



NEWSLETTER OF
ST. MATTHEW'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH
1600 NORFOLK ST.
WINDSOR, ONTARIO
N9E 1H5

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HOLY FAMILY MOSAIC

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The Journey

At St. Matthew's

VOLUME V ISSUE 5

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS 2017

"We are called to share God's love
as we welcome
and care for our community"



A Message From Our Rector

"Are You Ready For Christmas?"

Yes, it's time once again for that perennial question! The answers we provide tend to become a little bit more strained as the weeks of December progress. There are parties to plan. Dinners to cook. Groceries to buy. Gifts to wrap. Packages to mail. Don't forget the Mail Carrier. And so it goes. Time to take a deep breath!

One way of answering the question is to say "yes and no."

A quick reflection on the biblical telling of Jesus' birth reminds us that Joseph and Mary were in no way prepared for the arrival of this particular baby; the baby's room had not yet been painted or furnished. And even if it had been, a long, overland journey to Bethlehem from Nazareth meant that this child would come into the world in a strange and unfamiliar setting. By no account were Mary and Joseph "ready for Christmas." Come to think of it, the world wasn't prepared either, to welcome this little Prince of Peace. Jesus was born into a murderous world, dominated by the mighty Roman Empire. According to the gospel writer, Matthew, Jesus had a price on his head from the earliest days, as Herod went on a bloody rampage, hoping to eliminate this precious gift of God. If the world couldn't be ready for the Messiah two thousand years ago, how could we expect to be today?

But the world was ready for Jesus two thousand years ago...that is, if you define "ready" as meaning "waiting" or "in need of." The world was ready for God to act in a new way, because all the humanly-devised ways of living weren't working all that well. The world was ready to hear a new message that invited people to new ways of living. The world was ready – desperate even – for God's gift of peace and reconciliation to be born. Ready. More than ready.

And I suspect we are as well. We are ready to open our hearts to the realization that with the celebration of Christmas comes that heightened awareness of "God with us." Emmanuel. Born long ago, but born for the ages. We are ready for the Light of the World to be born within us once again, and we are ready to have God's light shine just a little brighter within us, so that we might – in our small way – bring light and love and peace to others.

I don't think we'll ever be ready to understand how all of this works, but I trust that we can find ways of preparing ourselves for the Christ event to spring to life, in our hearts, and in the world.

Andreas

From Our Parish Council

Wishing you and your
loved ones a
wondrous Christmas

Our annual Christmas Craft and Food Market proved a great success again this year.

Including post-market day sales to date, over \$10,5000 have been raised. The spirit of working together to achieve a mutual goal was so evident in the hours, weeks and months of preparation required to make this event so successful.

A **"Raise the Roof" campaign** began in September. By the end of November we have raised a little over \$8,500 to help finance our critically needed roof repairs, from donations and with fun events such as a "High Tea," a "Bake-less Bake Sale" and the very appropriate construction and sale of "Roof Cookies" (right).

Members of Parish Council have carefully considered options for repairing the four flat roof sections covering the narthex, offices, kitchen and some hallways (excluding the Parish Hall), as well as the North section of the shingled roof. The options were presented at our special **Vestry Meeting on November 26**, where a motion was moved for vestry to approve that Parish Council seeks an application to the Diocese for a loan of a maximum of \$70,000 to cover the cost of those roof repairs; the majority of attendants voted in favour.

An enthusiastic "Roof Fund Raising Committee" has been formed as well, and plans are underway for a **Christmas Dessert and Carol Party** on Sunday, December 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in the Parish Hall (see next page). Admission will be a free-will offering, with all proceeds going to this campaign.

Our financial statements show that we are in a deficit situation. As of October 31, we have a year to date **shortfall of \$9,400**, but we are confident that we will be able to overcome this deficit by the end of the year. Some of our financial challenges include rising utility costs; as an example, our monthly Union Gas billing is \$907, under the equal payment plan.

Our apportionment payments continue to be up-to-date. These apportionment payments show our commitment and care for the wider church. Apportionment funds help to pay for vital items at the diocesan level, such as staff salaries at Church House, as well as pension and health care benefits for our retired clergy. **Your Churchwardens and Treasurer will be working on the 2018 budget for presentation at our annual vestry meeting scheduled for Sunday, February 4, 2018.**

Minutes from Parish Council meetings are posted on the bulletin board in the office.



Photo by
Gordon Drake

St. Matthew's Mission & Ministry Plan—Update from our Rector

The Bishop of Huron, the Rt. Rev'd Linda Nicholls, has asked that every parish in the diocese create a Mission and Ministry Plan for the 5 year period 2018-2022. This plan is based on the "Five Marks of Mission" * and it covers such areas as Congregational Health, Long-term Future, Buildings and Finances. Your Parish Council began work on this document in the spring of 2017, reviewing various details related to the physical property (both church and rectory). The process continued as another group (Alisa Yednoroz, Bill and Ginny McAdam, Mike Herrington, Rev'd Cathy MacKendrick and Rev'd Andreas Thiel) considered items related to evangelism and outreach. The completed draft document will be circulated in the Parish Hall during coffee hour throughout Advent, and will also be posted on the church webpage. Please take some time in the next few months to read through the Mission and Ministry Plan, and share any feedback you might have with the people named above, or with your Churchwardens (Janet Williams and Gordon Drake). **The document will be presented for discussion and adoption at our annual vestry meeting (Sunday, February 4, 2018).**

* *What are The Five Marks of Mission?* The Anglican Church of Canada has joined with other Anglicans around the world in committing ourselves to a statement of mission which has its basis in our understanding of God's mission in the world. We strive to make these five marks of mission central to everything we do in our engagement with the world. Therefore, as Anglicans, we commit ourselves to: 1) Proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, 2) Teaching, baptizing and nurturing new believers, 3) Responding to human need by loving service, 4) Transforming unjust structures of society, challenging violence of every kind and pursuing peace and reconciliation, and 5) Striving to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustaining and renewing the life of the earth.



Special Services this Season



<i>First Sunday in Advent - Dec 3</i>	<i>- Lighting of the Advent Wreath</i>
<i>Second Sunday in Advent - Dec 10</i>	<i>- Lighting of the Advent Wreath</i>
<i>Third Sunday in Advent - Dec 17</i>	<i>- Lighting of the Advent Wreath</i>
<i>Fourth Sunday in Advent - Dec 24</i>	<i>- 10:00 am service only</i>
	<i>Lighting of the Advent Wreath</i>
	<i>Crèche, Christmas flowers and other displays</i>
<i>Christmas Eve - Sunday, Dec 24</i>	<i>- 7:00 pm Eucharist service</i>
<i>Christmas Day - Monday, Dec 25</i>	<i>- 10:00 am Eucharist service</i>
<i>Second Sunday of Christmas - Dec 31</i>	<i>- 10:00 am service only</i>

All photography on this page by Gordon Drake

Dessert & Carol Party Roof Fundraiser - Dec. 10, 6:30 pm

Bring your family, invite your friends, everybody is welcome!

‘Twas some months before Christmas and our St. Matthew’s roof
Was showing strong signs it was not waterproof.
Andreas and Cathy were worn down with care
And prayed for the funds to effect a repair.
And while they did so, this thought danced in their head:
“We hope the church won’t get too far in the red!”
Then Gordon and Janet struck up a committee
And we are here now to report with this ditty!
We’re planning some fundraisers both great and small
And hope we will have great success with them all.
The first big event will be here in a matter
Of weeks, so you really had best heed our patter:
On **December the 10th at 6:30** we’ll meet.
We will sing **Christmas carols** and eat **Christmas treats**.
A free-will collection we’ll take at the door
And we’ll have some **additional surprises in store**.
We’ll have lots of fun for 2 hours in the hall,
Then dish away, cash away, dash away all!



The committee will shout ‘ere you drive out of sight:

“Many thanks to you all, and to all a good night!”

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples By Vicky Paraschak

Peoples (UNDRIP). This hour-long discussion, which began at 7pm, was led by two women, one of whom was Rev. Rosalyn Elm from Six Nations, member of the Diocese of Huron Bridge Builders, and the other was Hana Scorrar, a layperson. Members of the Huron Bridge Builders have been going around the Diocese to talk with interested parishioners about Indigenous matters. While this important international document was passed by the UN in 2007, it was only in May 2016 that Canada declared its full support, without qualification, of the Declaration. In the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission Final Report*, the UNDRIP was named throughout as the foundational document upon which we should move forward to address the recommended 94 Calls to Action.

There were only four of us from St. Matthew's – Rev. Andreas, Louise Davis, Roger Wurdemann, and me – but the room was full, and questions were asked throughout the hour. The UNDRIP affirms in its opening section that Indigenous peoples are equal to others but also have the right to be different and respected as such. This sentiment was supported as people shared personal stories with each other; the evening facilitated expression of perspectives, rather than just passing information on the specifics, which can be found in the UNDRIP. Each of us left feeling that we'd been in an important conversation about indigenous matters, thereby contributing to the process of reconciliation, in relationship with one another, and informing ourselves about the history of indigenous peoples in Canada as a basis for that relationship. I encourage everyone to take the time to read through the UNDRIP, found at http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf, and to attend future events held by the Diocese of Huron Bridge Builders, as they are wonderful storytellers and listeners, who create an environment to help us move forward as Anglicans committed to a shared, respectful, and informed future.



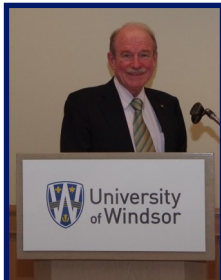
Canterbury College

Celebrating 60 years November 1 2017

Text by Helen Jones Photography by Gordon Drake



The celebration started with Holy Eucharist in Assumption Hall, Heritage Auditorium (400 Huron Church Rd.). The celebrant was the Rt. Rev'd Linda Nicholls, Bishop of Huron. The 60th Anniversary Gala Dinner immediately followed the service, in the Freed Orman Centre on the lower level of the building. Two different choirs, under the direction of Mr. David Palmer, provided the entertainment during a delicious banquet. Dr. Gordon Drake, Principal of Canterbury College, gave a short talk with a film, regarding the accomplishments and aims of the College.



"Canterbury College is a not for profit charitable corporation in the business of providing education and residence opportunities for students. As an affiliate college of the University of Windsor, Canterbury plays an important role in the recruitment of students, both international and domestic." From: <http://www1.uwindsor.ca/canterbury>

Continue next page ...

Stewardship Training Workshop November 4 By Janet Williams

As representatives of our Parish Council, Jane Patterson and I were amongst the couple dozen people who attended the Stewardship Training Workshop, held on Saturday November 4, at St. Augustine of Canterbury (5145 Wyandotte St. E., Windsor, ON).

This Deanery workshop was presented by the *Diocesan Stewardship Committee*; the Reverend Graham Bland of Owen Sound was one of three presenters, and he gave a moving presentation that included the following words: "Stewardship invites us to step into love and the abundance of life by supporting our church. It's not just about keeping our doors open, but keeping our vision warm. Being a good steward means we have the responsibility of deciding what to do with all that God has entrusted to us."

Christmas Concert and Sing-along at St. James' Church (4276 Roseland Dr. E)



December 3, 2017 at 2:00 pm

Free-will donations to support St. Mary's Food Cupboard



A Blue Christmas Service - Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 4 pm
St. Stephen's Anglican Church (5280 Howard Ave., Oldcastle)
A quiet Christmas service for those experiencing sadness and loss
this Christmas Season. **Everyone welcome!**

Deanery Conversations on The Marriage Canon

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 7:00pm
St. James', Roseland
(4276 Roseland Dr. E.)

At our Diocesan Synod 2017, members were introduced to the motion passed at General Synod 2016 to change the Marriage Canon. The proposed changes would allow for same-sex marriages to be performed by the Anglican Church of Canada. The Diocese of Huron has begun a series of Deanery Conversations in which people may offer their thoughts relating to the proposed canonical change. You are invited to attend one such conversation, to be held at St. James', Roseland on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 7:00 pm. This is not a debate and the intent is not to change minds, but it is an opportunity to listen to others and participate in a meaningful dialog. A diocesan task force will take notes, and share a summary of this conversation as a way of providing feedback to General Synod in advance of that body's meeting in 2019.

Andreas

Have you joined our e-mail communication list? It is the fastest and most environmentally friendly way to receive communications from our clergy. Enroll at saintmatthewswindsor@gmail.com

Do you receive "The Journey" by e-mail? You could get your newsletter in PDF in full colour by joining the e-mail distribution list. Request your subscription at irene.savva3691@gmail.com

Also, check out these websites and stay connected at all levels of Anglicanism:

St. Matthew's Church
Deanery of Essex

Diocese of Huron (**All New!**)

Anglican Church of Canada

Primate's World Relief

and Development Fund (PWRDF) pwrdf.org and Fredsays.ca

saintmatthewswindsor.ca

essexdeanery.com

diohuron.org

Anglican.ca



ALSO: www.anglicansonline.org

An interesting website featuring links to various other Anglican sites around the world.

Rev'd Cathy's Corner

Thanks to a Diocesan grant from the *Faith in Action Trust Fund* to support our ministry to the **Southwest Detention Centre**, we have been able to purchase and give a guitar to the chaplain Randy Dyer. He has had an inmate using it for music for worship services. He also has recruited a music minister to come and teach other male inmates how to play this instrument.



The other half of the \$800 grant is being used to purchase items to fill the backpacks, as well as fabric for the sewing programme.



We will have two new volunteer sewing teachers on tap for inclusion after Christmas. One is from the Church of Epiphany in Kingsville and the other from St. Stephen's Oldcastle. It is good to know that our scheduled times will be less frequent since at least two of us have heavy commitments with family at this point in our lives. The women are making a wall hanging for their range in a Christmas/Winter theme and will be making Christmas stockings for their family members come the end of November.

Marlborough Breakfast Programme is going along well with a few cooking teams using a team leader so that I do not have to be present every Monday. Jackie, the teacher assistant who does the supervision, thought I must be sick. Not sick, just smart. My mother had an expression from her time in Kitchener – "Too soon old, too late smart."

Windsor Homes Coalition is our Food for the Hungry place until the New Year. They provide a good cupboard and every family/client living in their subsidized houses gets a Christmas box of items. Because they know the needs of their clients, each box is personalized. Also thanks to everyone who has been delivering the items to the various other centers this year.

As God has blessed us so abundantly, we are blessing others lavishly.

Photos by Gordon Drake and Cathy MacKendrick



Children's Aid Society Christmas Tree

The Christmas tree poster for gifts to our Children's Aid Society family is in the narthex. Please pick the ornament tags with the gifts you would like to donate. Gifts must be unwrapped, but feel free to include paper, gift bags, and tape.

Stick the tag on each gift, and place in the boxes provided in the narthex, no later than **Sunday, Dec. 10.**

Thank you! Gwen Allsop.

Photo from our Archives

Remember Hiatus House this season

In addition to toiletries, diapers and non-perishable food, donations of hats, socks, mitts, and books (including colouring books) for the children would be greatly appreciated for our next visit to Hiatus House.

Thank you for your support,
Don and Pauline Patterson

The Holy Family Mosaic

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As reported by our Parish Council last September:

"The Taqtaq family has donated a mosaic made in Damascus depicting Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The proposal is to hang it on the wall near the choir to create a separate prayer space. A motion was passed to use money from the Memorial fund to make a proper frame for the mosaic."

Update:

The precious mosaic has been beautifully framed (as shown, right), and it will soon arrive back to St. Matthew's.

This photograph and front page by Cheryl, from *Picture This Framing*



Ask the Rector

A regular column in which you get to ask whatever is on your mind. (All submissions will be considered anonymous.)

Q: Over the years we have been blessed with special additions to our building. Some examples are: the stained glass window with its shining light in the narthex area, and the St. Matthew's banner, which illustrates our paths, in the Sanctuary. What could you tell us about the mosaic featured on the front page (and above)?

A: The beautiful mosaic comes to us as a gift from Marwan and Nadia Taqtaq. It is a fairly recent creation, having its origins in Syria, and it depicts a very simple image, that of the Holy Family. As I think about this, I'm struck by the fact that the image of Jesus and his parents stands in stark contrast with the events of war that have overtaken modern-day Syria in recent years. Many Syrian families have been deprived of the peacefulness that the mosaic conveys, and far too many young parents have lost their children to the brutality of war. Even so, the image of this "Prince of Peace," nestled in the safety of his loving parents, tells us something of God's will for the world to be reconciled. I hope that over time, this mosaic will inspire us to offer our prayers for peace in the world, and to strive to be God's instruments of peace.

Andreast

Stay tuned for other fascinating questions and answers!



Sign-up chart for donations of: pot of soup, bread or butter, in the church hall

Photos from our Archives

Advent Soup Luncheons
Every Sunday in Advent,
after the 10:00 am service, in the church hall

Come and enjoy delicious
donated homemade soups and breads,
and the best fellowship!

Free will offering
All proceeds go to the Ministry of
The Council of the North





Christmas Craft & Food Market November 11



Everyone and anyone who had a part, great or small, in the fulfillment of this year's Christmas Craft and Food Market deserves a huge thank you. We feel blessed for all your help and support.

Sincerely, Beth and Danielle



Amazing crafts; children's shopping room; homemade preserves and baked goods; savoury pies; sweet tooth table; lunch counter; plus free smiles and fellowship!

\$8,000.00 were raised on that day; lunch the next day and further sales brought that sum to over \$10,500.00



Photos by
Lauren W.,
Irene Savva, and
Janet Williams

Some of the baked goods offered at the CC&FM are featured in our Recipe Book:

Quick Kuchen, Coffee Cake, Cornflake Squares, Cherry Squares, Currant Buttermilk Scones, Welsh Cakes, Angel Food Cake with Lemon Filling, Chocolate Layer Cake, Pecan Pie, Spice Cake with Buttercream Orange Frosting, Lemon Pound Cake, and Zesty Zucchini Relish.

St. Matthew's Legacy Recipe Collection

AN EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS GIFT!

Our book includes over 180 of our favourite sweet and savoury recipes from St. Matthew's clergy, staff, and congregation.

Price: \$15.00/each (cash, or cheque to: St. Matthew's Church)

For purchases, please contact: Rev'd Andreas, Susan Bernard, Sandra Hall or irene.savva3691@gmail.com

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE ROOF FUND

BONUS: Visit our website and download the PDF **Companion Booklet**, with lots of photographs and information to supplement many of the recipes and stories in the book.

Roof fundraiser at the CC&FM

27 Roof Cookie Bags-\$81.00

10 Recipe Books



Nature in Christianity

Part IV: The Christmas Eve Flower

By Irene Savva

Poinsettias have been a popular decoration for the Christmas season since at least the 17th century. Originally native to Mexico, they started to appear in Franciscan Nativity processions during Spanish rule, as the plants' specialized top leaves, called bracts, naturally turn red in the month of December, when flowers might be scarce. Some legends claim that when these plants were brought inside the church on Christmas Eve, they "miraculously bloomed." The star-shaped leaf pattern was compared to the Star of Bethlehem, and the red tones, the blood of Christ. Since then, the Spanish name for them has been "**La Flor de Nochebuena**," which translated directly into English means **The Holy Night (Christmas Eve) Flower**.

Later on, the first U.S. ambassador to Mexico, Joel R. Poinsett, who was also a botanist, was enchanted by the plants. In 1828, he sent some cuttings to his home in South Carolina, and gave some samples to his horticultural friends. One of them, Paul Ecke, developed a technique which caused seedlings to branch, allowing the limited cultivation of the Christmas Eve flower to become a flourishing industry. Around that time, the English name "Poinsettia" was adopted, in honour of the U.S. ambassador. Today, the Poinsettia is the best selling potted plant in North America, and it can be found in many shades besides the classic red, such as white, pink, gold, and even variegated.

<http://poinsettiaday.com/history.html>

<https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/1995/12-8-1995/trad.html>

Poinsettias at St. Matthew's Church

Poinsettias have been part of our St. Matthew's Christmas displays for many years. Members of our Chancel Guild arrange the potted splashes of colour in the Sanctuary at the end of the Advent season, where they stay for the whole twelve days of Christmas. Red plants are always present (right), but other shades, such as white ones, have adorned our chancel (photo below.)



Botanical fact: The Poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*) is a photoperiodic plant, which means that it is sensitive to the amount of light it receives due to seasonal changes. As mentioned above, the top leaves (bracts) naturally turn colour in December, when nights are the longest. In cold climate regions, such as Canada, in order to reproduce this condition indoors, potted plants are placed in closets or basements at night, for 11-14 hrs. of complete darkness, "forcing" the poinsettia's cycle into an artificial "long night." <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/ornamental/the-texas-poinsettia-producers-guide> This could explain the sudden red coloration appearing after poinsettias were brought inside churches - often dark - near Christmas Eve, just a few days after the winter solstice, the longest night of the year.

From Our Chancel Guild



Photography this page
by Gordon Drake (2015, 2016)

The Christmas flower envelopes are in the pews.

Please fill it out with your dedication and name, as you would like them to appear in our bulletin. Return with your offering to Margaret Kissau by **Sunday, December 10** (cash only please.)

Everyone is invited to help us set up the crèche, flowers and other Christmas displays on **December 24** during the 10 am service.

This Little Light of Mine

YOUTH @ ST. M'S

Saturday October 28 Halloween Costume Party

The Journey received the following special report via e-mail, neatly redacted and typed by its young author:

Hi, my name is Haylie. I just wanted to let you know how much fun the Halloween party was. The games and activities there were: the costume contest, donut on a string, apple bobbing with chopsticks, face painting, cupcake decorating, the gooey mess and pin the nose on the witch. My favourite parts were the costume contest and the donut on a string. What you do at the costume contest is ... well it depends: if you are in the costume contest you just stand there and hope, and if you are not in it, you vote on your favourite costume. What you do in the donut on a string is you pick a donut, put it on a string, and race your friends to see who can eat it the fastest with no hands. A big challenge was picking up an apple up with chopsticks. You can get Halloween treats. My sister Maddie's favourite part was donut on a string. Maddie, my cousins Cael and Cam, and I all loved it. The St. Matthew's Church Halloween party is the BEST Halloween party ever!!!!!! Sincerely, **Haylie G.H.** (P.S. can't wait till next year.)



Photography by Bob Braidford

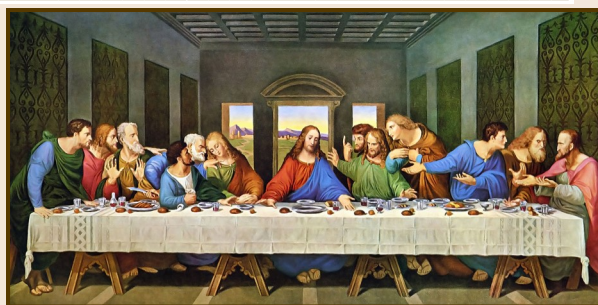
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Life in the Eucharist 2017



Beginning in October, seven young people and their family members and sponsors came together for four sessions of the program known as Life In The Eucharist.

This program is designed to help youngsters to explore aspects of their faith, and to engage in conversations that relate to living a "Eucharistic Life."



We began the series by drawing pictures depicting something of our personal identity, as well as the identity of our family units.

We talked about the sacrament of baptism, and explored some of the language that the church uses to describe what we believe to be true about baptism.



We continued by learning how to pray the Lord's Prayer by using sign language, and we took time to learn about the communion vessels and vestments.

And finally, we shared in the work of baking communion bread, which the entire St. Matthew's community received at our November 26 eucharist (10 am).



It has been a great pleasure to be with these youngsters, and to see how willing they have been to talk about some of the aspects of their faith. I suspect that they've already discovered that one's faith cannot be completely explored in the course of four sessions, and I trust that this "introduction" will provide encouragement for them to continue learning about what is involved in being a member of a eucharistic community.

Text by the Rev'd Andreas Thiel; photography by Andreas Thiel and Joanna Moscatello
Painting "The Last Supper" (1495-98) by Leonardo Da Vinci—Public Domain

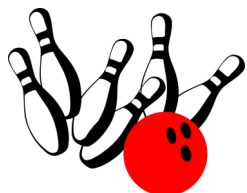
It's back! The very popular, Deanery hosted, Family Bowling & Pizza Party

Sunday January 7, 2018 2:00pm Rose Bowl Lanes, 2482 Dougall Ave.

RSVP by December 28 with names, ages and parish

to Cynthia Connell at Youth.committee@essexdeanery.com

Donations of socks for the Windsor Youth Centre will be collected



Celebrating this season:

Birthdays

December

14 – Carol Bulley
14 – Patty Paraschak
16 – Andy Hahn
21 – Linda Boyd
22 – Sarah Henderson
27 – Helen Cahill
28 – Cory Yednoroz

January

3 – Miranda Canty
10 – Linda McDonald
13 – Sabrina Weir
15 – Jessica Hitchcock
18 – Mary Davis
18 – Jennifer Hitchcock
27 – Max Hahn
28 – Sophia Savva
29 – Nicole McCabe
30 – Ella Hahn
31 – Erica Rossi

February

1 – Ann Hucal
1 – Kim MacKendrick
6 – Isabella Chantler
6 – Jennifer Goldspink
8 – Darren Bernard
12 – Mark Bernard
13 – Alan Dalley
14 – Anya Laurence-Thiel
18 – Nadia Taqtaq
22 – Elissa Weir
25 – Edwin Levergood
26 – Neil Cowley
27 – Stephanie Allsop
28 – Dorothy Knappett

Anniversaries

December

21 – Scott & Laurie Ritchie

February

5 – Bill & Ginny McAdam
15 – John & Dianne Iannicello

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday December 10, 2017; 6:30 PM.– Dessert and Carol Party in the church hall. Join this fun evening with your whole family, and invite friends. There will be carol singing, sweet treats, and a few surprises! Free-will donations towards our Roof Fund.

Monday January 1, 2018; 3:00-5:00 PM.– Anya and Andreas Thiel will be hosting the **5th Annual New Year's Day Open House**, in the rectory.

Saturday January 20, 2018; 5:00 PM.– Our **8th Annual Potluck and Talent Show**. Come on out if you have a talent you would like to share: Performing Arts, Crafts, Cooking or if you just like eating well and good entertainment. Contact: John Rossi or Jen McAlpine.

February 2018.– Euchre Tournament! Get your teams ready, and stay tuned for more information coming soon...

Tuesday February 13, 2018; 4:00-7:00 PM.– Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper! Mark your calendars to volunteer, bring your family, and invite friends to the best pancake supper in town: pancakes, sausages, bacon, desserts and drinks.

Wednesday February 14, 2018; 7:00 PM.– Ash Wednesday: Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes.

T.N.T. Reserve the first Friday of the month for our meetings, starting at 6:00pm, at Cramdon's Restaurant (2950 Dougall Ave.) Some come with their children, some with a partner and some by themselves. Come for dinner or just drinks or just good conversation and friendship!!

Our next T.N.T. night will be January 5, 2018

Note from Richard Hucal: Some people hadn't attended TNT because they felt hesitant, assuming theology is always involved (TNT means "Theology 'N' Tap" after all). We are offering an alternative; the name is still TNT, but it may mean: "Tap No Theology." **See you there!**

The C&C needs everybody's help!

Louise Davis recently proposed the **COFFEE & CLEAN-UP** group, to provide refreshments at our fellowship hour after the 10 am service, as well as to do the clean-up afterwards. She also kindly prepared a calendar book, for parishioners to sign-up for a date of their choice and either take care of C&C or bring treats. So far, only Louise's husband Roger has joined C&C, and very few people have signed-up. That is unsustainable and evidently unfair! For our coffee hour to be enjoyable for all, ideally eight teams of two people each, would form the base of the C&C group; others could sign-up for a one-day C&C or "treats only" duty, which is just like our old "take a turn," but with the added perk of doing only half the work.



Join the C&C or sign-up the coffee-hour book in the church hall. Let's all do our part!



On October 15, St. Matthew's welcomed the Rev'd Dr. Bob Roberts as guest preacher. With great humour and a few anecdotes from his time before retirement, he exhorted parishioners to avoid excuses and continue to fill the pews every Sunday; Rev'd Bob frequently does so himself at St. Matthew's.



Gordon Frise has been helping to make sure that the St. Matthew's lawns are tidy and looking neat. **Thank you, Gordon!**

At our Christmas Craft & Food Market, on November 11, what a joy it was to have the famous "Three Margarets" together again. **From left to right:** M. Jemison, M. Snelling, and M. Kissau.



Whether she's riding in a four-wheeled or on a four-legged vehicle, **Motor Trend** Detroit editor - and St. Matthew's parishioner - Alisa Yednoroz, knows how to be in the driver's seat! **Left:** testing a 2018 Mercedes-AMG GT R, in California. **Right:** on a camel's back during the Dubai Auto Show.

Also at the CC&FM, have you ever wondered who prepares the food behind the lunch counter?

The Journey uncovered the secret: the St. Matthew's kitchen elves. Mildly eccentric and armored with aprons, they skillfully -and almost magically- produce mountains of tasty hotdogs, sandwiches and snacks.



Photos from: Gordon Drake, Irene Savva, Andreas Thiel, Lauren W., and Alisa Yednoroz



Let Your Light Shine, A Blessed Christmas to All!

Everybody is Welcome!

Sunday Services:

8:30 am & 10:00 am

Sunday school at the 10:00 am service.

Services at Huron Lodge:

Holy Eucharist:

1st Tuesday of the month 11:00 am

Praise & Prayer:

3rd Sunday of the month 2:00 pm

St. Matthew's Church

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Rector:

The Reverend Andreas Thiel
cellphone(226)345-5085

Deacon:

The Reverend Cathy MacKendrick

Visit our website

<http://www.saintmatthewswindsor.ca>

Check out "The Journey" in full colour
and our Facebook page 

Photograph above by Gordon Drake

Thank you all for your contributions, please keep submitting them to Sue Bernard, Irene Savva or send to irene.savva3691@gmail.com. Any milestones? Submit a photo for publication! Also, let us know of any updates needed on the birthday and anniversary page; **we apologize for any mistakes or omissions.**