

# COMMON SUPPLICATIONS

Proclaim the Love of Christ | Engage and Involve | Musical Outreach | Open Doors



## Looking Ahead

**Evensong** - Sunday September 25, 4pm,  
Feast of St. Michael and All Angels.

This will be an opportunity to extend gratitude to Rev'd Judy Steers for being our Assistant Curate since October 2019. Judy has accepted the appointment of full time chaplain at St. John's Kilmarnock School starting in September. If you would like to contribute to a gift for Judy, please mark your donation "Curate's Gift". *Note that this can not be considered a donation that we can provide a receipt for income tax purposes.*

**Evensong** - Sunday October 30, 4pm,  
Feast of All Saints.

**Service of Remembrance** - Sunday November 13, 11am with Poppy Project installation.

**Advent Lessons and Carols** - Sunday November 27, 4pm and 7pm, First Sunday of Advent.

## From the Wardens

After more than two years of coping with the many changes Covid has imposed (and continues to) on our lives it is sheer joy to be able to attend services in-person at St. John's again. Now, as things are quieter in August, we have much to reflect on and look forward to in the fall.

How marvellous it was to be able to welcome The Elora Festival and The Elora Singers back to St. John's after a long absence.

We are delighted to have Patrick Murray as our new Director of Music. He, with Jurgen and the St. John's Parish Choir, share their musical gifts with us every week.

To our Assistant Curate, Rev'd Judy Steers, heartfelt congratulations on her new appointment as the full-time chaplain at St. John's Kilmarnock School beginning in September. We will miss Judy but as the Bishop is appointing her as an Honorary Assistant at St. John's we know that we will still see her from time to time. This appointment allows us to continue the long-established link between St. John's Elora and the school. There will be an opportunity for us to extend gratitude to Judy for her ministry in our midst at **Evensong on Sunday September 25, 4:00pm**. If you would like to contribute to a gift for Judy, please mark your donation "Curate's



## Weekly Pastoral Letters

Since the beginning of the pandemic the Rector sends a weekly Pastoral Letter by email with a brief reflection and some news of upcoming events. If you are not receiving this email and would like to be included starting in September, please contact Linda Coultres at [lmcoultres7@gmail.com](mailto:lmcoultres7@gmail.com) or call the office at 519-846-5911.

Sunday's Orders of Service and the text of the sermon are on our website and mailed or delivered every Monday to people who are not on email. If you would like to receive the Orders of Service and text of the Sermon by Canada Post, contact Susan Edwards at 519-846-5911.

## Supporting St. John's

You can support St. John's through:

**Offering Envelopes** (available from the Parish Office through Steve Hornett)

**Pre-Authorized Giving** (forms are available on the website under "Donate" or at the back of the church)

**E-transfer** [treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com)

Contact Steve Hornett if you have a question about givings.

Gift". Note, that this cannot be considered a donation that we can provide receipt for income tax purposes.

We are delighted that Thomas Littlewood has agreed to take on a limited term part-time administrative role for the Parish starting in August. Thomas' priorities and will focus on the parish data base, volunteer management and screening, and license agreements for outside user groups. Linda Coultres continues to create our Orders of Service, monitor our email and voicemail; Steve Hornett is our Givings Secretary; Susan Hirst is our Book-keeper; Andrew Hirst our Treasurer; Colleen Murray oversees our social media; Garry Cantlon is our Sexton and Jon Warland our Chair of Property.

The church sign on Henderson Street has suffered some damage from winds and needs to be replaced. The Wardens are working with Shirley Al who is designing some signage that is carefully chosen and will be situated for best visibility. We are also looking at a hanging sign off the south entrance to the Parish Centre.

The interest the community showed in our Poppy Project last fall promises to carry on and many are busy once again knitting the colourful flowers for a display in late October and early November.

We are hoping to hold a Parish Retreat Day at the end of October, so stay tuned for details.

In an effort to address Open Doors as one of our four areas of ministry identified in our Vision process last year, the Wardens presented some architect's renderings to Parish Council of what could become a new multi-purpose accessible community reception hall for St. John's situated between the Parish Centre and the church. We are at very early stages of this project, so more details to come.

As always the church needs your participation to help keep things running smoothly. Please consider offering your time. The Altar Guild, Greeters, Readers, Knitters and Quilters, the ministry at Portage, and helping manage some of our property projects are all areas for you to consider.

Many parishioners have been pleased to see the return of the Offertory Hymn on Sundays. Not only is it an integral part of our liturgy it also affords us the opportunity of contributing to the financial needs of the parish we all depend on. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and commitment. We have so much to be thankful for!

If you would like Offering Envelopes or a form to make a monthly Pre-Authorized Gift to St. John's please let us know, or leave a message for Steve Hornett, our Givings Secretary. Looking forward to seeing you soon at St. John's.  
*Peter Barr, Pam Gradwell, Jeff Ostic and Jane Houlding - Wardens*

## Rector's Words

It has been a busy spring and early summer season at St. John's, and after pandemic lockdowns I feel like I am slowly recovering my muscle memory for the liturgical rhythm of a week in the parish. It is curious how in the pandemic *everything* has changed and *everyone* has changed, perhaps to degrees that we are still learning about. I am still learning what those behavioural changes are for myself. Someone said to me recently, "I need to get back in the habit of coming to church." My inner voice couldn't help but became audible and with a smile I responded, "Yes, you do!"

I continue to be amazed at the depth of your commitment and dedication to make things run smoothly at St. John's. You are a remarkable group of people of immense generosity.

It has also been a pleasure to welcome so many people to St. John's: the Jubilee Evensong in early June, the liturgies with The Elora Singers in July, over 100 visitors who have had guided tours by our hosts on weekend afternoons in late June and throughout July, and the Community Meal program on Tuesdays twice a month. It is just such a treat to actually be with people. That's what Anglicans do - meet together.

As we look towards the fall, I want to invite you to attend something every week as you are able; and

consider inviting someone to join you. But particularly make a point of attending the Evensong September 25 at 4pm to thank Rev'd Judy Steers for serving in the role of Assistant Curate since October 2019. A week after Judy was ordained a priest in March 2020 we entered a pandemic with a lockdown. So the majority of Judy's ministry with us has been during these complex times. Judy has helped to move mountains by creating live-streams, offering Christmas Carol readings on Zoom, organizing the delivery of Lent or Easter care packages on porches across the parish, helping with the Poppy Project, our response to TRC, and assisting in the liturgical and pastoral leadership of the parish. Judy has been a faithful, creative and helpful team player and wonderful colleague who has served us immeasurably well. I trust that you can come to the Choral Evensong on September 25 at 4pm to express your gratitude.

I am delighted that Thomas Littlewood has accepted the Wardens' invitation to work in a temporary part time administrative capacity starting in August. This will be an immense help for me and the Wardens to work in three areas of administrative support.

There is much to be grateful for, and I trust that you can continue to offer your prayers for one another, our community and the world - with intentional regularity, and even show up to be with others in doing so.

God bless and keep you. *-Paul+*

## Florence Nightingale Award

Congratulations to Jane Rapp who was honoured with the Florence Nightingale Community Service Award on Sunday July 10. The award is a joint presentation from the Elora Festival and St. John's to recognize someone for their history of community service and their role with both organizations. Jane has served as Volunteer Coordinator for The Elora Festival for seven years, and has been involved at St. John's as a chalice bearer, greeter, meal preparer for the women's monthly dinners, and pandemic reopening team member. In Jane's career as a nurse she helped open the second palliative care ward in Canada, was a team lead at the neurological unit at University Hospital in London, a nurse at a family practise in Fergus, and a trusted confidant for parishioners encountering health challenges. Thank you, Jane, for being our "Lady with the Lamp".



## Notes from Patrick

As I reflect on almost one year in my role as Director of Music at St. John's Elora, the sentiment that stands out to me most is *gratitude*.

I'm grateful for the work of all our singers in the Parish Choir, their commitment to our music each week, to the choir as an ensemble, to this church, and to each other as artists and people.

I'm grateful for such supportive colleagues in Paul, Judy, and Jurgen, who have helped me "learn the ropes" at St. John's in a way that both honours our traditions and is open to new paths.



I'm grateful to be part of, and part of building, a church that understands the role of music in the worship experience, and is committed to supporting a strong and lasting music ministry.

As we look towards the fall, I am pleased to continue the Parish Choir tradition of choral musical excellence at 11am Sunday services, as well as a return to regular monthly Evensong services. As well, the Volunteer Choir, led by Jurgen, continues to be a vital and vibrant part of our 9 am liturgies and is open to new members; reach out if you're interested. Finally, I'm looking forward to the beginnings of St. John's first "music advisory group" drawing on



members of the choirs and congregation. This group will help me, and us as a congregation, explore new possibilities for people to experience and participate in our musical offerings at St. John's, helping us live into our mission of "musical outreach." There are also a few other projects in the works I can't quite make public yet; stay tuned!

Finally, I have enjoyed getting to know many of you, whether through hellos and conversations on Sundays or through emails exchanged after services. Please do continue to reach out and connect.

St. John's is blessed to be a uniquely musical community of faith. Above all, I am grateful for this.

- Patrick Murray

## Opportunities

Are you interested in learning more about the Anglican Church or the liturgy; or preparing for Baptism, reaffirmation of faith, reception into the Anglican Communion, or Confirmation, or even ordination? Or perhaps you want to participate more in the life of St. John's; or have some ideas; or a question? Then let Paul know and he would be happy to follow up with you.

## Walking in Right Relations

One of our guest speakers during the Elora Festival, Michael Freeman, invited us to take the next step towards reconciliation. That will be different for everyone, but as a starting point you are invited to join the Rector and Guinevere Kern in a small group of people to read through the **TRC 94 Calls to Action**. We will meet at the Parish Centre in September for perhaps 5 or 6 weeks. Please call the office or let Judy Steers know of your interest and your availability during the week and we will announce a time in September that can best suit everyone's schedules.



## Knitters and Quilters

The Knitters and Quilters Group meets every Wednesday, 9:30 to 12noon at the Parish Centre. Knitted and crocheted blankets are blessed and given to the hospice in Guelph and the palliative care unit at Michael Garron Hospital.

On the success of last year's Poppy Project, this year we are marking the 150th anniversary of the birth of Colonel John McCrae, author of "In Flanders Fields", with a similar outdoor installation of poppies on the church tower. In addition, there will be poppy banners available for businesses throughout Elora and Fergus for those who wish them. Poppy kits are available from the Poppy Bin on the porch of the Parish Centre, and patterns are also available on the website and at the back of the church. Contact Barb Dunsmore if you are available to help us attach poppies to netting in September and October. Bring all completed poppies to the Poppy Bin before September 30

## News for Rev'd Judy

It was announced on July 31st in a letter from the Bishops' office that our Assistant Curate, Rev'd Judy Steers, will be taking up a full time role as Chaplain at St John's Kilmarnock School starting September 1st. In this capacity Judy has resigned her appointment as Assistant Curate at St. John's effective August 31st and the bishop has appointed her an Honorary Assistant at St. John's Elora beginning September 1st.

Judy has been our Assistant Curate part-time since October 2019, and the SJK chaplain part-time since September 2021. While we will miss seeing her week to week, and having her as part of the leadership team at St John's on a regular basis, we look forward to continuing to deepen our historical connections between the school and the St. John's community in the future.



**Parish Council Meets September 20, 2pm.**

**Diocesan Synod Meets November 4 and 5.**

A celebration of Judy's three years with us will take place at a Choral Evensong on **Sunday, September 25th at**

**4:00 pm**, with a reception to follow. If you would like to contribute to a gift for Judy, you can mark your donation "Curate's Gift". As this is a gift we cannot provide a receipt for income tax purposes.

Judy will be available for visits and pastoral emergencies in August. Judy's last Sunday as our Assistant Curate is August 21st.

Rev'd John Lockyer is the celebrant and preacher on Sunday August 28th, and the Rector will be back on Sunday September 4th.

Please join in extending deep gratitude for Judy's ministry with us and the assurance of our love and prayers as she makes this transition.

## From the Treasurer

Extract from accounts for the 6 months to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022:

Income comprised of items in the table.

As you can see, our income is running below budget. However, our expenses are also approximately \$10,000 below budget and therefore our 'bottom line' is only marginally below where we expected to be at this stage in the year.

In addition to the above offerings, we have received over \$6,500 in donations towards the Ukraine Relief which has been sent over to PWRDF.

Thank you for your continued intentional support of the parish during the summer.

- Andrew Hirst, Treasurer

INCOME	Actual	Budget
Offerings	90,845	100,000
Choir	31,510	37,500
Wage Subsidy	417	400
Facilities Hire	1,450	900
Other	400	0
Investment Funds	57,950	57,950
TOTAL	182,572	196,750

## Liturgy at St. John's

The Sunday 11am live-stream, Sunday 8am service, the service at Christ Church Drayton, and the Community Meal program are all taking a sabbath rest for August. In August join us Sunday at 9 and 11am and Wednesday at 10am.

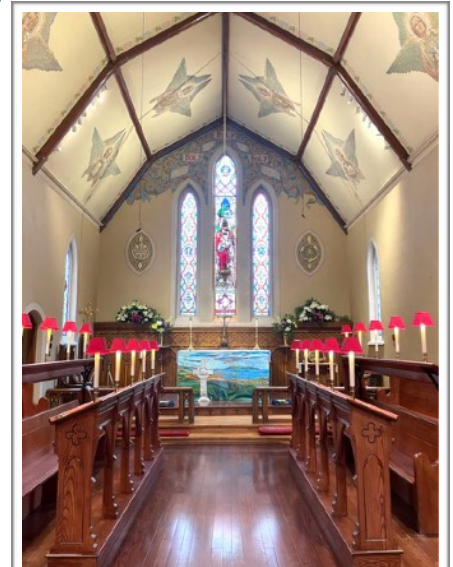
After Labour Day in September join us at St. John's:

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion (B.C.P)  
 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (B.A.S.)  
 with Volunteer Choir  
 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion (B.C.P)  
 at Christ Church Chapel, Drayton  
 11:00 a.m. Choral Communion (B.C.P) (1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday)  
 Choral Matins (B.C.P) (2nd and 4th Sunday)  
 with St. John's Parish Choir.

Wednesday 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion.

Hearing Assist Devices are available at the back of the church.

Face masks are strongly recommended for members of the congregation.



## St. John's Statement of Purpose

St. John's Elora is a Christian community within the Anglican tradition with a strong history of liturgical worship and choral music. In a spirit of service, self-giving, and thanksgiving, we offer to the glory of God, ourselves, our souls and bodies, endeavouring to foster a faith in Jesus Christ and facilitate human flourishing. We strive to be a thriving, spiritually nourishing, healthy, welcoming and missional community. Reaching out and reaching in, community engagement, and partnerships are all critical as we build on our past and present strengths. Our ministry together depends on factors such as spiritual authenticity, intellectual integrity, respectful behaviour, the ability to listen attentively, and community hospitality. We move towards the 2030s in a spirit of love with thanksgiving for what we have been given.

- Approved by Vestry, June 2021.