

St. Thomas The Apostle Anglican Church

110 Francis Street, Cambridge ON, N1S 2A1

“KEEPING IN TOUCH – May 2022”

Current Covid-19 protocol: We are happy to announce that we have removed the space restrictions from the lectern side of the church so we have room to welcome back more of our parishioners. The pulpit side of the church remains marked off for "social distancing" for people who are not yet ready to return to full capacity seating. A properly fitted 3-ply mask is still required for everyone. The services will continue to be live-streamed to our Facebook page for people who would prefer to watch from home and will be uploaded to our website later on.



“Modified” Coffee Hour: Yahoo! Effective immediately, we can have a modified coffee hour in the church hall, with the following diocesan rules:

- ♥ Please wear your mask to go to and from your table and only remove for eating/drinking
- ♥ Everyone must remain seated while eating or drinking
- ♥ One or two vaccinated volunteers will serve the drinks and goodies directly to you at the table
- ♥ Please do not congregate in the kitchen or around the kitchen window

Let's please follow the rules and keep everyone safe!

Website: <https://www.stthomascambridge.ca/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St.Thomas.the.Apostle.Cambridge>

A FEW DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

Thursdays (1:00-1:45 pm) **“Mid Week Holy Eucharist”:** For anyone who prefers a smaller service with fewer people -> please contact Pastor Steve at (226) 755-0903 if you would like to attend.



Saturdays (12:00-1:00 pm) **Bridgefort Community Outreach:** "Operation Feed the People of Waterloo Region & it's Suburbs" will be handing out free baked goods, snacks and bread at the front door of our church at noon every Saturday in May to anyone in the community who would like to come and choose some. This ministry is kindly supported by COBS Bread Blackstone & 2nd Harvest.

Thur May 12 (11am-4 pm) **Baking for The Bridges:** If you are able to help provide some goodies for our neighbours at The Bridges, please bring them to St. Tom's in a sealed container on the 12th.

Thur May 19 (1:30-2:30) **Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region:** The ACW will be hosting a speaker from this important organization. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Fri May 27 (1:30-2:30 pm)

Gospel Café: Join Pastor Steve live on Facebook as he interviews the Reverend Dan Bowyer. If you haven't watched a "Gospel Café" yet, make sure you check out these fun & interesting interviews!

Fri Jun 3 (7:00 pm)

"The British Invasion!!!": Mark this date on your calendar to join us for another amazing evening of refreshments and entertainment by Jackie Grainge. Ticket information to follow.

ALTAR FLOWERS



Now that we are back in church "in person", there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for people to choose a date to place flowers on the altar. Flowers can be placed "in memory" or "in thanksgiving" of loved ones or "in celebration" of a special anniversary.

You are welcome to either buy your own flowers and bring them to the church, or if you give your donation to Sharon Furnival, she is very happy to buy suitable flowers for you and arrange them at the church on the Sunday you have chosen. Please call Sharon at (519) 620-1272 to arrange..

THE CAMBRIDGE SELF-HELP FOOD BANK NEEDS OUR HELP!

Cambridge Food Bank

Most Needed Items

- Spreads:** MAYONNAISE, PEANUT BUTTER, JAM
- Cereal:** CEREAL, CEREAL FLAKES
- Canned Protein:** HAM, TUNA
- School Snacks:** MILK, SNACKS
- Canned Fruit:** PINEAPPLE, FRUIT, APPLES

Many of our Cambridge residents are struggling to put food on the table and our local Foodbank is in great need at the moment.

Please bring a bag of non-perishable food items with you to church on Sunday

or drop them off at the church on Thursdays between 10am and 4pm.

We will deliver them to the Food Bank at the end of May. Let's show our neighbours that we care!



** Also see info about Deacons' Project on page 5!



Deanery Refugee Committee Needs Both Your Opinion *and* New Volunteers

Our Deanery refugee committee reconvened for the first time in over two years. With the recent enthusiastic support from Deanery Council, we are keen to resume our work. We think that likely means sponsoring a family of four from a Middle Eastern or African country who would permanently relocate in Canada – e.g. Afghanistan, Syria, Sudan, Dem. Republic of Congo. Regrettably, refugees fleeing from Ukraine at the moment fall under a different and separate government program, since many of them intend and hope to return to their country after the warfare stops; as it stands right now we are, ourselves, unable to sponsor them.

Over the last six years, our Deanery refugee committee has sponsored six families – 12 adults and 15 children; five more infants have ‘arrived ’since the families settled in our neighbourhoods. Since we began in Dec. 2015, our 13 churches have donated an amazing \$104,485.00 to enable this to happen.

Based on our past experience, we estimate we will need \$28,000 to ‘land ’and then sustain a family of 4 for a full year. We will need about \$9,000 on hand to begin their settlement in Waterloo Region; the remaining monies can come to us after they arrive. Right now, we have \$4700. That means we need ~\$4300 to securely invite our next family, to start their journey. Put another way, we need roughly \$400 per church from 11 churches who have not already sent donations. Since not all of our churches have equal means, it would probably be fairer to say that we’d like our churches, if possible, to aim for \$500- \$600 to support the committee’s immediate needs to begin our next sponsorship.

Tentative timelines:

- Selecting/choosing a family May or June or July (if financially feasible)
- Family arrival August, September or October



If the initial \$4300 comes to us by mid-summer, we will need a commitment that the remaining \$19,000 will come to us between Sept. 2022 and April/May of 2023 - \$1500 per church if spread across all 13 churches, or roughly \$170 per month. We hope this is doable. *Right now, we don't know.*

Lastly, we’d like to be a multi-church committee of 20-30 so we have knowledge and outreach and varied connections to community resources. A few of our current committee are ‘retiring ’or withdrawing so we need a few more parishioners to join our group. These new members would mainly act as liaisons to their churches and provide insight and ideas to our discussions and problem-solving; they might also consider joining a sub-committee once the next family arrives, e.g. shopping, education, medical appointments, transportation, etc.

Our committee is planning to hold its next meeting on May 25th, likely again via ZOOM. Our acting Chair, Brian Walters, would love to hear from you – brianjwalters@gmail.com. Or you can contact your current church’s committee rep – [at St. Tom’s, it is presently Susan Grenville.]

Many thanks.

Look for an article in next month’s Keeping in Touch, where several of our previously-sponsored families who share their experiences with our Deanery Refugee Committee. Don’t miss it; it will help you to see how much your support has mattered.

The Huron Hispanic & Migrant Farmworkers Outreach Ministry



Please pray for this new and exciting Diocese of Huron ministry initiative and consider either:

(a) donating men's clothing (*pants, sweaters, t-shirts, warm jackets, socks, gloves and toques*) in clean and good condition, or

(b) making a financial donation (payable to: **St. John's Port Rowan Anglican Church** and marked as "Huron Hispanic & Migrant Farmworkers Outreach Ministry")

Pastor Steve will arrange for all donations to be delivered to Father Enrique Martinez at Long Point Bay Parish. Note: the program is starting in Norfolk County but they are hoping to expand to other areas of the diocese as this ministry unfolds.





SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022 AT 2 PM
Brian Smith's 90th birthday

Please join us for a reception at the Grand Valley Golf & Country Club (1910 Roseville Road) on Saturday, May 7th at 2:00 pm to celebrate Brian's 90th birthday!

Please RSVP to David Smith (519) 497-2283

PS. You must be double-vaccinated to attend the indoor event. ☺

"The Haircut"

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son. "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut, then we'll talk about the car." The boy thought about that for a moment, then decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it.

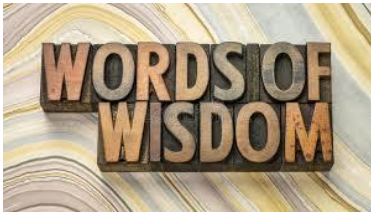
After six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've noticed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed that you haven't had your hair cut." The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

You've gotta luv the Dad's reply! ->

"Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



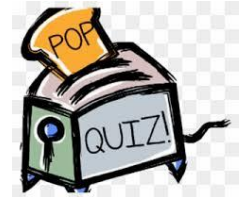
As I type these thoughts, the current temperature is ZERO! According to the weather app on my phone, the high will soar to a high of TWO and the low will be -3. Oh, I forgot...snowy conditions are expected as well...uuughhhh! Isn't there a song that goes "April showers, brings May flowers"?!

As we plod along the never-ending nonsense of Winter, we are in throes of Eastertide! Amidst the two pounds of chocolate purchased and half of that consumed, we are beautifully reminded that our Lord is alive. The cool breeze and the frost on our windshields cannot remove nor dissuade our eternal hope. We live and serve a God that has removed every obstacle for us to acknowledge and receive His Word, Will, Light, Grace and Spirit. It is in these next fifty days; we are to detach ourselves from earthly pleasures in order to love those in Heaven. It is in this season of re-birth, re-orientation and resurrection, we allow the Holy Spirit to complete the formation of the "new person", who by the holiness of our lives, bear witness to Christ crucified and raised!

As I look outside my office window, a cold wind blows and people are bundled up, bracing for their morning commute. May we this Easter season, allow the Holy Spirit to fill us with His life-giving identity and purpose. May we equip ourselves with God's armour, empower our brothers and sisters-in-Christ and brace ourselves for the holy work that is ahead! Steve+

TRIVIA

1. When do we celebrate the lives and faithfulness of St. Philip and St. James?
2. Why is St. Matthias important?
3. According to our Anglican tradition, what are the various names for May 8, 2022?
4. T/F: Is Ascension Day, always on a Wednesday?
5. What did God create on the Fifth Day?
6. What is the name of the person who is called by God to speak for Him?
7. How many sons did Ahab have in Samaria?
8. Where was the book of 2nd Timothy written?



THE DEACONS' PROJECT



This year at Synod, the deacons are collecting non-perishable food items for the students from our three Anglican affiliated universities: Canterbury, Western and Renison. Food items will be taken to Synod and re-distributed from there. **NOTE:** All food donations received during May will be divided 50% to the Cambridge Food Bank and 50% to the Deacons' Project.

Mother's Day Word Search

Instructions: Try to find all of the hidden Mother's Day words in the word search puzzle below. (Words can be spelled forwards, backwards, diagonally, up, or down.)



Word List

ADVICE	HUG	MOTHER
FAMILY	INSPIRATION	SMART
GIVING	KIND	SUPPORTIVE
HEART	LISTENER	TEACHER
HONEST	MENTOR	WARM



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DO YOU USE YOUR BLUE ENVELOPES?

Canadians and many people across our world are standing up, donating and flying the flag for Ukraine. How important this support is for the millions of Ukrainians now displaced and fearful inside their own country, or for those who have fled to Poland, Romania, Hungary, Moldova, Slovakia and even Canada.

In less than one month, well over 1,200 donors have given more than \$280,000 to PWRDF for Ukraine.

The war in Ukraine is having a powerful ripple effect on food security in countries where PWRDF partners are working. Ukraine, long-known as the bread basket of Europe, supplies a large amount of wheat to the World Food Programme as it provides emergency food relief in countries hard hit by conflict and climate-related disasters. Outside of these food distribution programs, the economies of 18 African and least developed countries import as much as 50% of their wheat from Ukraine and Russia. We are already hearing from churches in East Africa about shortages and increasing food prices, with wheat as well as corn, barley and sunflower oil unable to be exported from in both countries.

PWRDF is grateful for donations to support Ukraine where needs are so high. We are glad to be [working with the ACT Alliance](#) and partners around the world who can respond quickly and effectively, with food, with health care, with shelter, with post-trauma supports and other priority needs.

Yet as we focus our prayers and donations on Ukraine, we must not forget other global crises that continue:

In Yemen where food rations for 8 million people are being cut due to a funding shortfall and continued war. The head of the World Food Programme noted that they have no choice but to take food from the hungry to feed the starving.

- In Afghanistan, where 95% of the population does not have enough food and where 3.4 million people are displaced within their own country.
- In Ethiopia, where the lack of safe access to medicine and other humanitarian supplies has left 6 million people in Tigray and neighbouring regions cut off from supports, hungry, fearful and unable to participate in the economy and well being of their country.
- In the Philippines, where two million homes were destroyed by a typhoon in December, 2021 and where even today the most affected are living under roofless or makeshift homes made of tarpaulins or salvaged iron sheets.
- In Syria, where, after 11 years of conflict and crisis, children are dropping out of school and child marriage is increasing, as families cope with increasing poverty.

Our world is hurting, even more so when we consider the multiplier effects of climate change and the COVID pandemic. Over the past three years, PWRDF's humanitarian response expenditures have doubled, from \$513,627 in 2019, to \$1,041,860 in 2021. The number of people worldwide in need of humanitarian assistance has also grown, from 1 in 45 in 2019 to 1 in 29 in 2021.

Our global economies are increasingly interconnected. Your prayers and support help PWRDF do its very best to respond to the global crises of this world. Giving to Ukraine is important, as are your gifts that help us support many other partners where individuals, families and communities are struggling for food, health, shelter and safety.

Behind the otherwise frightful numbers of so many people in crisis are precious lives, stories and hopes for a world that is truly just, healthy and at peace.

By Will Postma, PWRD

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. May 1 (unless transferred>this year it is May 2 due to “The Third Sunday of Easter”)
2. According to the Acts of the Apostles, Matthias was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot’s betrayal and death. His calling as an Apostle is unique, in that his appointment was not personally made by Jesus (who had already ascended to Heaven) and was made before the descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:12-26)
3. The Fourth Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday, The World Day of Prayer for Vocations (or Vocations Sunday)
4. F: Always on a Thursday
5. Birds and sea animals (Gen 1:20-23)
6. A Prophet
7. 70 (2 Kings 10:1)
8. Rome > Paul wrote the epistle during his second imprisonment sometime between 64-65 AD

ANSWERS TO MOTHER’S DAY WORD SEARCH

