



Connections

All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church



SUMMER 2023

From the Pastor's Study

Dear Members and Friends of All Saints:

This is the final installment in the series of articles I have been publishing in Connections these past few months regarding St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Oakland, California and their four expectations of membership that helped them to be a vibrant and dynamic congregation. I have already written about two of these: participation in at least one committee or ministry of the congregation and financial support of the church. Here, I will deal with active participation in continuing Christian education, hoping that the value of regular participation in worship is self-evident.

At St. Paul's, Oakland, Christian education was given such a high priority that every Wednesday evening was dedicated to it. Sunday morning was for worship.

Wednesday evening encompassed their whole Christian Ed. programme: "Sunday" school, confirmation class, and adult education. It began at 6:00 pm with a meal that all shared together, and then the congregation split off to their various education programmes. Wednesday evening Christian education often rivaled Sunday morning worship for attendance!

Continuing Christian education is important for two reasons. First, each stage of life we find ourselves in has us asking new and different questions of and about our faith. How we integrate religious knowledge into our daily lives changes all the time. The information we were given about the Bible, the Church, and our understanding of God when we were young children cannot carry the weight of the complexity of our lives as we work, develop relationships, and live in society as

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Pastor's Study Continued...

we age. Pretending that it could is what has caused whole generations to have judged Christian faith to be simplistic and unfit for the modern world. Just as the ability to think critically is essential for living in our complex society, so too is the capacity for critical thinking about faith.

Second, regular and active participation in continuing Christian education helps us develop our ability to speak authentically and intelligently about our faith. I have found this to be a lost practise in mainline western Christianity, including within the Lutheran and Anglican traditions. The liturgical language of creeds, prayers, and hymns that we encounter in worship might serve as foundational language of our faith, but it is not sufficient when speaking with our neighbours, communities, and families about that which is at the heart of our very being. Contrary to the popular opinion of recent history, faith is not a private matter between us and God to keep to ourselves. Rather, faith is meant to be shared boldly in both the way we live our lives and the language we use to speak about its importance and significance to our lives. That doesn't mean obnoxiously telling others why our faith is right, and why all other expressions of faith are wrong. But it does mean having the ability to talk about why our faith is so precious and meaningful for us. That muscle is best developed through the

practise of faith-based discussion and dialogue that continuing Christian education provides.

At All Saints we have been offering a twice-monthly adult Christian education opportunity called Faith Forum via Zoom on the 2nd and 4th

Tuesday evenings of the month. The format usually consists of a 30 to 45-minute presentation of a topic, followed by another 30 to 45 minutes of group conversation on that topic. I think the group conversation is the best part of the evening as the diversity of people's ideas and experience take us to some inspiring and holy places! Sometimes, instead of meeting on Zoom, some other educational opportunity might be offered, such as a workshop or special speaker.

While these gatherings have now ended for the summer, they will resume again in September. I welcome your input on topics that might be covered.

Christian education is not for children alone. Christian education often begins in childhood but is in fact a necessary life-long practise. I hope you will join us when Faith Forum resumes this fall.

Peace,
Pastor Brian



The Rev. Brian Wilker, Pastor
Rev. Canon David Howells , Honorary Assistant
Rev. Canon Lucy Reid, Honorary Assistant
Rev. Christine Clatworthy, Deacon
Brian Janzen, Council Chair
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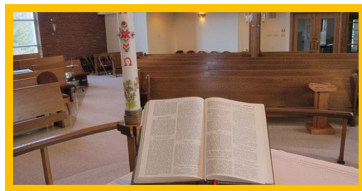
Council Perspective

With the end of May and the completion of our Annual Congregational / Vestry meeting (May 7th) we at All Saints have experienced another cycle. After reviewing of our Annual Report for 2022 and the celebration of our ministry for another year, it's time to move forward again. For the most part, the Covid times seem behind us. Many of us were personally and deeply affected by it. Our church community at All Saints felt its impact as well. With in person worship services brought to a halt for an extended period, I commend Pastor Brian, past chairperson Laura B Mann along with Council to quickly pivot and adjust our ministry to new forms. I think that these times have taught us that the church can move in different directions and faster than previously thought. Let us remember this as we continue in mission about a society of changing demographics and views.

As a result of decisions at the Annual Congregational/Vestry meeting, rotation in the membership of Council has occurred again. Four of our members have formally left Council and we have elected four new ones. It's a time of transition losing four very active members in our circle and yet warmly welcoming four new

members to our team. **As Chairperson now, and on behalf of the entire Congregation of All Saints, a sincere and heartfelt thanks to must go to Laura B Mann, Judy Rogers, Jan Nielsen, and David Maguire who are retiring from Council. I hope that all of us will find and take a moment to personally thank them.** Their faithful dedication to the business of ministry at All Saints has been invaluable. Thank you!

At our May 7th Annual General Meeting, we welcomed four newly elected members from the Congregation: Brian Janzen, Ena Sookraj, Chris Heaney, and Ann Sanders. I welcome your prayers for this new makeup of Council to represent your views, carry on the business at All Saints, and ministry mandate of Christ. Pictures of the new Council have now been posted just around the corner from the main incoming doors.



This new Council met on May 29th for our first session. A few left-over business items were reported on including the progression of the library bookshelf and the moving out of the old one which took up a lot of valuable space in the narthex. Things have really

opened up now. It was also reported that a new Mutual Committee has been formed and plans to start their mandate are coming soon. The ELCIC has more recently released a new document outlining Mutual's purpose and suggested guidelines. I believe there are some welcomed changes from years past.

Council Executive elections then took place. The results of are as follows; **Brian Janzen** Chairperson, **Sue Wakefield** Vice Chairperson, **Janet Weigel** Secretary with **Suzanne Worthen** as Treasurer and **Sandra Christie** as Assistant Treasurer.

Reports from different areas were received with no outstanding action required. Council is very cognizant of our deficit financial position. Some of this is still due to the previous effects of the Covid times. It is still evident too that actual in person attendance for services has not yet bounced back from pre Covid times. Pastor Brian posed the question of how we can identify past attendees and further welcome them to worship. Council will begin to address that next meeting. At the same time, we have welcomed a number of new individuals to our worship community. Perhaps more

Council is very cognizant of our deficit financial position. Treasurer's Report found on Page 8

Council Perspective Continued...

thought must too be given to a more public or lay ministry. Each of us has been commissioned to this through our baptism. Perhaps, in the past, we have found it too easy to rely on Clergy to carry the load.

As Council proceeds through this 2023 year, I look forward to possibilities. As always, I invite you to consider and reflect on Peter's words: *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10"*

Peace to all,

Brian Janzen
Chair, Congregational Council

The Trinity Submitted Reverend Nigel Bunce

I don't remember the first time I encountered the concept we call the Trinity. Back then, I just accepted it. In my early twenties, I even rang the bells at my home church, Holy Trinity, Sutton Coldfield, without giving the matter much thought. But as I grew older and began to think more carefully (and critically!) about our faith, I realized that the Trinity is a difficult concept to grasp.

The basic problem is that Christianity emerged from Judaism, which is strictly monotheistic (one god). In the 1st century CE, there was great anticipation that the long-awaited Messiah would come; the Holy Land was under a brutal Roman occupation, the Jewish Temple leaders were widely held in low esteem because

they collaborated with the Romans, and there was great inequality in society.

So, who was Jesus? Was he the long-promised Messiah, sent by God to save the Jewish people?

My guess is that most early Christians, including the Gospel writers Matthew, Mark, and Luke, all saw Jesus as the Jewish Messiah. For them, Jesus came among us to usher in God's Kingdom on earth. It's not clear exactly what they meant by the statement that Jesus was (is) the

Son of God.

Although it's clear that the author of John's Gospel believed that Jesus was the Messiah [John 20: 31], he presents a different idea about the nature of Jesus. For John, Jesus and God the Father are one. Indivisible since the beginning of time. Then later, John had Jesus say that he will return to the Father, who will send an Advocate in his place. That implies three divine entities. God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Talk about controversial!

But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:31 NRSV

In the early 4th century, Church leaders debated the matter in Nicea, a city in modern Turkey. They developed what we call the Nicene Creed as orthodox (correct) Church doctrine. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit became the "Three Persons" of a

The Trinity Continued...

single divine entity. As the familiar hymn has it. “God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity”.

This little piece of background history is one reason why I find difficult the Gospel reading we used this year for Trinity Sunday [Matthew 28: 16-20]. How could Jesus tell the disciples to baptize new Christians in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, when the idea of the Trinity didn't yet exist?

It's quite possible that Jesus may have told the disciples to initiate new converts into their communities by baptism. It's part of the corresponding ritual in Judaism. Then, much later, after the doctrine of the Trinity became established, scribes edited Matthew's Gospel to conform with new thinking. [We must remember that before books were printed, they had to be copied by hand. Therefore, editorial changes were not only possible, but probable.]

Jesus, a faithful Jew, preached the love of the Jewish *shema*, to love God, and your neighbour as yourself. That kind of love reflects the dictum of the prophet Micah, that what God requires of us is to do justice,

love kindness, and to walk humbly with God. Justice, kindness, humility.

A much worse issue arises from the way that Christians have used Matthew's “Great Commission”: the notion that the disciples should, “Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ...” It was essentially to trash the spiritual and religious beliefs of all non-Christians, and to convert them, by force if necessary.

The Crusades against Muslim people in the Middle East used this logic. Then, in the 15th and 16th centuries CE, when European explorers ‘discovered’

new lands, they used the Christian imperative to “make disciples of all nations” by forcibly converting people from their own beliefs.

In other words, Christian leaders forgot the teachings of Jesus and became arrogant. Christians considered the native people of

the Americas to be savages.

They used Matthew 28: 16-20 to justify colonial behaviour, including atrocities such as residential schools, whose malign influence persists to this day.

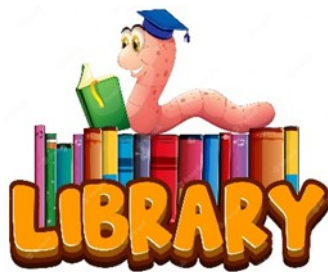
I hope that my (somewhat heretical) views on how the concept of the Trinity has been used will not detract from the concept itself. For me, a useful analogy is to imagine a three-sided pyramid with glass sides. God is at the centre of the pyramid but never be seen in

full. I can choose to look through the Father/Mother window, or the Jesus window, or the Holy Spirit window. Which I choose most often depends on what sort of

faith I have.

Is my faith most nurtured (today, at least) by God the creator? Or do I accept Jesus as my brother, guide, and friend? Or am I animated and inspired by the fire of the Holy Spirit? However, tomorrow may be different!!





All Saints Library

Calling all bookworms – the Library is now open! The bookshelf is located in the Narthex. Please borrow any book – there is no sign out – and return it when you are done to the colour coded section. Children's books are located in the corner beside the table where the children's activities are located.

To help you choose a book, they have been grouped (and colour coded) into the following categories:

● Biographies, ● Compassion, ● History, ● Miscellaneous & Fun Reads, ● Religion, ● Social Justice, and ● Spirituality

Thank you to Marilyn Coleman, Jan Nielsen and Janet Weigel for their amazing work in updating and relocating our Library!!

If you have a book you wish to donate, please give it to Michele in the office. As new books are added to the library, please consider writing a book review to introduce your book to the congregation. In this edition of *Connections* you will find a review for a new addition to our library. Also, for anyone who wanted to read *Five Little Indians* by Michelle Good, that book is also available in our library and there was a book review in *Connections* last year.

Please check out our new library!

Summer Office Hours

- ⇒ Please note that the Church Office will be closed beginning June 29
- ⇒ The Office reopens on July 26, 27 and 28
- ⇒ During the month of August, the Office will be open on Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- ⇒ Voice messages (phone) will be checked on a regular basis but inquiries by email will have delayed responses

Save the Date! Calling All Worship Leaders

On Saturday, **September 16, 2023** starting at 9:00 am, we will be holding a Workshop for Assisting Ministers, Servers and Ushers.

Anyone who has served in the past or is interested in doing so in the future is welcome to join us! Coffee, tea and snacks will be available.





Learning Circle

In the last issue of *Connections*, I described some of the misconceptions that settlers had about the land and people they encountered on Turtle Island. The period in which the book *Daughters of the Deer* is set, is early in the settlement of Quebec by the French. Marie's narrative

outlines the differences between the economic models of these two clashing cultures and some of the factors that were pushing her people to the edges of survival. I don't want to give more of it away because it is an excellent read and illustrates some of the issues I previously

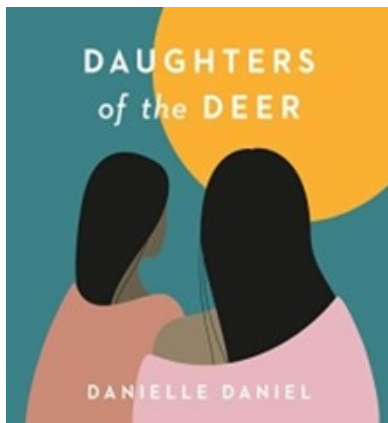
outlined and helps set the stage for the next chapter in our Learning Circle.

A good summer book!

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Altermann

Daughters of the Deer by Danielle Daniel

Random House Canada (319 pages) ©2020



Marie is an Algonkin woman and healer of the Deer Clan who has lost her husband and daughters to Iroquois raids. Her parents were pushed further and further north from the Ottawa River area because of raiding by the Iroquois and their English allies, and this is where they ended up. Now her small village, on a site near Trois-Rivières, is the location of a small but growing French

settlement and church. Most of the warriors and hunters of the village have been lost to raids and the Sachem is worried about the survival of the remaining 100 or so people. To ensure their survival he convinces Marie to marry a French settler. The People need the protection of the French soldiers against the ongoing Iroquois raids. Marie dutifully takes off her deerskin tunic and dons a blue cloth dress to marry Pierre.

Danielle Daniel is a descendant of Marie, her twelfth generation grandmother. It is a fictional story based on family history and explores the challenges faced by an Indigenous woman and her half settler children in Quebec of the mid to late 1600s. It tells the story of children who try to fit

into two different worlds and the prejudices that existed even after conversion to Catholicism and living in a mostly European fashion. When it turns out their daughter, Jeanne, is Two-Spirited it creates more problems for Jeanne, her family and the community. We see highlighted the long history of violence against Indigenous women and the struggles to maintain an identity that the growing newcomer society sees as primitive and disdainful. Written with care and respect, this wonderfully engaging and powerful story (I couldn't put it down and finished it in two days!) pulls on your emotions even when you can anticipate where the story inevitably goes.

Worship and Music

Dear All Saints

Our Worship and Music committee meets (more or less) monthly in lively discussion about the worship experience. We talk about big ideas like how to support all of God's children, beautiful and loved in their diversity or ways to hear the stories of our First Nations peoples and engaging in social justice to the small ideas about timing of services, inclusion of our companion animals and who needs to pick up the cookies for Father's Day!

Our conversations touch on big projects like "greening" our worship space and extending our garden to allow services and meditation in nature and little ones like welcoming back our parish family with burgers and beverages after the summer holidays or celebrating a joyous occasion with cake!

We listen carefully to each other's ideas and, if agreed, will forward recommendations to Council for consideration.



Do you have to be some sort of expert to serve on this committee? No! We value and benefit from all the different points of view and we welcome new members

at any time. If interested in sitting in on a meeting or joining us, please just let Pastor Brian know.

All are Welcome!!!!!!

Respectfully submitted
Deborah Szymanski Potts (chair)

Treasurer's Report by Suzanne Worthen at May 31, 2023

	May 2023	Year to Date
Offerings	\$14,705.00	\$77,844.99
Other Income	\$1,955.76	\$8,233.86
Transfers -Housing Fund.....	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00
-Dowry Fund	\$625.00	\$3,125.00
Total Income	\$18,285.76	\$94,203.85
Total Expenses.....	<u>\$20,042.67</u>	<u>\$103,463.71</u>
Surplus/(Deficit).....	<u>(\$1,756.91)</u>	<u>(\$9,259.86)</u>



Silvercreek Market Update June 2023

Thank you to everyone who has been responding to our request for financial rather than physical food support. We are slowly rebuilding our Market account and we hope that we will be able to continue with the Market into 2024. Thank you to everyone who has been or is thinking about making a regular Market donation each month!

which will be used to purchase lentils. This should get us through with most non-perishable items until our Fall Food Drive. Our main focus is still providing fresh produce, which is where the financial support from the congregation and friends of the Market are needed.

If you are wondering what non-perishable items we need on a regular basis they are: rice, red lentils, pasta sauce and cooking oil. We give out rice and lentils at each Market which is why we

go through these pretty quickly, and cooking oil is often hard to find at food banks.

If you want to see lots and lots of smiles, come and visit us any Market day!

happy to welcome them to a safe place where they can come and get good quality fresh food. If you want to see lots and lots of smiles, come and visit us any Market day!

If you have young people in your lives who are looking for volunteer opportunities during the summer, please contact Julianna Stephens to get added to the volunteer schedule. And thank you to all the Market volunteers who faithfully show up each week – it couldn't happen without our cheerful and dedicated team!

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Altermann
Outreach Chair

We had a food drive at St. Joseph's RC Church on June 10 and 11 which resulted in 736 pounds of food being collected as well as a small amount of cash

We continue to register new families at each Market. Many are newcomers who are arriving from areas of the world that are experiencing violence. We are

Women of Faith—Potluck Lunch

Wednesday, June 28
(*Rain date - June 29)
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

At the home of Pearl Robinson
(backyard garden)
149 Waverley Drive
(across from school)
Guelph 519-822-3991

Please sign up in narthex or call Pearl to let her know you are attending.

Come for a visit! Pearl loves company!
Bring something to share (if you can), plus sunscreen, hat and insect spray.



Pearl says, "Men are welcome!"

Ramblings from Parish Care Ministry

It's tough entering this so called "golden" age. Except, I think the gold is a bit tarnished! With it usually comes lots of changes to your health and that in itself can be a "slam dunk" to your ego or self image. Then along comes this brain of ours that seems to wear out until it eventually only fires on one cylinder as short-term memory fades on us. If only we could be like our cars and go for a lube and oil change to fix all the creeks and what ails us. But life is not quite that simple in reality. Our "parts" wear out, just like our cars. New research and development in medicine has seen many interventions and ways to improve our quality of life.

It is not just Dementia or its counterpart, Alzheimers, that can affect our personalities, memory and behaviours as we get older. Other illnesses, such as kidney disease, Parkinson's, heart disease, low thyroid can affect how well our brain functions. Our cognitive ability. So as we age there may be a decline or a change in how our brain functions or works for us.

One of the most common fears we have as we age, is forgetfulness and losing our memory. Is it normal? Most "senior moments" we experience are normal and not signs of dementia. Each part of the brain stores different memories. Your

brain is constantly "forgetting" some information to make room for new data. As we age, the rate at which we process information naturally slows, affecting recall. Everyone forgets things once in a while, but if it becomes problematic or concerning, it is time to seek help.

Focusing can help boost short-term memory. Repeating a thought, word or event is more

effective for long-term recall than trying to cram. Patience is key for helping your memory as you age. It is important to continually challenge your brain with new tasks to help build cognitive reserve - the brain's capacity to resist damage.

Most "senior moments" we experience are normal and not signs of dementia.

Staying mentally active is a great way to do this. Challenge your brain with word games and puzzles. There are lots on the Merriam-Webster website including Quordle! New York Times also has tiles, word games, spelling bee, Wordle, etc which challenge recall and memory.

The Kitchener Record has Sudoku and Jumble.

Staying physically active is another great ways to do this. In fact, exercise is one of the best ways to maintain a healthy brain and improve memory. Exercise

not only makes the muscles grow stronger, but also raises the blood flow to the whole body, including the brain.



Mental exercises help keep mental skills and memory in tone.

There is no quick fix or guarantees when preventing or even trying to improve memory loss as each individual is different. But there are some things that you can do to try to improve memory:

1. Daily Physical Activity - Try walking briskly 20 min each day. But if heart problems make it impossible to walk that far, spread it out over a few 5-10 min walks each day
2. Stay Mentally Active - Activities that engage your brain: Crossword Puzzles, Reading, Try a new hobby, learn to play a musical instrument, play games, Volunteer with a

Parish Care Continued...

community group.

3. Spend Time with Others - Social interaction helps ward off depression and stress. Both can contribute to memory loss. Plan time with friends, family and others, especially if you live alone.

4. Stay Organized - Keep track of tasks and appointments in a Day Planner, notebook or electronic planner. Saying it out loud as you write will keep things in your memory. Keep “to do” lists up to date. Check off items as you finish. You are more likely to forget things if your house is in disarray and notes are not organized. Keep wallets, keys, glasses and other essential items in a specific place in your home so they are easy to find as well as seen and remembered. Limit distractions. Don’t do too many things at once. Focus on things you want to remember or connect it to a favourite song or saying.

5. Sleep Well - Not getting enough sleep has been linked to memory loss. Also restless sleep and sleep that gets disturbed often (many trips to the bathroom each night or snoring can disrupt sleep). The average adult should sleep 7-9 hours a night.

6. Eat a Healthy Diet - Ever hear the expression “You are what you eat”? Fruits, veggies,

whole grains, low-fat proteins (fish, beans, poultry, yoghurt). Watch your alcohol consumption which can affect brain cells leading to confusion and memory loss.

7. Manage chronic health problems - High blood pressure, diabetes, depression, hearing loss and obesity are all things that should be managed by your physician. Keep in mind, some medications can affect memory.

8. Hearing loss, though it may seem irrelevant, can actually “tune out” our brain. Brain cells that are used in the process of hearing will actually “die” if not used. So if you are not hearing what is being said or what seems like just “noise” around you, that part of your brain will eventually not work for you. Hearing effectively exercises our brain cells. Don’t play the game of “I can hear just fine”, when others talk to you about your hearing. Get your hearing tested (it’s free) and wear those hearing aids regularly!! It is also very frustrating to those around you, when you do not hear conversations or questions, and then do not reply.

I am sure you, like me, get tired of hearing that the quick fix for



everything these days, is “exercise and eating your veggies”. Physical exercise is good if you move all your limbs including your neck. But don’t forget to give your brain a workout too. To have good cognitive function and good memory in our “older” years, we need to continually stimulate the brain. With all things in the body slowing down as we get older, it is way too easy to fall into a lifestyle of living a placid, easy-going life.

Summer is the perfect time to keep “on the move”, so enjoy the beauty of God’s creation around you and the gifts he has given you. We need to honour him with using these “gifts” wisely.

Peace and Blessings
Marilyn



Reexamining the Church—Lay Leadership

"We are living in a different time, and for this time we need to explore ways of being and doing that may look different from our past. We are being asked to make ourselves vulnerable again, and, in doing so, make our hearts and minds fully available to the Spirit's leading. Perhaps we are called to dream differently. Maybe we are to be open to new dreamers. That can make us feel vulnerable.....But we can, and should, be confident in our vulnerability. God has made us confident in Christ and competent ministers of the gospel (II Corinthians)"

Willard Metzger...Daring to Dream Again

I quoted Willard Metzger when I penned an article back in September 2017. Many will find that date familiar as it was the month that we officially marked a new beginning in bringing two congregations together forming All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church. Since that date, we have marked many milestones in ministry yet like many congregations, the changing demographics of communities and society continue to pose challenges to our mission.

The summer of 2019 brought me the privilege of serving as a delegate to a national church assembly in Regina. One document presented along with accompanying motions was entitled "Reimagining Our Church: Public Ministry in the ELCIC". Essentially this paper made a strong case that these changing demographics of communities and society have resulted in a shift in how we have viewed institutions over the last century. Many individuals

have become more skeptical and noncommittal towards formal organizations which include religious ones as well. It suggested several things the church ought to consider including shifting the traditional model of ministry in our churches being "clergy centric" to a more public ministry model involving the laity. This is not to say the clergy does not have a crucial role.

Then came Covid in 2020. All the "rules" of a more traditional ministry changed or shall I say were forced to change. This placed added stress on our system but for many churches, it was all about how we adapted and how quickly could this be done. Many configured new ministries which proved fruitful. However, the transition to encouraging people back to the physical worship space has been challenging.

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Dubrick Summer Institute on reexamining lay

leadership in the church. This was held at Martin Luther University College in Waterloo. It was a single day session composed of a keynote speaker address and several workshops.

At the Dubrick Summer Institute the keynote speaker, Allen Jorgenson, Assistant Dean and professor of theology, re-examined the workings of public ministry and the role of the laity. He presented the historical background of what may be called an "institution" and what may be termed a "movement". He further investigated how the Christian church fits into these. An institution is an organization built with a specific structure and rules. A movement is more loosely organized and often starts with a specific cause or issue taken on by a single individual initially. Certainly, in this context Christianity began as a movement. As Jesus stated in Matthew chapter 28, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the

Reexamining the Church Continued...

name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

Although the term “laity” is not specifically referenced in the Bible, the Greek term for “people” (Laos) is used throughout. Jesus’ great commission was to be carried out by “the people” ...followers, disciples, the laity. This includes all of us baptized in Christ. This commission seems to have been proclaimed by the “people” for the first 2-3 centuries. It is estimated that more than a million followers had accrued by then. In the fourth century, Constantine “legalized” Christian worship or certainly tolerated it. With the continued rise in Christianity and it being out in the open, more structure and “rules” seem to evolve. This evolution resulted in multiple divisions and structures of the church which continues today. Obviously, a simplified version of history.

So how do we view the modern Christian church? A movement or an institution? More and more people today are viewing it as an institution. However, as we previously stated it began as a movement. We must consider elements of both. What’s probably more important is what is driving what? With well over 2 billion followers today, it

requires some structure but what is the driving force or intent... mission or structure? Our traditional ministry model of placing so much emphasis on the clergy may no longer be the best way to respond to the Gospel. It must be carried by the laity...the people. When we are baptized, we are all baptized into Christ’s mission. Perhaps this is what Metzinger meant by dream differently. In some circles, I have heard the expression, “we must do church differently”. I do believe Covid has taught us some things about “doing” church. Perhaps we must respond outside the bounds of an institution, and more quickly. Perhaps we must consider the role of each one of us as laity...the people baptized into Christ’s mission. Jorgenson certainly wasn’t suggesting we abolish the clergy for they indeed have an important role.

The second portion of the day was split among three workshops.

- “How to write prayers for the congregation each week - Crafting prayers of intercession for worship is a skill that can be learned and a practice that can be nurtured.
- Connections in Community - Beginning with Genesis 1:28, this workshop brought the practice of Asset Based

Community Development into conversation with the Biblical text. Participants were given tools that will help them recognize the abundance and potential in their neighbourhoods as they work toward the common good.

- Searching safe sites: how to make the best of online spiritual resources - This workshop investigated models for searching and using good internet resources for spiritual practice and congregational life. “

Each of these workshops spoke from the role of laity...the people. All of us. I left the day charged up, enthused for the possibilities of the church moving forward. What I do believe is required is courage. This is required from each of us in order to use the gifts given in even small ways to forward Christ’s mission. A simple beginning, a response of yes I will, yes I will ask, yes I can, I will act....I do believe.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Janzen

Volunteer Opportunity

Waterloo is the hosting Lutheran and Anglican youth from across Canada from August 10-13 and we need your help. Volunteers are needed for registration, late night spots, chaplains, traffic control and lots of areas around the event. We will find a space for you to use your gifts!!

To register as a volunteer you can contact Pastor Bonnie

Schelter-Brown at pbschelterbrown@gmail.com or Pastor Anne Anderson at ananderson@luther.wlu.ca and go to the CLAY 2023 Website and register as a volunteer!! <https://claygathering.ca/>

Thanks for your support of our youth!! You can make a real difference in the lives of these youth!!



BREAKING NEWS!

If you are on PAR you can add on a regular donation to the Market - Just give Janet Weigel an updated PAR form that adds in your monthly Market donation!

Fun Family Event at the Children's Reading Room on Saturday July 8th from 10-2!

Please join us on Saturday, July 8th anytime between 10 am-2 pm for an exciting, fun-filled event! Bring the entire family, meet three phenomenal local authors, and hear their stories read out loud. There will be outdoor children's activities, crafts, a bake sale, and a silent auction! This event is free to attend and as always, all participants will get to bring home free books! Please share widely with your contacts and have a great weekend!

BEYOND THE BOOK



Saturday, July 8th 10 am - 2 pm



Rae Wright
10:30 am



Nan Forler
11:30 am



Sandra Wilson
12:30 pm



Book readings by guest authors
Crafts by [Rainbow Mentors](#)
Bake Sale
Silent Auction
Bookmark making
Free Children's Books!!



210 Silvercreek Pkwy North
Guelph, ON
Around the back of
All Saints church



Rev. Andrew Hyde
Ecumenical Campus
Ministry
Sunday May 28



Congregational Hike
Saturday June 3



Photos provided by Laura F Mann, Rev. Nigel Bunce and Brian Wilker



Pride Sunday
Sunday June 4



Grand River Ministry Area Picnic
Sunday June 11



Pride in the
Park



LARC Prayer Service Monday June 12

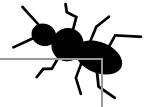


Photos provided by Janet Weigel, Rev Brian Wilker

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Below are the regularly scheduled room uses that repeat weekly all year long (unless otherwise noted). Please check here <i>first</i> when looking for available space.						
	6:00-8:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, AA (Flying Blind) 6:30 – 8:30 – Choir Room, Gamblers Anonymous	6:00-8:00 pm – Choir Room, TOPS 4:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, Order of the Eastern Star 2 nd Tuesday of the month	9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Rooms A&B, Children Reading Room 7:00-9:00 pm – Choir Room, Guelph Al-Anon Family Group 7:30-9:30 pm – Rose Head Hall, AA (Helping Hands)	9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Rooms A&B, Children Reading Room 5:45- 8:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, TOPS 7:00 – 8:00 pm – Choir Room, Tri-County Recovery	9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Rooms A&B, Children Reading Room	
RHH = Rose Head Hall		1 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting	2 Church office open	3 Church office open 11:00 am – 3:30 pm – RHH, Silvercreek Community Market	4 	5 Rental all day – Rose Head Hall
6 Pentecost 10 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	7	8	9 Church office open	10 Church office open 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting	11	12
13 Pentecost 11 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	14	15	16 Church office open	17 Church office open 9:45 am – Choir Rm, Creative Crafting 11:00 am – 3:30 pm – RHH, Silvercreek Community Market	18	19
20 Pentecost 12 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	21	22 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting	23 Church office open	24 Church office open	25	26
27 Pentecost 13 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	28	29	30 Church office open	31 Church office open 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting		

All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church



July 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Below are the regularly scheduled room uses that repeat weekly all year long (unless otherwise noted). Please check here first when looking for available space.						
	6:00-8:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, AA (Flying Blind) 6:30 – 8:30 – Choir Room, Gamblers Anonymous	6:00-8:00 pm – Choir Room, TOPS 4:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, Order of the Eastern Star 2 nd Tuesday of the month	9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Rooms A&B, Children Reading Room 7:00-9:00 pm – Choir Room, Guelph At-Anon Family Group 7:30-9:30 pm – Rose Head Hall, AA (Helping Hands)	9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Rooms A&B, Children Reading Room 5:45- 8:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, TOPS 7:00 – 8:00 pm – Choir Room, Tri-County Recovery	9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Rooms A&B, Children Reading Room	
RHH = Rose Head Hall						1
2 Pentecost 5 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	3 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting	4	5	6 11:00 am – 3:30 pm – RHH, Silvercreek Community Market	7	8 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – RHH, Children's Reading Room Author Event
9 Pentecost 6 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	10	11 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting	12	13	14	15
16 Pentecost 7 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	17 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting	18	19	20 9:45 am – Choir Room, Creative Crafting 11:00 am – 3:30 pm – RHH, Silvercreek Community Market	21	22 Onward Willow Neighbourhood Group Trunk Sale in the parking lot
23 Pentecost 8 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	24	25	26 Church office open	27 Church office open 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting	28 Church office open	29
30 Pentecost 9 8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion 10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion	31 9:45 am – RHH, Creative Crafting					