

The Anglican Regional Ministry of Saugeen Shores, Tara and Chatsworth

Dear Friends in Christ,

If distance makes the heart grow fonder, we must really love one another these days! Oh how long it has been since we saw one another, and gathered in our beautiful church buildings to offer praise and thanksgiving side by side. Thank God for the strength, passion and presence of the Holy Spirit that fills us with a faith that has not faltered during our social distancing. God is alive and well and leading us in the midst of a season like no other. A quote that I wrote down many weeks ago from Facebook sits on my desk, in my planner and by my bed. I would like to share it with you.

“Keep a Christian from entering the Church sanctuary and you have not in the least bit hindered their worship. We carry our sanctuary with us. We never leave it”.

How true this has proven to be! Our Newsletter this month is full of pictures and stories of how we are offering praise and thanksgiving, worshipping, and offering prayer for those we are called to serve! Images of our sacred spaces, children’s focus activities, working hands and feet around our buildings and communities, all highlight where and how God is at work in our lives! Thank you for sending your photos in. Thank you for staying the course and staying connected to your faith family. Thank you for the prayers and notes and porch drop offs that I have heard about from many of you. And

thank you for continuing to financially support our churches. Your faithfulness is so needed and so appreciated. Many hands are working hard to ensure that we continue to stay connected, offer care and be the imperfect but blessed hands and feet of Christ in this



hurting world. In the weeks and months ahead, may the light of Christ that shines in our lives, chase away shadow and doubt, and illuminate the way forward. May we meet each day with hope, each person with kindness and each challenge with faith. May the sanctuary that resides in us, be a beacon



of light for others as we raise our voices and proclaim the glory of God!

Till we meet again, stay safe, wash those hands and God bless!

Carriet

Children's Focus On-line:

"Sunday School in the Pew" has transformed into "Children's Focus On-line", and oh my, what a grand time we are having! I am loving the opportunity to engage with our young people through stories from Scripture, object lessons, and simple crafts! Thank you everyone for your support of this important ministry and for joining us on Saturday mornings. We go live at 10:30 am each Saturday, but you can watch us at any time after the live broadcast on Facebook or on our BestEverAnglicans.com website. Come and see what the Holy Spirit is up to this week!

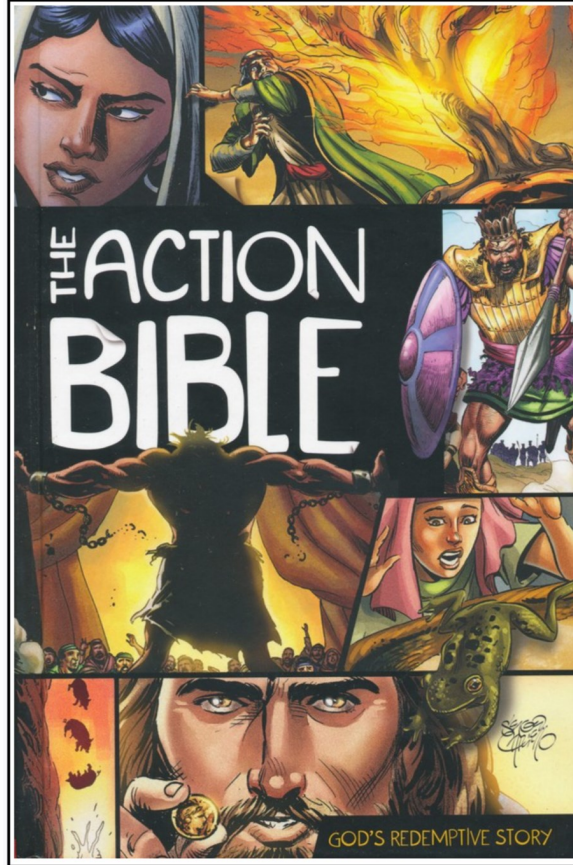


Book Talk:

THE ACTION BIBLE

Written and edited by Doug Mauss, illustrated by Sergio Cariello for David C. Cook publishers, 2010.

This colourful, attention-grabbing retelling of the Bible in comic form is geared to children 8-12 years of age. But it could be argued that this would be a valuable resource for the young-at-heart of any age! We are considering purchasing our own copy in order to better engage with our grandson, Cohen, who has read the whole book cover to cover. He is fascinated with the dramatic, fast-paced narratives and "very cool" illustrations. In addition to gaining Biblical knowledge, this resource is also helpful in developing children's reading skills.



The illustrator is Brazilian-born Sergio Cariello, who is also the Marvel and DC comics' graphic artist. You can see

from the cover that his designs are bold in their depiction of the emotion and significance of the figures of the Bible. It is easy to follow the historical flow as the stories are written in chronological order.

We are having great fun creating skill-testing questions for our grandson about the characters and plot-lines in his Bible. The graphic novel concept is brilliant for preteens in this regard. There are also devotionals and accompanying products available to augment their learning.

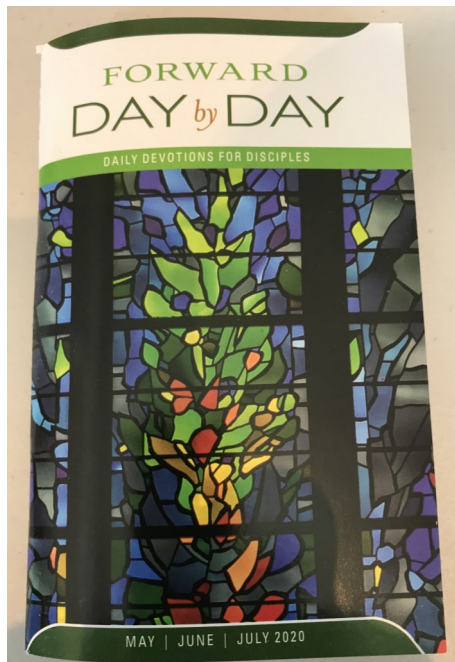
Once we are back into our church building, we will be sure to have a copy of this Bible available in our St. Paul's resource library for your perusal.

Becky Peters (resource librarian)

Forward Day By Day:

Daily Devotions for Disciples

Many members of our congregations enjoy reading the Day By Day entries in the books provided through each church. If you are missing the opportunity to read this daily devotional, please contact one of your wardens or Rev. Carrie, and we will ensure that you receive a copy.



Marmalade: Going, Going, GONE—Online!

In spite of COVID 19 and the cancellation of the ACW Marmalade Tea, the 500+ jars of marmalade, jelly, etc literally flew off the shelf, due to the efforts of Karen Speight, who made the community aware, and provided social distancing in a novel and safe pickup arrangement.

The popular "gold in a Jar" was gone in 5 days!



From the Priest Assistant's Pew



Blessings to you all as we begin the Summer of 2020. We never, ever thought it was going to be like THIS!

From new words such as social distancing and COVID to school being "out" for much of the year to wearing designer masks and drive-by celebrations, we have had to learn to be flexible at the very least and overwhelmed at the most. I have found myself falling into a new rhythm of reading, reflecting and taking time to enjoy the world around me. I've also created a chore list for every day so I get up and move! I have also found that I need to create sacred space for myself. The picture with this article is my sacred space on my front porch with a cross, a Zen garden, my favourite Bible and sunshine. This is where I find God, this is where I seek God, this is where I know God.

Perhaps our minds have been clouded by the various events in our world that challenge us to our very core, but we have a constant in our lives that can lift us up, hold us tight and guide us. That constant is God. Throughout the Easter Season, when we were new to the Eucharistic sabbath and now as we move to Ordinary time (that really isn't that ordinary I would like to note) we have had constant reminders of who God is, where God is and how God is part of our lives. We need to know that there is some certainty in our lives and we need remember that scripture reminds us who we can lean on. We have,

though, each other to lean on—to be "there" for us in new ways., ways we didn't even consider a number of weeks ago.

We may not be meeting on Sundays right at this time, and yes, there is uncertainty as to when we will do that again, but we are together. We are still a community. We still share, but actually we delight more in our sharing these days than we did in the past I think, and we are giving and receiving the Spirit in new and creative ways like never before. God has given us gifts that we use each and every day to continue His message on earth - His message of love, peace and care for one another. It's in us and I believe with more time to contemplate that , we are recognizing it more and more in each other.

May we continue to share the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit each and every day in any way we can. That is what we are called to do

with all our heart, our soul and mind. Even if we can't share it in the pews on Sunday, our message is going wider than we ever thought possible!

Shalom,

Rev. Annie+



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