

## Behold, I Make All Things New

I have written on a large manilla envelope "*Notes Received During a Pandemic.*" That envelope holds a collection of hand written cards or notes that I have received in the mail since March which form a record of reflections and encouragements from friends, family or parishioners. It's a good exercise to review what's in that envelope every now and then.

When the shut-down for the Coronavirus first began in March I felt my world closing in, but as the weeks unfolded I was relieved to learn that I was not alone in that feeling. "*We are all in this together*" people would say. But the consolation of corporate belonging, even in physical isolation, soon dissolved and was replaced by other anxieties.

Pandemonium, panic, pangolin, pandemic. These words are connected through the same Greek root linguistically.<sup>1</sup> There was no where to go that was a neutral safe zone: the equivalent of a Switzerland in the first World War, where people could reflect and safely meet with others to develop a strategy, or come up with a peace treaty to address the enemy or resolve the crisis. This global phenomena was new and we were potentially *all* at risk - but not *all equally* at risk.

On many levels the pandemic has amplified the good things about our culture, but it has also exposed the raw fissures of inequality in our culture. So it's not a surprise that the socially or economically marginalized are the first targets of a global virus, whether that be because of your age, your living in a care home, your

race, or your income level. The privileged, and I count myself in that description, were safer from the threats of the virus - for a while. But if we are going to learn anything from this experience, we need to hear the cries of injustice that the virus has given voice to, because their voice, previously silenced, expresses the hidden pain of the past, and can become an agent for creating something new.

As I go through the exercise of recording daily online liturgies (and I am glad I can do that to keep people connected to the parish and sustained spiritually), I recognize that I have been given a gift. I reflect on my experience of the pandemic and have come to learn, perhaps again, that our liturgies, which shape and form our worldview along with our scriptures, repeatedly uphold the cries of injustices through their songs. The song of Mary in the Magnificat, or the song of Zechariah in the Benedictus, or the cries of the psalmist in exile, all express the relief that their voice was finally heard and they were set free from the bonds of oppression and restored, in this case through the work of a Messiah.

It is a simple lesson, but perhaps one that through indifference I can so easily forget: the pandemic has reminded me that as human beings we are all so *very* vulnerable; not always *equally* vulnerable, but still all fragile and vulnerable. It has also reminded me that we are all somehow connected to one another, regardless of age, race, culture, or economic status.

During a global pandemic, everything is on the table for review. What life will be like once we emerge out of this will be completely different. How we function in the church, how we worship, how we work in the office, how we learn at school, how we care for the elderly, how we access health care *will* be different. This has changed everything. It's something new.

In the Diocese of Niagara this all began in a real way at the beginning of Lent when the Bishop suspended public gatherings for worship. On Ash Wednesday we were reminded of our frailty with the Imposition of Ash on our forehead, and of our need for repentance; the need to review of our lives and change our ways, our habits and our priorities towards life and serving the most vulnerable. Perhaps this is an extended season of Lent, to cause a review of what is important in our lives, how we serve one another, and how we affirm the dignity of every human being. In that review it is good to take out the cards from my manilla envelope to remind myself, amidst my vulnerability, and amidst all of the change, that I still matter. *You* still matter.

"*Behold, I make all things new,*" writes the prophet. The pandemic is renewing us. For our sake, and for the sake of our neighbour whom we are called to love, let us embrace where God is leading us through this experience to heed the call of the Holy Spirit into a world we have not known or imagined before. Thanks be to God.

Paul Walker+  
Rector

<sup>1</sup> Wright, N.T. "God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and Its Aftermath" (London: SPCK 2020), p.1.

## Flu Déja Vu

It is hard to imagine that our Parish Churches had been closed once before due to a flu epidemic, but such an event happened in 1918. It wasn't Covid-19 but a virus with the name of Spanish Flu that swept throughout the world. The Health Unit in Wellington County wasn't established until 1947\* and each Township in the County operated under their own guidelines. In some, schools, churches, and even poolrooms were closed.

The Vestry Minutes for St. John's was recorded as: The Annual Vestry meeting

was called for Easter Monday Evening to meet in the School House at 8pm. No one attended.

The Service Register records the following: October 8<sup>th</sup>, 150 attendees at a service led by the Bishop of Niagara. October 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> "No service for 3 Sundays on account of Spanish Influenza". For December 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and January 5<sup>th</sup> "Church closed for 4 Sundays on account of Spanish Flu".

Once again in 1920 the Register for February 15<sup>th</sup> indicates Flu outbreak.

Reverend Naftel was also the Priest in

Charge at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Alma and the Service Register for that time records closures in 1918 from Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> and again Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, on Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1919, and then Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in 1921.

While the Coronavirus is very different from an influenza, our efforts to continue to practice social distancing, to wear masks and to wash our hands will help us to contain the present Coronavirus and prevent widespread sickness and death such as was experienced in the years 1918-1921.

Keep well.

Susan Edwards,  
Archives

\*Wellington County By-Law Number 1757.

## Milestones to Celebrate

Ken and Susan Edwards 55th Wedding Anniversary - May 29

Clare and Anthony Johnston's 50th Wedding Anniversary - June 24

Bonnie Smiley's 95th Birthday - July 1

Lois Watkins 90th Birthday - July 3

Norman Morris' 90th Birthday - August 5

Norman and Heather Morris' 65th Wedding Anniversary - August 6

Heather Morris' 85th Birthday - September 2

*Congratulations and God's blessings to crown your years with love and gratitude.*

# Message from Wardens

Faith proves a valuable resource when upheaval and loss unexpectedly come our way. Our spiritual lives have been upheld and nurtured by creative and beautiful online liturgies. The Rector and Curate responded early to fill the void created by our inability to gather for worship. Thank you, Paul and Judy, for your response, prayers and reflections. Thanks to John Wiens, Jurgen Petrenko and Rod Murray for their musical and technical expertise. Our gratitude is also extended to all parishioners who assist in reading, singing and, of course, bell ringing!

The Rector has reminded us that the season of Trinity is known as Ordinary Time. Trinity 2020 provides extraordinary challenges within this Ordinary Season. We are pleased to continue employing our clergy, Director of Music and Organist/Music Librarian. This is due to people's generosity and the Canadian Employment Wage Subsidy (CEWS). The diocese has applied to the federal government on behalf of all parishes across the diocese and their diocesan staff. Thus far the CEWS submissions for financial assistance have been successful. Our Sexton, Patrick Ellis has requested and received a voluntary, temporary layoff. We appreciate those persons who monitor, clean and care for the church property as needed.

After eighteen years as director of the Children and Youth Choir, most recently known as Kids Who Sing, Emily Petrenko has decided to step down. She has served in this role with the skills of an excellent musician, expert teacher and loving person. Thank you, Emily for your time

and dedication!

Many thanks to those who continue to support the Parish Choir Fund. This allows us to pay choristers contributing in the Sunday online liturgies. The online presence of the Parish Choir will be expanding in the near future with the purchase of new technology. We look forward to this increased musical contribution to our worship.

We are grateful for the General Givings offered to the Parish Operating Fund. However, largely due to our inability to meet in church, we have experienced a reduction of 18% in the first five months of 2020.

Ways to give include the front door mail slot of the Parish Centre; Canada Post; online at [www.niagaraanglican.ca/donate](http://www.niagaraanglican.ca/donate); direct and secure transfer to [treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com).



Thank you to Jeremy Hirst for his work as our Book Keeper. Congratulations to him for becoming a father just before the pandemic shut down in the middle of March. In his role as a new father, Jeremy steps away from the role of Book Keeper. We are grateful for Susan Hirst who is our new Book Keeper.

Ken Edwards continues as Treasurer until the end of this year. We offer thanks to Ken for his time, skill and guidance. In 2021 he will hand the books to our new Treasurer, Andrew Hirst.

Walter Langford, after serving fifteen years as Chair of Building and Property, has retired from his role. When one considers the significant property projects of the past decade and a half, it is apparent how crucial Walter's knowledge, commitment and problem-solving calmness have been. Many thanks, Walter!

We welcome Jon Warland who, effective July 1, has taken on this role for us.

Thanks to the technology of Zoom, the Wardens have been meeting weekly with the Rector, Curate, Treasurer and Property Manager to address issues and monitor revenue and expenses. Meetings in July and August will be less frequent as Judy and Paul take much-deserved vacation time.

The Rector has invited Jon Warland, Jane Rapp, Donna Keating and Thomas Littlewood to manage the mechanics and logistics of reopening our buildings for public worship whenever we receive approval to move forward from the Bishop. We ask for your prayerful support of all who offer their time and talents in our ongoing work to sustain St. John's and to spread God's Gospel of hope and love.

Peter Barr  
Diana Spearn  
Emily Petrenko  
Marcus Kramer

## Summer Report Building and Property Committee

Dear Friends,

I want to introduce myself as the new volunteer chair of the Building and Property Committee. I've been a 'nine o'clocker' for the last couple years or so, and first came to Elora in 2014, all the way from Guelph, where I still work at the university. It's been a pleasure to work with Walter, first as a weekend unlocker, and now trying to learn, at a social distance, the B&P ropes. I want to thank him for all the careful documentation he has provided, including a detailed history of the buildings, and for his continued efforts at cleaning in the church and parish centre. As this most unusual summer continues, I also want to thank Dinah and Gordon Bristowe, Barbara Gow, and Dawn McClure for all their work looking after the gardens and the flowers. The gardens have been spectacular this year! And you can see the fresh flowers in every Sunday's video service.



We will soon commence with the decennial inspection, which is done according to diocesan requirements. The follow up report goes first to the diocesan building committee for approval, and then is passed on to us. This document provides a roadmap for our priorities around maintenance and repair for the next ten years. As always the capital restoration fund is used to cover these costs, and though we are at the moment unable to use the building to full capacity, donations to this fund will ensure we keep it in good repair for years to come.

I expect to have much more to report in the near future, between the decennial inspection and the soon-to-be-developed plans for how we might follow diocesan re-opening guidelines that are coming soon. Keeping this introductory report short, I wish you a peaceful summer and good health in a time of great uncertainty.

Respectfully submitted, Jon Warland  
jon.warland@gmail.com

## Givings and Stewardship

Here are your options to support St. John's financially:

- Drop off your donation through the new mail slot in the Geddes Street entrance (old door) of the Parish Centre.
- Mail your donation through Canada Post, St. John's Church, 36 Henderson Street, Elora, ON N0B 1S0
- Make a secure Interac E-transfer of funds directly to St. John's account through treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com
- Give online through the Diocese of Niagara website at this link: [www.niagaraanglican.ca/donate](http://www.niagaraanglican.ca/donate)
- Enrol in monthly Pre-Authorized Giving by contacting Barbara Gow at bbgow1956@gmail.com

Deposits are made each week.

If you have any questions about givings or finances, please contact Barbara Gow or Ken Edwards kwedwards@sympatico.ca



# St. John's in Ministry at Portage

Let it be recorded in the annals that St John's ministry at Portage continues during a pandemic!

Thanks to the wonders of Zoom, Dave Tinker, Peter Scott and our Rector were privileged to bring the hope of the Christian message to one male resident who had signed up to join us at our first Bible Study on Zoom.

While technical restrictions prevented Sharon Barrett, Anne Crawford and the four girls to join a simultaneous parallel Bible Study meeting, we are grateful that we have found a way forward for the two separate Bible Study groups to meet.

For the coming weeks we hope to follow a course on the parables for both groups. The young man is eager to join us again and to bring another resident. We have promised to pray for his special intentions. Privacy reasons forbid us from going into details, but we invite parishioners to pray for the residents and staff of Portage. We thank the Lord for providing us with the platform and the cooperation from the staff at Portage to share God's good news with Portage residents while dodging the predations of the virus!

Peter Scott



View St. John's on-line services on YouTube  
[St. John's YouTube Channel](#)

## PWRDF receives \$1.9M for AMCC partners' COVID-19 response from Gov't of Canada

In an earlier letter E-mailed to parishioners in the weekly "Pastoral Letter" the PWRDF group encouraged friends to make a "sacrifice of thanksgiving", having made it safely through the first three months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, it was suggested that some or all of the \$300 Government assistance to OAS recipients might be redirected to one of several projects. One of them was preventive health care in **Burundi**, East Africa, where Village Health Works (VHW), a long-term partner of PWRDF, uses its \$60,000 COVID-19 grant to engage a women's coop to sew face masks, to erect tents for social distancing at the clinics and to procure equipment, such as gloves, thermometers and N95 respirators. Since then, the Government of Canada has granted additional moneys to the "All Mothers and Children Count" (AMCC) programs for protective equipment for front line workers and structural additions. With this government initiative **every \$100 donation will be matched by an additional \$600**, an exponential growth of your "sacrifice of thanksgiving." Mark your special donation cheque "PWRDF - Burundi Pandemic".



Besides this special appeal, PWRDF has asked us to continue supporting the construction of **Sealed Pump Wells in Makueni County, Kenya** in 2020.

You may remember that we were able to finance the building of two wells and hand pumps with our donations in 2019. A PWRDF staff member visited the project earlier this year; a report will be included in the next newsletter. Your **general** donations to PWRDF will be designated to the Makueni Project.

Submitted by,  
 Doris M'Timkulu

# From the desk of the Director of Music

Dear friends,

While we negotiate through this unusual time in our history, I think back to other similar moments in history for solace. Music in churches has never really stopped, one of the most unusual consequences of the time of COVID. It made me think of another moment in history that gives me hope.

There was an entire cathedral built in thankfulness for the end of a plague in Venice, on the island of Giudecca, which sits just across the lagoon from St. Marks. I normally stay in its shadow when I'm lucky enough to visit the most beautiful city in Europe.

It was a time of plague, a plague that claimed 50,000 lives (about a third of the population) in total. The Doge promised God a Cathedral if the plague ended. It did, and the cathedral - called Il Redentore - was completed 16 years later.

The site was chosen after a negotiation with the capuchins stating that the interior was to be sparsely decorated. "Sparse" and Venice don't really go hand in hand - the paintings are huge by most standards except those of Venice. If you've ever been to the Doge's palace you know what I mean. If you haven't, don't delay once it is safe to do so! Tintoretto and Bassano are on the walls - and they are in marvellous form.

There is a festival every year to celebrate this particular church and the survival of Venice. It takes place on the third weekend in July. A large wooden footbridge is built. Everyone who so wishes may walk across as the Doge of Venice first did for the consecration in 1592. His bridge was a series of barges. Today they use pontoons.

There are fireworks, everyone eats on boats, and the kids stay up until the next morning on the beach at Lido. The second day there is a Regatta for oared boats, and the day ends with an evening mass in the cathedral, complete with music from centuries past that was written especially for the original event.

This celebration is uniquely Venetian. It is not really for tourists. I can't wait to go. Il Redentore and the festival make me think more and more about how I will celebrate when this period is over. It also makes me wonder how I will have been changed. I wonder how the Doge felt when he walked across the boats for the first time.



At the end of periods like this hopefulness inevitably comes to the fore. I hope we will be together again soon, hale and in good spirit, celebrating with music and fellowship.

A few quick final thoughts : A small working group and I have been putting a plan in motion to get the music program presenting music in the fall. Covid or not, there will be choral music again, which I'm looking forward to eagerly.

Lastly, Emily Petrenko has stepped down from here role with Kids Who Sing. She has been a part of the music team here for 18 years, and has done a wonderful job throughout that time. I'm grateful for her staying on this past year in her role while I grew accustomed to the surroundings in Elora, and I hope we'll find a way to keep Kids Who Sing growing in her absence. Enjoy your new-found spare time, Emily, and thank you!

Submitted by, John Wiens

## STANDOFF AT MILL AND MARY

At this time of Corona,  
Sometimes you are gonna  
Encounter some old guys out walking.  
And as they are wont –  
Though some others say, “Don’t!”  
They’re bound to stand still and start talking.

So, where Mill Street meets Mary  
One day, five did tarry.  
Their pose? Social distancing standoff.  
To be sure, they kept distance,  
Gave no legal resistance  
For fear someone might bite their hand off,

For gathering there, *au flagrant*, in fresh air  
Fearing someone might give them the send-off!

The five stood bemused  
For they all were quite used  
To leisurely chats over coffee.  
But new rules apply  
And they’d have to comply.  
Such encounters were now stiff as toffee.

Edwards stood their aghast  
And John Hamilton – masked –  
Stared at Barrett, who looked warn and weathered.  
Thompson thought it absurd  
For he heard not a word,  
As for Scott, his response was quite measured.

Bob Cooper  
April, 2020

## Reopening

As the province begins reopening, the provincial House of Bishops have provided a template for reopening our churches (*Red, Amber, Green stages*), and the Diocese will provide protocols and guidelines for us to follow. The COVID-19 Resource Hub at [www.niagaraanglican.ca](http://www.niagaraanglican.ca) has updated information available every week. The St. John’s Reopening Team will implement the diocesan protocols particular to our physical plant and liturgical needs as we anticipate moving to the Amber stage of reopening possibly in the fall. Updates for September will be provided by email, Canada Post, and on our website as they become available. In the meantime, while we long to see one another and be together, in the summer weather please take every caution to continue to keep one another safe and find alternative ways to gather. Continue to pray for reach other and our world, and grow in faith you were taught. If you have any questions or concerns, please be in contact with me directly. With gratitude for your continued support and cooperation.

Paul+



### CLERGY HOLIDAYS

Paul: July 19 to August 15

Judy: July 10 to July 19

August 14 to August 30

*One member of the clergy are available to you throughout the summer. You can reach them by telephone at 519-846-5911 or by email.*

Paul - [rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com)

Judy - [curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com)



**Judy's Ordination as a Priest - February 23, Christ's Church Cathedral**

*“Proclaim good news. Love and serve. Preach. Give blessings Be diligent in reading and study.”*

## Being a Priest in Pandemic Times

The time around February/ March of this year is a little distorted in my mind, but when I look at a calendar and examine the days, I realize that it was a blink of time between my ordination as a priest, celebrating Eucharist for the first time and then, one Friday morning with Paul, putting signs at every door of the church saying the building was shut for the foreseeable future. All of those things happened in less than three weeks – I find it hard to wrap my head around that! “Gosh” we thought as we put those signs up on March 13<sup>th</sup>, “do you think we will be back in the church building for Easter??” We were so unaware of how quickly life would change for us all. Who knew I would so quickly be drawing on previous work experiences that I had in multi-media production, videography and editing! Words like ‘social distance’ ‘flatten the curve’ ‘non-medical masks’ and even “Liturgy On Line” were certainly not part of our vocabulary.

Many of my colleagues have struggled with their identity as a priest. Some have had decades of the

rhythm of twice-weekly Eucharist, celebrating with community, being close alongside those who were suffering and being a compassionate physical presence to life transitions. I had less than 15 days in that role when all of a sudden I had to push aside any understanding from my formation, and learn in the moment what it means to be a priest in a community when all of the traditional actions and roles are inaccessible.

As I was cleaning my office the other day, I came across the bulletin from my ordination on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Curious, I turned to the page to read again the ordination promises and I realized that they were not about doing the ‘things’ or ‘roles’ of priesthood, but they were all commitments to the things that I have found myself doing over the past four months. Proclaim good news. Love and serve. Preach. Give blessings. Be diligent in reading and study. Make the reconciling love of Christ known. Work together with others to build up the fami-

ly of God. Persevere in prayer both in public and in private. I laughed as I read that last one – yes, evening prayer on YouTube is very ‘public’, and dozens of you have written to say how deeply grounding and connecting you have found those times.

Even when we are apart, somehow we feel connected and part of God’s family as we learn and grow together. I have witnessed the bonds between people strengthening, and the care extended to one another is profound to see. One person commented “I don’t think I have ever prayed so much in my life!” We have been brave, willing and compassionate, and growing as a community. I am honoured to serve you as one of your priests, and I look forward (yes!) to the coming months as we find new ways of being the people of God together.

Submitted by,  
Rev’d Judy Steers



# The Wednesday Morning Zoomers



After a winter in Florida and returning north just before the border was closed, participating in the Wednesday morning Knitters and Quilters Group through Zoom was what I really needed. I was hungry to see my all church friends, to see their faces and to hear their voices. It was so moving and insightful for me that Paul and Judy offered this weekly Zoom meeting for us. Here are some comments from other members of the Knitters and Quilters of what the Wednesday Zoomers mean for them.

Doreen commented that connecting with the Group on Zoom was reassuring and it provided her with a sense of normalcy in these extraordinary times.

Marguerite has enjoyed belonging to the Group and it has been her life line to the village and the highlight of her Wednesday mornings.

Even though Denise has only been able to connect in audio on Zoom she enjoyed being with the Group that "sat around

the table" together every Wednesday. It is a way to be together with good friends whom she misses in person. Wendy tells me she likes staying connected by hearing the laughter and seeing smiles over Zoom. She says she is learning new technology and celebrates the "non-technical people" as we learn to use these tools. For Wendy it has been fun.

Clare says that she likes keeping in touch this way during these difficult times and has found it to be rewarding and informative, fun & funny, supportive and instructional, and a meeting not to be missed. Our thanks to Paul and Judy for their patience with us and especially for Judy's techie skills that allowed the St. John's Knitters and Quilters group meet together on Zoom in laughter and fellowship every Wednesday morning.

The Knitters and Quilters continue the ministry of Prayers Shawls and have made 10 deliveries of Prayer Shawls so far in 2020 - all with safe physical distancing and following proto-

cols. This is a significant ministry to remind people who are experiencing and illness or a loss of a loved one that they are connected to the communion of saints in light, and surrounded by our prayers, particularly during this period of physical isolation.

Plans are being made to do Christmas puddings again this year so we will be in need of 28 oz., 14 oz and 19 oz. tins. There will be a drop off box at the parish centre.

If you are interested in joining this group, please leave a voicemail for me through the parish office (519-846-5911) or contact me by email at [gbdunsmore@gmail.com](mailto:gbdunsmore@gmail.com)

Barb Dunsmore  
On behalf of the Knitters and Quilters.

*Editor's Note: The Knitters and Quilters were pioneers of meeting together on Zoom at St. John's quite early on in the pandemic shut down. Subsequently they became the beacons and ambassadors for the Parish Council and the weekly Sunday Coffee Hour gatherings on Zoom. Thank you to the Knitters and Quilters for being the model of adaptive ministry during a pandemic.*

*"she enjoyed being with the Group that "sat around the table" together every Wednesday. It is a way to be together with good friends whom she misses in person."*



**Rev'd Judy blessing prayer shawls.**

# Information/Updates



## Preparing for Christmas!

It is never too early, especially during the lockdown of a global pandemic, to start thinking about Christmas! The Knitters and Quilters invite you to donate 14 ounce and 16 ounce tin cans (cleaned and without labels or lids) so they can prepare for the annual Christmas Pudding Production in the fall.

While we don't know what protocols or restrictions will be in place in the fall, we are confident that we will find a way to abide by them and provide you with a delicious Christmas pudding like no other year. We all know that this year we will need an extra tasty Christmas pudding!

A donation bin will be available on the porch at the front door of the Parish Centre to receive your tin cans. Please call the Parish Office if you have any questions.

## Celebrate an Occasion with Flowers

Every Sunday flowers are given to the glory of God in the chancel to celebrate an anniversary, a milestone, or to remember the anniversary of a loved one who has died.

If you would like to give flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a milestone with flowers at church, please contact Elaine Dightam by leaving a voicemail at the Parish Office or by emailing [elaine.dightam@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.dightam@gmail.com)

Dawn McClure has been faithful to prepare the flowers each week on Wednesday for the pre-recording session of our online liturgies on Thursday. Dawn is happy to purchase the flowers for you or to incorporate flowers from your garden.

When contacting Elaine, please indicate the date, the names, and if you have any particular colours or types of flowers you might like.

## Partners in Pandemic Times

**Meals to Go.** St. John's Elora has partnered with St. James Fergus to provide a food security program for the most vulnerable during the pandemic.

Every weekday about 80 hot meals are prepared in the kitchen of St. James. Adhering to diocesan and health district protocols, the food is packed in containers and then delivered or picked up. The Evelyn, the Red Door Cafe, and the Brew House have partnered to help, and the Centre Wellington Foundation and the Diocesan Pandemic Emergency Fund provide some funding.

If you would like to donate financially or if you are not compromised in health in any way and are willing to participate as a driver, food packer or team cleaner, please contact Ann Turner at [cwmealstogo@gmail.com](mailto:cwmealstogo@gmail.com) or 519-803-0502.

**Centre Wellington Neighbourhood Garden Program** is here to help you. If you are a senior and need your grass cut, or your garden weeded, or a small job done, St. James' has a grant to hire three local students to help you. Adhering to public health regulations, they can come to help you in the summer. Contact 519-843-2141 or [gardenneighbours@gmail.com](mailto:gardenneighbours@gmail.com) for more information.

## St. John's Liturgy Online [St. John's YouTube Channel](#)

Every Sunday St. John's creates a liturgy online which you can view at the St. John's You Tube Channel and the St. John's Facebook page. Presently our YouTube channel has had over 10,200 views since the lockdown began March 15, and we have 126 subscribers.

During the summer there is also a weekday liturgy provided online every Wednesday.

If you are interested in participating in any of the online liturgies please contact one of the clergy.

Loving God, whose peace passes all our understanding;  
as we face this present pandemic, and experience fear and anxiety,  
may we hear your voice, bringing calm to the storms of our time.

Strengthen those who work to limit the spread of infection,  
and those who seek to care for the sick,  
and keep us mindful of those most vulnerable.

May we shape our living to protect one another,  
and may our changing habits, practices and sacrifices,  
be for the greater love of our community and all your people.  
Amen.



## Remembering Dave Watkins

Dave Watkins died in the peace of Christ on Sunday April 24. The Rector gathered with nine members of the family for an interment at the Elora Cemetery on April 30.

Dave was baptized, confirmed and married at St. John's and gave much of his time to care for the property, participate as a Sidesperson, support the Men's Dinner and many other aspects of parish and community life. Dave will be missed by us all. Our prayers continue to be with Barb and her family as they mourn Dave's death.

*May Dave rest in peace and rise in glory.*

