



The Anglican Regional Ministry of Saugeen Shores, Tara and Chatsworth

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Colossians 3.15

Dear friends in Christ,

Thank you! If I were to give thanks every moment of every day, I would still fall short of offering enough praise and thanksgiving for the blessings in my life! We have had another busy summer full of worship, outreach, fellowship, and laughter. We have waded into the waters of Lake Huron to celebrate the joy of Baptism in the great outdoors, and we have held the tiniest of babies as we baptised around the font at St Paul's as well. We have also had the privilege of walking with some dear friends in their final days, and gather with friends and family to celebrate their lives.

We have engaged with our communities through BBQ's, ecumenical worship events, stone and drift wood painting, Welsh cakes and rhubarb punch, roast beef dinners, antique shows, picnics and concerts, all in the name of the one who loves us more than we can ask or imagine - Jesus Christ. Everything we do is in partnership with God, participating in the building up of His Kingdom.

As the cooler weather returns, our activities will move indoors once more, but we will still continue to reach out,



to offer praise and to develop new relationships in our communities. We look forward to the return of our Community Suppers, Turkey Dinners, and Christmas Parades. Please keep all the candidates for Bishop in your prayers as we will gather in London on October 26th to elect a new Bishop of Huron.

As the season changes, we will say good bye to a few of you, as you travel to warmer destinations for the winter, but we will continue to hold you all in our prayers, and look forward to your return in the Spring. We also welcome several new families to our churches. Thank you for making us a part of your life here.

Gratitude and thanksgiving make "enough" an abundance. They soothe the soul and give courage and strength to the weary. They remind us always that we are deeply loved and held in the hands of our creator God, and they are infectious! So, thank you, for helping to spread the Good News; the love of God and our delight in the abundance of our life in Him.

Maya Angelou, an American poet and civil rights activist said; "Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayers". May it also be the pillow on which you place your head as you rest in Holy peace.

Blessings,

Carrie+

What Have You Discovered on Our New Regional Ministry Website?

www.BestEverAnglicans.com

Reaching Out Through Community BBQ's

Throughout the summer season, the Regional Ministry offered outreach through its series of BBQ's. The weather was picture perfect. The hospitality was evident. The attendance was outstanding. Thanks to all who assisted and attended. An excellent activity to maintain in 2020!



Lakeside Baptism— Welcoming New Believers into the Family of Christ

For the second year in a row, the Regional Ministry offered a service of baptism in the calm waters of Lake Huron. We were pleased to welcome 4 new members into the Christian community at this service, attended by many supporters.



Sunday School—Alive and Well!

Sunday School continues to evolve and grow, in the form of *Sunday School in the Pew*. Rev. Carrie strongly believes that the children have a natural place in the church during the Eucharist. Every Sunday, following the dedicated children's focus, the children are invited to extend their thinking and learning by working on crafts and other child-friendly activities.



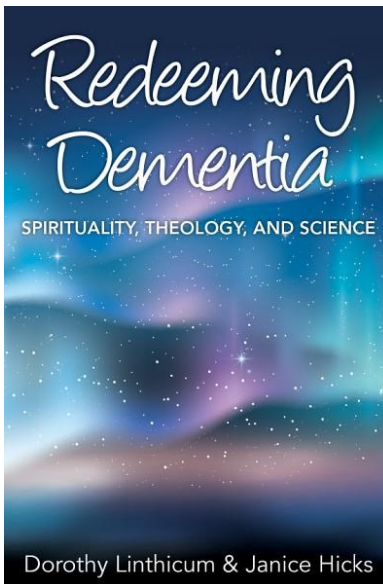
Book Talk:
REDEEMING DEMENTIA:
SPIRITUALITY, THEOLOGY, AND
SCIENCE by Dorothy Linthicum
and Janice Hicks

This personal and practical book guides us as we seek to nurture relationships with people experiencing dementia as well as their care partners. The authors draw on science, theology and lived experience – as both of them journey with parents who are suffering the losses associated with Alzheimer’s disease. The underlying premise of this book upholds the dignity of the human person as one with whom God remains in relationship. It implores the church community to reflect on the sacred nature of personhood.

They speak candidly about the stigma associated with brain disease and seek to dispel misunderstandings and prejudices that marginalize those who suffer personally, and their caregivers.

Every person is entitled to be treated fully as a whole person who is of immeasurable worth.

And now that I am old and gray-headed, O God, do not forsake me, ‘til I make known your strength to this generation and your power to all who are to come.... You have showed me great troubles and adversities. But you will restore my life and bring me up again from the deep places of the earth. (Psalm 71)



Dementia does not destroy the “self”. It does not cause a loss of connection with God because this bond is always about God’s initiative rather than our own. Our lives are sacred because of how God relates to us, not the other way around. This is a deeply comforting message.

Congregations can do much to meet the challenges of dementia, from its earliest to its more advanced stages. Tools are provided to assist with communication and hospitality to support the participation of those with dementia and their care partners. There need be no isolation if we can say yes to community. The authors describe a Dementia Friendly Church movement in England that seeks to nurture spiritual growth among people with dementia. The popular “memory café” is one example of an idea that we could explore as a church community.

This book shifts our thoughts away from devastation and loss toward embracing selfhood, and celebrating spiritual gifts that may surprise us. Where is God when we are afraid? He is here, among and within us, closer than we can ask or imagine!

There are currently 47 million people in the world dealing with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias and there are 10 million new diagnoses each year. It behooves us to become compassionately aware of the needs that we can address as an informed faith community.

This book comes highly recommended by Becky Peters (St. Paul’s Resource Library)



St. Paul’s
Celebrates Its
160th
Anniversary.

On July 7, the Regional Ministry gathered at St. Paul’s to assist in celebrating its 160th birthday. We were delighted to have Bishop Linda Nichols as celebrant. This was her last official Diocesan

service before being elected as Primate of Canada. It has been an honour and privilege to offer a Christian presence in thanksgiving to God for this length of time. Our theme for the year is **“Called to Serve in This Place for 160 Years”**

From the Priest Assistant's Pew

Remember the sayings “I learned a new thing today!” or “Make sure you learn one new thing every day”? Well, I can say that those sayings come true for me just about every day. If you had told me 20 years

ago I'd be back in an education mode I would have called you loopy. But here I am, enrolled now in my 3rd Clinical Pastoral Education unit in Owen Sound and just completed, on September 21st, my 2 year Post Ordination Training requirement from the Diocese. In the spring I completed an *Essentials in Palliative Care* course from California State University as well as an Indigenous Cultural Safety training from British Columbia.

I reflect on the opportunity to continue to learn and grow in a location of Ontario where I didn't believe it was possible to expand my education in such a way. Thanks to the internet and on-line learning (which I'm getting used to), it's possible. I grew up as a classroom learner and it's challenging to change the way that one takes notes and digests readings and concepts. I know that I'm a practical learner and would rather get in there and press the buttons or get dirty to learn and make it part of my daily

routine. You may recall that I am a Spiritual Care Provider at Grey Bruce Health Services but now have expanded my chaplaincy role to include the Palliative Care Outreach Team where I cover the territory from Sauble Beach to Lucknow to Walkerton. I never knew that I would have the skills to be able to offer spiritual



care to those in their own homes that I don't know. It's because of the learning of new things that I have been able to take my ministry to places I never knew I could reach.

You're never too old to learn! Maybe it's an easy thing such as coming to Tuesday's Morning Prayer and Bible study at St. Paul's. Maybe it's attending yoga on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Maybe it's a computer course at the library or perhaps really stretching your wings and attending a Saugeens Theology Series course offered at St. George's in The Blue Mountains. There are so many opportunities to learn, discuss and expand your mind. Don't say “maybe later”. Say “I think I'll try that”. You don't know where it will take you!

Shalom,

Rev. Ann Veyvara-Divinski

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