do? Something to Think About...

In a recent posting of My Daily Minute, its author, shared the story below. What do you think you would do in this situation?

Did you hear the story of Ivan Fernandez Anaya and Abel Mutai from a few years ago. Anaya was trailing Mutai during a cross-country race in Burlada, Spain. Mutai was leading comfortably until he stopped 10 metres short of the finish line thinking the race was over. Instead of passing Mutai, Anaya slowed down and, since they didn't speak a common language, he gestured frantically at Mutai to keep running.

"I didn't deserve to win it," Anaya said afterwards. "I did what I had to do. He was the rightful winner. He created a gap that I couldn't have closed if he hadn't made a mistake. As soon as I saw he was stopping, I knew I wasn't going to pass him."

Anaya's actions may not have earned him the win, but they did earn him many new fans. One person who not so thrilled about the move was his coach Martin Fiz, who said he admired Anaya's honesty, but it was a "gesture I myself wouldn't have made. I would have taken advantage of it to win."

What would you have done? Doing the right thing is always the right thing to do.

Let's pray

What would I do in a situation like that, God? I hope I would to the right thing. Our character is revealed in many ways. I pray that I will be sensitive to the ways my character is revealed in the decisions I make each day. Amen.

If you would like to have posts of this nature delivered directly to you, just visit: <https://www.norvalunited.ca/connect-online/my-daily-minute>

Discipleship and the Process of Becoming

*by the Rev'd Val Kenyon,
EfM Animator in Huron*



What is it to be a disciple of Jesus? Of course in Jesus' day his disciples 'followed' him, they accompanied him from place to place and shared and supported him in his ministry. In the early church, David Heywood reminds us, the 'following' took on the character of 'a commitment to a way of life based on the pattern of God's kingdom'.

The disciple is a 'learner', but not someone whose only goal is to gather information, but rather someone who opens themselves, despite the inevitable discomforts that come with change, to being transformed into the 'image' or 'pattern of Christ.'¹ (Matthew 10:25, Romans 8:29).

As disciples of Jesus we give ourselves to study and to reflection, intent on allowing our faith to influence and direct every area of our lives, our learning, and our growing. As we do this both as individuals and in community, as disciples we are ever in the process of becoming. Reflection becomes a tool for learning and change in this process, a tool that considers, Scripture and tradition, our thoughts and our feelings, as well as the church past and the church present. Reflection is couched in prayer, and is undergirded by our confidence in the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit. We are all invited into this process. Reflection lies at the heart of the EfM programme.

Looking ahead to September, we are anticipating the opening of a new, second evening EfM Group in London in September 2019, as well as continuing with the London Tuesday morning group. Registrations are now being accepted for these sessions. If you are interested in learning more, please speak to Rev'd Val or e-mail: EFM@huron.anglican.ca

1. David Heywood, *Kingdom Learning* (London: Scm Pr, 2017), 118-123.

EfM Open House

Wednesday, May 22 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the Heritage Room

Education for Ministry is spiritual, theological, liturgical, and practical formation for laypeople. EfM is about integrating faith and life, and communicating our faith to others.

Keep in mind these special services/events

May 20	Prayer Shawl Meeting, 9:30am Heritage Room
May 20	Office Closed for Victoria Day
May 21	Chancel Guild Meeting, 10am Choir Room
May 22	EFM Open House 7pm, Heritage Room
May 26	Church Picnic after 10:30am Service
May 27	ACW Meeting, 7pm, Heritage Room
June 9	Deadline for Summer Newsletter
June 10	Parish Council 7pm Heritage Room
June 17	Prayer Shawl Meeting, 9:30am Heritage Room
June 23	9:30am Combined Services Start for the Summer
June 23	Summer Newsletter Available

Conversations with Bishop Nigel ahead of General Synod

As part of the process of preparing for General Synod 2019 St. Anne's Honorary Assistant, Bishop Nigel Shaw, will be leading conversations about the Marriage Canon Amendment and general information about General Synod 2019 after the 8:00 and 9:30 Services on 16 June. The anticipated format is a short video (10 minutes) followed by a question and answer period. Bishop Nigel was a member of General Synod 2016 and will be a member of General Synod 2019 so will be able to respond to general questions about the functioning of General Synod and other key topics that will be discussed beyond simply speaking about the proposed Amendment to the Marriage canon.

Pocket Prayers, Prayer Squares, and Prayer Beads

Do you know of someone who might find a beautiful pocket prayer square or prayer beads helpful at this time of their life?
Would *you* find a beautiful pocket prayer square or prayer beads helpful?
You will find a basket at the back of the church filled with these treasures.
Please help yourself with our compliments and blessings.

Special thanks to Sally H. and the St Anne's Quilters Group for making these available to us.

Thank You from your ACW

A very special thank you to everyone who donated to **Huron Church Camp** and **Monica Place** this year. Your donations were delivered to St. Paul's Cathedral on Saturday, April 27th at the Annual ACW Meeting. I was so pleased with both the quantity and quality of St. Anne's contributions. Thank you also goes to Louise and CJ for sorting and packaging all of the items into reusable totes. We hope that you found the detailed, weekly lists helpful. We will again be collecting for **Huron Church Camp** and **Monica Place** next spring.

Laurie H.-Social Service Groups

Tossed Salad- ACW Calendar of Events

May 21 – 10:00 A. M. Chancel Guild Meeting followed by Lunch

May 23 – Thursday nights Cruise Night at Plunketts

May 27– 7PM ACW Meeting in Heritage Room

June 1-2 - Sat/Sun Plunkett Fleetwood Car Show



St. Anne's Cemetery Notice to Parishioners

St. Anne's Cemetery is a closed cemetery offering interment rights only to the Parishioners of St. Anne's Anglican Church (Byron). The interment options and their cost are:

Full size grave (very limited availability): \$ 1200.00 (one full size casket or several urns)

In ground cremation grave: \$ 750.00 (up to three cremation urns)

Columbarium Niche: Niche prices range from \$ 900.00 to \$ 1200.00

(Space in a niche is designed for up to two cremation urns not taller than 30 cm (11 ½"))

For information on purchasing interment rights please contact Peter at cemetery@stannesbyron.ca

Many parishioners also take the opportunity to advance plan their service particulars as well. If you are interested in speaking to Rev'd Val about this, please get in touch with her directly

Wardens' Wanderings

It may have been some months since you heard from the wardens, however never fear, we are always working on your behalf. Never a dull moment to be sure, but we won't bore you with the details!!

Although not visible to the majority of our parish, we have changed our phone and internet provider. We now have a faster internet connection and will save money in the long run with our monthly fees. And remember, you must use our office@stannesbyron.ca email address to connect with the office.

Our thanks go to Peter H. and others who have been instrumental in cleaning out and recycling or disposing of some unused items from the rear storage room and Youth Room in the Parish Hall. With input from those involved with leading the Sunday School, Heavenly Pies and others, several rooms and storage spaces are being given a new lease on life. Reorganizing the spaces will allow for chair and table storage, for example, to be out of sight rather than an eyesore. The coatrooms will also have more usable space as a result. Cleaning out spaces will not only mean easier maintenance of our public areas, and a more attractive hall for rental purposes, but result in more efficient use of our hall space. A new upright commercial freezer has also been purchased to dramatically reduce our hydro use, allow us to retire four of the older chest freezers and contribute to our stewardship efforts as noted in the fifth Mark of Mission.

A small committee has met to start work on the proposal passed at Vestry to re-examine our major capital projects such as repaving the parking lot and others approved as part of our 2018 Mission and Ministry Plan. We will be gathering costs, looking at financing options and considering other information to put forward for vestry and then Diocesan approval for these capital projects. It will likely be September before a report is prepared for the parish to consider, and updates will be provided as available. Over the next number of months however, you may see some renovations being done to the parish hall to replace flooring and refresh some paint. This work was part of our approved 2019 budget.

With all the activity we are involved with, Parish Council will be considering meeting on a less frequent

basis. Doing so will allow any committees more time to accomplish their objectives and result in more meaningful reporting back to Council. If you have any concerns about this approach, the capital works review or other matters, please contact one of the wardens and we will be glad to receive your thoughts.

And as we leave Easter and Pentecost looms, let us all grab on to the opportunity to receive the inspiration and energy of the Holy Spirit to bring more abundant life to our community. As we continue to hear about the Marks of Mission and how God initiates mission through our lives, let's dive into His abundant mercy and His good plan for each and every one of us. Together with an openness of heart and mind, we will show and bring God's love to each other, our families, friends and the wider community. So, let's be bold in our daily lives and activities and open the space up for God just a little bit more, with a couple words of thanks and prayer. You'll never know what may come your way or how your view on life may change as a result, but be assured, that God is always with us. Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

In Christ's service

Keith Brooks, Ric McRae, Sophie Skaith, Marg Wolsley

A Seasonal Book Review:

A Mystic Garden: Working with Soil, Attending to Soul

By Gunilla Norris

A Mystic Garden is a lyrical primer on the spirituality of gardening, affirming the garden as a soulful space where people can take root and experience the changing seasons and the enduring cycle of renewal. Gunilla Norris shares with us a year's time in her New England garden, and shows that all she observes there illuminates the sacredness of the everyday.

Spring Cleaning

...spring cleaning is a time to release what we are hiding. The room such things take robs us of new life. Now is the time to gather the old from under those sneaky bushes where things tend to hide. Now is the time to throw the worn into the compost pile. Now is the time to turn the soil, to be open to renewal. Now is the time to ask for new leaves.²

Drop by our library today and have a look!

2. Gunilla-Norris, *A Mystic Garden: Working with Soil, Attending to Soul* (Katonah, New York: BLUEBRIDGE, 1997), 34.

Library Resource Update

Library Hours: Sunday 9:00 am. – 11:30 am.

Monday 10:00 am. – 12:00 noon.

Borrowed items can be returned to the wooden drop box outside of the library.

Adult Fiction

At The Mountain's Edge by Canadian historian writer Genevieve Graham

In 1897, the discovery of gold reaches the desolate Yukon. Liza's family decides to make a fortune and move their general store to Dawson City. Constable Ben Turner of the North-West Mounted Police has challenges upholding the law in a place where people seek wealth. This story is a tale of love and adventure about two people who must let go of the past not only to be together but to survive.

The Quintland Sisters by Canadian historian writer Shelley Wood

In 1934 in northern Ontario the birth of the first set of five identical sisters born alive are thought to be the first in the world. This fictionalized version of the birth of the Dionne quintuplets is told from the perspective of Emma an aspiring young seventeen year old midwife. Unlike the rest of the world Emma sees each girl as unique. As the girls grow the fight over custody and revenues intensifies during the Great Depression.

A Silken Thread by Christian author Kim Vogel Sawyer

Laurel is eighteen years old when her older siblings issue an ultimatum: she must waive the right to a husband and family of her own in order to care for their mother. As the Atlanta Cotton Exposition of 1895 opens Laurel applies to be a silk weaver, believing the position will be her chance to capture a wealthy suitor who can afford care for Mama and allow Laurel the life she dreams of.

To Be Where You Are A Mitford Novel Book #14 by Christian author Jan Karon

After twelve years of wrestling with retirement, Father Tim Kavanagh realizes he doesn't need a steady job to prove himself. Then he's given one. Life is usual in Mitford with everyday struggles, engaging characters, humour and humility.

Driftwood Bay by Christian author Irene Hannon

After tragedy shatters her world Jeannette retreats to a small village to open a lavender farm and tearoom. But a new neighbor with a destructive dog and a sad young girl invade her turf. They become involved into the lives of a tattered family fleeing persecution in war-torn Syria. Will hearts heal and love bloom in Hope Harbor?

Non-Fiction

A Mystic Garden Working with Soil, Attending to Soul by Christian author Gunilla Norris

This book explores the spirituality of gardening, affirming the garden as a soulful place where people can take root. This author takes the reader through the four seasons of her New England garden. Any time we have even a small garden we can become aware of the great gift of life and the earth that sustains it. Book has been donated by Rev. Val Kenyon.

DVDs

Indivisible

This film is based on the extraordinary true story of U.S. Army Chaplain Darren Turner and his wife Heather whose lives are fully devoted to serving God, family and country. But when war etches deep battle scars the couple's rock-solid marriage is shaken to its core. (PG-13 2018)

A Question Of Faith

What happens when a young teen-age driver is texting while driving? The result will find three families at crossroads questioning their faith and the God that guides their lives. A chain of events will bring these families closer and closer together. (PG 2017)

Nature Polar Bears Arctic Bears

Polar bears are living on borrowed time. Winters are becoming warmer, ice is disappearing and seal meat is scarce. Grizzlies who are also residents of the Arctic can live off the land eating various foods – meats, berries, insects, fruits and honey. The two worlds of the polar bear and the grizzly are merging together. Watch the bonus feature of *Showdown At Grizzly River*. (G 2008)



A Few Quotes to get us Wondering

"True humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less."

~ C.S. Lewis

For all you gardeners:

*Be a gardener, dig a ditch,
toil and sweat,
and turn the earth upside down
and seek the deepness and water the
plants in time...*

*Take this food and drink
and carry it to God as your true worship.*

~ Julian of Norwich

St. Anne's Contact List

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Please Help Cover the Costs of Mailing the Newsletter!

If you like having your newsletter mailed and would like to help cover the postage cost, please donate \$20.00 annually. You can drop by the church office, mail it to the church or put it on the Sunday collection plate, clearly marked NEWSLETTER. Thank You.

Name: _____
 Enclosed \$ _____