



#### Special points of interest:

- What does a healthy, vibrant and sustainable parish look like?
- Prayer Shawl Ministry: a new initiative for fellowship and pastoral care
- A new incentive to help generate fundraising capital
- Annual Youth versus Adults soccer baseball game in August at Cedarland Park

Summer Edition

June 11, 2017

## From The Rector's Desk

One body, one Spirit: lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called (Eph. 4.16).

John Maxwell is a world-renowned leadership consultant and a former Christian pastor who sends out a daily one minute video reflection based on a word or phrase his viewers have given him. Recently, he spoke on 'the best is yet to come' – see <http://johnmaxwellteam.com/2017-the-best-is-yet-to-come/?c=jmax-em-np-bo&jmtc=em-np-mwm-0417-spc&jmta=em-np-the-best-is-yet-to-come>. He began, 'I'm 70 years of age and I'm here to tell you that the best is yet to come. I'm not winding down, slowing down... I gotta

**THE BEST IS YET TO COME** speed up because I don't have much time left.' Now, we may not all have been blessed with the energy, passion and drive of John Maxwell. At the same time, I value the way he ties his firm conviction that the best really is before us irrespective of our age and stage in life to what he describes as an abundance mindset. We can think scarcity – running out, not enough time, almost over; or we can think abundance - plenty, the more I give the more I receive, the best is before us. It's as we believe, reach out for, and receive the latter, that we discover its inherent truth.

The Day of Pentecost is a time when we celebrate and give thanks for God's gift of the Holy Spirit to us and to all of creation after Jesus' ascension into

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## Report from Synod 2017

There were 3 lay delegates to Synod from St. Mark's: Janet Vickerman, Judy Newson and myself, along with Father Tim. This report today is a collaborative effort on the part of the St. Mark's Team. The theme of the 176<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Huron was ONE BODY – ONE SPIRIT. LEAD A LIFE WORTHY OF THE CALLING TO WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED. Synod started with a barbecue on the grounds of St. Paul's Cathedral for which the threatening rain, thankfully, held off and supper was followed by a glorious service of Holy Eucharist attended by close to 400 people. We joyfully raised our voices in praise to our Lord and we were privileged to see the Very Reverend Paul Millward installed as Dean of Huron and Dean of the Cathedral.

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Synod was attended by 353 people plus observers from Manitoba and our companion diocese of Amazonia, Brazil. There were 74 items on the agenda and while we will not give you a detailed report on each of them, topics included Stewardship, Bridge Building with our indigenous peoples, the painful disestablishment of churches, Youth and the changing face of the church. In her charge to Synod, our dynamic and articulate Bishop, Linda Nichols, elaborated on our four commitments for the year which are Discipleship, Huron Church Camp, Truth and Reconciliation with our indigenous peoples and the Global communion. The Bishop runs a tight ship and during Synod the timeline for discussion around each agenda item was strictly adhered to, with admonishments from Bishop Linda to listen with respect and open minds to all opinions.



Social Justice continues to be a very important agenda item. It centred on the Water Motion wherein we were told that many of our native peoples live on reserves where boil water advisories have been in place for decades, a situation for which those of us of privilege would never tolerate. Having potable water is a right in our country guaranteed in our Charter, and much needs to be done to extend this right to all our peoples. In Ontario alone, there are 73 communities who have no potable water. Under the auspices of the Water Motion, there have been enough funds raised through the Huron Hunger Fund and the Primate's World Relief Development Fund to provide fresh water and bathroom and kitchen fixtures in 10 homes on three Pikangijum Reserves and more will be added. Our Sunday School children are sending part of their June collection towards *Fresh Water for Pikangijum* and we applaud their initiative.

The Diocese of Huron commitments to changes in the Marriage Canon was a major item on the agenda and Bishop Linda exhorted us to listen deeply and respectfully to the discussions surrounding the changes. We gathered in small discussion groups of both clergy and laity with a facilitator and discussed 3 questions: How does the discussion around the changes to the Marriage Canon challenge you or encourage you? What clarifications do we need in order to report back to parishes regarding the Diocesan process to consider changes to the Marriage Canon? Given that we have been asked to have this conversation, what would be helpful at the Deanery level? The Diocese of Huron will not make any changes to the Marriage Canon until the topic is discussed at General Synod in 2019; We dialogued and listened with respect to all opinions offered within our circles. It became apparent that, while some people have mis-

givings about changing the canon, most were in favour of being an inclusive church. As Bishop Linda pointed out, there were members of the LBGT communities within our delegates for whom change is important. A common theme prevailed throughout the Circles, lamenting the number of years the discussions have gone on within the Church without any action being taken to implement change. The majority opinion was that it's time to make changes and to follow in the footsteps of our loving Lord who embraced diversity and advocated for the disadvantaged, the marginalized and those who are discriminated against.



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Stewardship was another very important item on the agenda. Stewardship is our response to God's generosity to us. When we believe that something is worthwhile, we pay for it. Stewardship incorporates time, talent and treasury and we must combine all three in our Stewardship campaigns and give of all three generously and with thanksgiving. Team Huron and all the Diocesan staff are available to assist all congregations in their quests to be sustainable. *Mission in Ministry* plans are to be completed by all congregations by Vestry of 2018 and are to incorporate the five Marks of Mission. St. Mark's Generosity team is busy preparing for our own Stewardship campaign.

Interesting presentations were made around the future of our church as we know it. The church of today will not be the church of tomorrow. Church attendance is declining. For example, in 2005 within our Dioceses, 14,000 people attended weekly service. In 2015, the number reduced to 9,000. In 2005, Huron had 209 congregations and in 2016, we were reduced to 178 congregations. The Church is not about buildings but about congregations and people. The church of tomorrow may have services in a restaurant, someone's home, in a park, in a bar. The Parish Church and its neighbourhood model is disappearing and the youth of today may not have the financial resources to support church buildings in the future. We live in a society of mixed economy and fresh expressions of what our church is all about are needed. It is felt that our youth will be the driving force behind those fresh expressions.

Two Order of Huron awards were presented by Bishop Linda at Synod. Nancy Harvey was awarded this high honour for her work on the EnvironAction Committee, for her facilitation and leadership of the Justice League of Huron and for her work on the *Greening of Anglican Spaces'* committee, now known as the *Creation Matters Working Group*. Last year our Primate Fred Hiltz appointed Nancy to be the Chair of the Public Witness for Social and Ecological Justice Committee for the Anglican Church of Canada.



Nancy has worked tirelessly and enthusiastically to preserve the world God has given us and to provide social justice for all. Congratulations are extended to Nancy on her Order of Huron Award. Nancy, we are very proud of you and the work you do to protect the world which our Lord created. Thank you from all of us.

As we move forward in the Anglican Church, we must make our commitment to be disciples of Jesus Christ and we are charged to tell our story of our relationship with God to all. Synod 2017 was very informative, thought provoking and inspiring and we were honoured to represent St. Mark's at the proceedings. We were nourished physically, emotionally and spiritually throughout and we look forward to Synod 2018. We are One body and One Spirit. Thanks be to God.

*Respectfully submitted by Carole Moffat on behalf of Janet Vickerman and Judy Newson, the other lay delegates to Synod.*

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heaven, where he is now seated at God's right hand in glory. God's Spirit bestows upon us not just the abundance of God's blessing, but the most precious gift of all, God's very life. Pentecost is not simply a mystical event involving wind, fire and foreign languages that happened 2000 years ago; the good news for us is that Pentecost is as much about what is happening in, with and through us here at St. Mark's and throughout God's creation, and will always be happening by God's grace. Despite the challenges we are facing as a global community, whether through climate change or radical ideologies or racial injustice or gaping inequities in resource distribution to name only a few, God continues to pour out his Spirit. It's not just a pouring out upon us as John clarifies in his Gospel (20.19-23); the risen Jesus breathes his Spirit into us, restoring us, renewing us, recreating us that we in turn can play the part God has assigned us in ushering in this new order, this new way of being with each other and with the earth, this new creation that Jesus' life, death and resurrection has unleashed in the world.

One of the manifestations of God's Spirit in our midst is the leadership Bishop Linda is offering us. I strongly encourage you to read her charge to Synod which lays out her vision for the Diocese of Huron. As you will read, her vision is 'that we will be a diocese of vibrant, sustainable communities of faith that offer holy, lively worship, that care for one another and the community around them and live the Five Marks of Mission in all their activities.' She acknowledges that we are a church in transition as we face significant shifts in our society and culture, some of which we struggle to respond to. At the same time, she identifies that there is no one way of doing church. She reminds us that Jesus did not plant buildings; rather he called us and still calls us into relationship with God and with each other expressed in worship and service. Indeed, the future to which God is calling us will likely include various expressions of being church in the Anglican way, which will require discernment, creativity and flexibility on our part. These are gifts the Holy Spirit excels in! Bishop Linda also lays out resources being made available to congregations to help them navigate these changes through Team Huron (Church House staff, Archdeacons, Regional Deans, committees and other volunteers with skills and training in church growth).



Along with the Diocese's commitment to vibrant and sustainable congregations, Bishop Linda named four other key commitments to enhance our Diocesan life: discipleship (or 'apprenticeship' as we are describing it at St. Mark's – learning to follow Jesus); support of Huron Church Camp; response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action; and sharing in the life of the Church locally and globally through our companionship with the Diocese of Brandon in Manitoba and the Diocese of Amazonia in Brazil.

So where does St. Mark's fit in with all of this? Put simply, strong parishes make a strong Diocese. Perhaps this is one of the reasons that vibrant, sustainable communities of faith, supported by Team Huron, lie at the heart of our Bishop's vision for the Diocese. By God's grace, and the faith, generosity, dedication and sheer hard

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work of many of you in our life, St. Mark's is a strong parish. I believe that the greatest gift we make to our Diocese is to be the best we can be, again by God's grace. We strive for excellence and to be an example to other communities of what a healthy, vibrant and sustainable parish can look like. We pay regular attention to the Five Marks of Mission as a means of balancing the priorities we believe the Holy Spirit is laying on our hearts. We return to the six key practices or habits we have identified in our life which the Holy Spirit is using to grow us as apprentices, followers or disciples of Jesus, the process at the core of our shared life: welcoming others, celebrating God, growing spiritually, caring for each other, engaging our community and cherishing our resources. We set goals in these areas as well as benchmarks, means for determining how we are faring in meeting these goals. As I have said to you before, there is no silver bullet as we discern how to be the church in an Anglican way in these times of rapid change. I believe that as we are as faithful and as generous as God gives us grace to be with the gifts God has entrusted to us as a community and as individuals, the Holy Spirit will continue to breathe God's new life into us and bless us with the abundance of life of which John Maxwell speaks so passionately. Yes really, the best is yet to come. Lynn, Sophie, Felicity and I continue to rejoice in the blessing of God's call to share our lives with you. It seems hard to believe that we have already been here three years—the time has flown by! I am especially grateful for your continued support, care and understanding as we live the joys and challenges of raising kids in this busy, busy world. We do hope and pray that the summer is safe, restful and restorative for you all. God's abundant blessing to you.

## From the Church Wardens

Christine, Vicki, Steve, Neil

The year, so far has been very busy with routine items as well as new concerns. We continue to work on our Safe Church initiatives, renewed fundraising efforts,

budgetary items and the Bishop's plan for the future for the Diocese. In January we welcomed Neil Dunning to the Warden team who has brought a positive, reflective voice to the leadership team.

We are thrilled to have found a new Office Coordinator, Christine Fournier. She is excited to be at St. Mark's and can be found in the office weekdays and Sunday mornings. Stop by and introduce yourself sometime!

Our finances are generally in good shape for the first part of the year. We have been encouraging parishioners to examine their offerings with the possibility of not meeting our budget by year-end and what that might mean in 2018. We also need to remind you that our expenses don't stop in the summer and encourage you to continue your financial support during July and August. In the fall, we are looking forward to stewardship programmes being put together by the Christian Generosity committee where we will examine our time, talent and finances.

We are looking forward to a fun summer and exciting fall as many new initiatives are underway! As always, thank you to all of you as St. Mark's continues to flourish in so many ways and fulfill our mission statement.

**T**ogether  
**E**veryone  
**A**chieves  
**M**ore

## Health Council

Debbie Belowitz

The Health Council and friends made a small gift for every woman in the parish to celebrate and express our gratitude for all their contributions to families in whatever form that takes. Thank you to Joan Mellors, Brenda Cochrane, Laurie Murray and Vicki for making these gifts.



We hosted an educational event in May to coincide with Mental Health Month. Thanks very much to Kathy Dunning for arranging a speaker, Rick Van de Ven, a mental health social worker to come and speak about *Caring for the Caregiver*. **The group experiences and challenges in caring for someone.** Rick led the discussion as we learned from him and each other different ways to care for ourselves. We are planning on getting the group back together again in the future.

In June the Health Council is hosting a sausage barbeque for Messy Church.

### Parish Visitors

The Parish Visitors meet once a month to ensure we are meeting the needs of the congregation. Carol Howarth makes a visit to all newcomers; we are blessed to have kept her very busy the last few months. We are very dependent on the congregation to let us know if there is a need for a visit. Please be sure to let the office, Tim or Debbie know if you or someone you know may benefit from a visit. We have an eager group of volunteers who would enjoy spending some time with you.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

This group was a prayer answered! The purpose of the group is fellowship and to make the creation of prayer shawls more intentional. I soon discovered that I wasn't really needed at all. After one hour, patterns had been exchanged, snacks arranged for future meetings and a decision was made on how to make their creations intentional. They are eager to teach beginners as well.

Our next meeting is June 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 4:30 in the church lounge. We'd love to have your join us.

### Faith Commuter Challenge

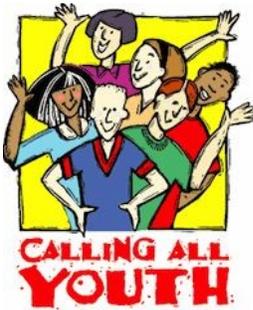


The purpose of the Faith Commuter Challenge for this year will be to gather information on what types of transportation members of the parish use to get to church. Over the coming year we plan on using that information to see if there are any opportunities at St. Mark's to help our environment and improve our health by using other means of transportation - car pooling, cycling, walking or public transit. If you haven't done so already, please complete the ballot on the Information Table to let us know how you get to church.

## Rock Solid

Jody Ogilvie

What is in a name? St. Mark's youth group decided to pick a new name for themselves - something that reflected who they were and where they wanted to go. *ROCK SOLID - United Together and One With God*. How do you make your group cohesive? You make up t-shirts and Tyler Dejong designs the logo.



Rock Solid youth have Bible lessons every Sunday morning during the 10:30 a.m. service from a lectionary based curriculum called *Feasting on the Word*. In addition, they meet every Sunday from either 2 to 4pm or 7 to 9pm for Bible life lessons and fun activities.

Some recent outings included bowling, paintballing, Wacky Wings, Wonderland, mall outings, restaurant outings and much more. On Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, there will be a banquet lunch at EastSide Marios for all youth in our parish who will be or are in grade 7 and up in September. Over the summer, we will meet from 7 to 9pm on July 9<sup>th</sup>, July 23<sup>rd</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Sunday August 27<sup>th</sup> will be our annual soccer baseball tournament at Cedarland School at 3:00 p.m. The youth (any child who wants to play) will again challenge the adults of our congregation for the coveted trophy followed by a BBQ at Neil and Kathy Dunnings.

## Messy Church

Pat McMillan

Messy Church will reconvene on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup> following a two month summer break. St Mark's doors are always open for regular summer worship at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. with summer Sunday School and nursery care at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Many thanks to our 67 registered families for your amazing support as we approach our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Messy Church at St. Mark's. Our average attendance of 80 plus is gratifying to our minister, Tim Dobbin, and volunteers who enjoy planning and offering a more hands-on worship venue to interested members of our community.

Thanks also to our Parish Council, our Wardens and parish congregations for their enthusiastic welcome to the St. Mark's Messy Church congregants as part of our St. Mark's family. We are One in the Spirit! Special thanks to families, individuals and groups from St. Mark's who offered to host delicious family meals at every service this year and last.



We presently have about 20 volunteers, plus the monthly food hosts and cleanup crews from St. Mark's who generously give their time and talent to help make Messy Church services on the second Friday of each month, a success. Please let Tim or Pat McMillan know if you are interested in becoming a volunteer for Messy Church 2017-18, either as dinner hosts for one session, or as helpers for a few sessions. There will be a General Meeting for all MC volunteers on Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 7-8 p.m. in St. Mark's Hall to discuss plans for upcoming MC gatherings beginning in September.

## Summer Sunday School



Beginning July 2<sup>nd</sup>, summer Sunday School classes, led by parish volunteers, will be held each Sunday during the 10:30 worship service. Sign up sheets are available; please consider helping out as a congregational member for 20 minutes on a Sunday during the summer.

Topics and pre-planned lessons are available in St. Mark's Hall. See Pat McMillan if you have any questions. Thank you in advance from the Sunday School staff!

## Special Sunday School Dates

### Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>

The Sunday School children will be recognized for consistent attendance by their teachers during regular class time; certificates and tokens will be handed out.

### Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>

The Sunday School children will be making a special remembrance on June 18<sup>th</sup> to honour their special caregiver for Father's Day.

### Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

This will be the final Sunday for children to contribute part of their Sunday School collection, earned from chores done at home, towards our *Fresh Water for Pikangikum* effort to provide fresh water for drinking and hygiene purposes to ten more houses on this Northwestern Canada reserve.

## Vacation Bible School - August 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>

St. Mark's Annual Vacation Bible School begins on Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 9 a.m. We welcome children from JK - Gr.6 from St. Mark's and the surrounding community to *Hero Central* where children can discover their strength in God!

Youth from grade 7 and up are welcome to be crew guides and helpers for games, music and crafts; a total of 17 1/2 hours for the week will count toward community hours for highschoolers.

Adult leaders for registration, storytelling, crafts and snack prep (pre-planned) for the five mornings are needed. Please speak to Pat if you are interested. A sign-up sheet will be available as well in St. Mark's Hall.

A Meet and Greet will be held for leaders, crew guides and helpers on Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 7-8 p.m. in St. Mark's Hall, with Mrs McMillan. We have a fun-filled week planned, with worship, songs, crafts, games and yummy snacks!

Check-out our Wish List in St. Mark's Hall for parish contributions towards V.B.S. Your help with supplies is greatly appreciated!

Registration forms are available at the church and on the website.



## News and Notes

Rev. Canon Dr. Tim Dobbin

I wish to extend thanks to Canon Bob Schroeder for providing coverage and to Rev. John Ogilvie for the pastoral support he offered while I was visiting family in New Zealand in early May. It was a great gift to know that you were in such faithful, caring and wise hands. I am deeply grateful for your concern and well-wishes regarding my parents. Their health is fair, especially given their stage in life.

I am especially thankful for the response of the wardens, parish council, Christian generosity team and other individuals to our projected budget shortfall of \$22,700 for 2017. I celebrate your generosity in response to God's incredible generosity with us and your commitment to the life of this extraordinary parish. We make a ministry dollar go further than just about any other parish in this Diocese based on the ratio of our operating budget to our average weekly attendance. Your wardens, Parish Council and Finance Committee are fiscally prudent – it is a 'bare bones' budget. As I have said before, we don't give to St. Mark's; we give through St. Mark's to God's mission for the healing and restoring of this beautiful and broken world God loves so much. St. Mark's has a vital role to play in God's economy here in the North End of Brantford and in the Diocese of Huron. Others look to us for leadership, and more so as God guides us step by step through these challenging times. The North End needs us and the Diocese needs us. I am asking that you give prayerful consideration to the materials which our Christian Generosity team will be sharing with you later in the year in order that we might not only survive but flourish as God's people at 155 Memorial. I wish to thank our Fundraising team as well for their creativity, initiative and willingness to think outside the box. The gift card programme is one of the fruits of their work together. Thanks to all those who are experimenting with it. Please let us know of any ways in which we can make the programme easier for you to access.

The choir and their merry band of helpers went above and beyond with this year's Yard Sale – my understanding is that their efforts raised over \$1800. It is a significant amount of work with members of the senior choir and others being on their feet for most of the week preceding the sale receiving the items, organizing and pricing them. Our thanks to all those who donated items and to all those involved with the sale.

Part of Bishop Linda's strategic plan for the Diocese includes each parish submitting a Mission and Ministry Plan for the next five years approved by Vestry. The Plan is due in early 2018. I am so thankful for your contribution to the visioning process here at St. Mark's over the past three years. This current Diocesan requirement is not new territory for us. Parish Council will be completing a *Parish Self-Assessment Survey* at its June meeting as part of the process. I am grateful to members of the small Task Force who will be working on a Mission and Ministry Plan for St. Mark's for us to consider and approve (hopefully!) by early next year.

Part of our discernment over the past three years has been our decision to focus on ministry with children, youth and young families, while we seek to minister to the

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needs of all demographics in our congregation. Messy Church continues to be a key initiative in being church in a different way with a focus on young families. Our May gathering saw more than 100 people out. I am deeply grateful for the initiative, creativity and dedication of all those who assist with the evening and for Pat McMillan's leadership.



We also have decided to prioritise ways in which we can connect with our community and share the gifts God has entrusted to our care. Our Reconciling Circle continues to meet and explore ways of raising awareness of issues facing our Aboriginal sisters and brothers and of building relationship with Six Nations. We are currently working on events to promote Ontario's Treaties Recognition Week in the first week of November. Our Green Team lives through the legacy that Nancy Harvey (congratulations again on your Order of Huron!) and others have gifted us. We now have a pollination garden on the south side of the church. Our thanks to Neil Dunning for his initiative in obtaining the grant and to those who did the grunt work of preparing the bed and planting it out. Please feel free to make suggestions to the Team of how we can continue to model wise and responsible care for all the resources God has entrusted to us.

The Health Council promote the ministry of care amongst our people. The Parish Visitor team meets monthly to review the needs of those who may be in a vulnerable space. The Council sponsored a helpful and informative evening in April for caregivers at which Rick Van de Ven, an experienced mental health social worker spoke. The Council is also promoting the Faith Commuter Challenges as I write – a national ecumenical initiative encouraging us to consider eco-friendly ways of getting to church and around town. It is a blessing for any faith community to enjoy the services of a parish nurse, and especially one who brings the level of competence that Debbie Belowitz does. I would encourage you to make use of the ministry she offers us, and please let her know what you need from us as a congregation.

We plan to continue sharing opportunities for Anglicans to get together for adult faith formation. We co-facilitated the Lenten series *Five Marks of Love* held at Grace and we will be meeting again for a film night to watch *Chocolat* on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Mark's. Jo McNeil's group have just completed their 12-week study of Moses and I commend them for their lively engagement with scripture as it intersects with our daily lives. If you would like to assist with planning our Christian education programme, if you are interested in being part of a study group, or if there are specific studies you would like to see happen in our life, please be in touch at your early convenience. Summer is an excellent time for scheduling!



A reminder from the clergy that they no longer have access to the list of patients in the Brantford General Hospital. Please call the church office if you or a family member would like one of the clergy to visit or if a family member is no longer able to come to church and would like the sacrament brought to them.

## St. Mark's Annual Yard Sale

Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> was an awesome day. We couldn't have asked for better weather for the Yard sale. A huge Thank You is extended to:

- ◆ The Men's Group who set up all the tables in Munro Hall
- ◆ The Team (Jim L., Sylvia L., Marg S., Mary K., Jill P., Pat F., Pam K., Eileen T., Alison) who came in everyday last week to sort and set up all the donations
- ◆ To Christine F. who made us coffee every morning through the week and helped with the different advertising used
- ◆ To Neil D. for posting the Yard Sale Information on Facebook, Dan W. for posting the information on the church's website and to Mary K. for placing posters up in the neighbourhood
- ◆ To all those who donated treasures for us to sell and raise money for fund raising for the church
- ◆ To those who priced all the treasures we received (Jim L., Sylvia L., Marg S., Jill P., Mary K., Dave R., Marjorie R., Neil D., Wynn A., Pat F., Doreen L., Allison C.)
- ◆ To the Ladies' Guild who sold coffee, muffins and other goodies to the shoppers
- ◆ To Nigil C. and his helpers Jody O. and Sarah O., who cooked hot dogs and fried onions starting at 8 a.m. Hot Dogs for Breakfast - Yum!!
- ◆ To the Sellers who worked tirelessly at selling items to yard sale shoppers (Jim L., Sylvia L., Marg S., Mary K., Alice C., Wynn A., Eleanor T., Donna T. Bob S., Jill P., Pat McMillian for Children's Toys)
- ◆ To the cash counters who determined that we had made \$1,871.90 for the fundraising budget line and \$199.70 for our Sunday School Foster Child (Joan M., Vicki C., Becky)
- ◆ To all the packers who boxed up the leftover items and assisted in putting Munro Hall ready for Sunday morning (Jim L., Sylvia L., Jill P., Marg S., Alice C., Mary K., Sarah O., Keegan O., Pat McM., Brian R., Dave R., Alison C., Ian C.)
- ◆ To the drivers who loaded the boxes and took them to the local charities (Chris C., Rob B., William I., Sharon B., Brian R., Rick N.)

I hope I have not forgotten anyone – if so a huge thank you to you as well.

Submitted by Janet Vickerman, Yard Sale Co-ordinator

## Ladies' Luncheon

Mary Ogilvie



The Ladies' Guild Springtime Lunch will be on Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. at Mother's Pizza Parlour on King George Road. All women of the parish are welcome.

Please sign the sheet on the Information Table or call the church office to have your name added. Rides are available. Call Mary at 519-756-6214 for more details.

## St. Mark's Anglican Church

155 Memorial Drive  
Brantford, Ontario

Phone: 519-752-6451  
Email: office@stmarks.on.ca

# BBQ

## Parish Picnic Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

Join us for an indoor worship service beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Immediately following the service, there will be hamburgers and hot dogs plus salads, beverages and dessert in Munro Hall or outdoors if the weather permits.

After lunch, there will be games for the young and the not-so-young under the supervision of the youth group and servers.



### A Fundraising Initiative

Purchase gift cards for your everyday shopping and St. Mark's will benefit. A percentage of the cost of your gift card will be given to the church at no cost to you!

By purchasing and using your cards regularly, you can help the St. Mark's ministry and outreach programmes thrive. This fundraising programme promotes the using of gift cards for everyday shopping and they also make excellent gift.

Visit the Information Table or call the church office for the participating local retailers and the various gift card amounts.



### Volunteers Needed



The St. Mark's Christian Generosity Team is planning a programme for this Fall to help the people of St. Mark's grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents and finances that God has entrusted to us. In late September, we will require a team of volunteers to distribute the programme packages to members of the congregation. The material will include information about St. Mark's and a pledge card for members to voluntarily make a commitment to support the mission and ministry of our church. If you believe that good stewardship is about generosity of time, talents and treasure and can help by distributing some of the packages to some of our members that live near you, contact the church office. More information and a list of deliveries will be available in September.