



The Anglican Regional Ministry of Saugeen Shores, Tara and Chatsworth

Canon Carrie writes ...

Dear friends,

As I write this letter today, the snow has begun to fall again. We have had an odd winter, alternating between fierce blasts of winter and then days of spring-like weather. I suspect nature all around us is feeling confused. “Should I decorate my branches with buds or not?” “Should I peek my tiny green head out of the soil, or do I stay hidden, snuggled in the depth and comforting dark of my garden bed?” When met with the unexpected, we too can hesitate in action.

So, what does this have to do with the Season of Lent? This is after all a Lenten Newsletter, sent out ahead of the joy and celebration of Easter, intended to bring us up to date on what has transpired since our last Newsletter, and to help us prepare our calendars for the celebrations ahead. What are we going to fill our days with? Where do we want to focus our energy and time? What really sparks our passion? After a long and difficult season of COVID, with the alternating news of victory and caution, we too might be wondering if we should really be just peeking our heads out of our cosy burrows, or springing forth into a full-blown showing of our selves.

In this season of Lent, I feel a deep resonating sense of connection to the befuddlement of the disciples who followed Jesus. What once was so clear and uncomplicated in many ways was now so confusing and

harrowing. The disciples were called to walk in incredible faith with a man who intrigued them, inspired them, befuddled them, but who led them purposefully. They found new purpose, and new passions, new life in Jesus on their Lenten walk. The disciples walked with Jesus from the mountain top experience of the Transfiguration through the shadows of the valley where mission and ministry met, to the cross of Jesus’s crucifixion. But the story as we know, doesn’t end there. They also followed him to witness his glorious resurrection—the full-blown bursting forth of glory that we will celebrate at Easter. We too are led purposefully and lovingly by the Risen Christ!



Our Lenten journey of self-reflection, longing, surrender and wonder can feel a little daunting, so we invite you to find travelling companions along the way with whom you can share both the joys and the sorrows. Come as you are able to our Wednesday Night Lenten Study, our Tuesday Morning Bible Study, our Community Suppers, Coffee Hours, Choir Practices, Sunday worship and assorted community groups.

In these last days of winter, with the promise of spring, and Easter before us, I offer you this prayer: “Holy and immortal God, you bring us into being

and hold our lives in your heart. May the fragrance of your love, made known to us in Christ, draw us closer to you and unite us with Christ.

God bless,

Canon Carrie

Welcome Brenda Manderson—Director of

Music:

A huge welcome is extended to Brenda Manderson, our new Director of Music!

Brenda has a B.A. in Psychology from Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo.

She also has a D.S. Hom. Med. from the Toronto School of Homeopathic Medicine in Toronto. She is currently a Doctoral candidate in Theology at Holos University, Missouri, in the area of Music and Healing.

Music has always been a big part of Brenda's life. She taught Music for Young Children, and also taught private music lessons in piano, voice, flute, guitar and theory. She was a member of Boyd's Orchestra, a big band in Kincardine, featuring 40's music and fiddle tunes. She has been accompanist for the Kincardine Community Choir



and the Kincardine Fiddle Orchestra. She served as Music Director for Port Elgin United Church, the Rolling Thunder Choir, and Grey-Wellington Theatre Guild music theatre productions. She currently performs with The Pleats, a

Celtic 4-piece band. She also performs with Juanita Wilkins, a Canadian singer and song writer.

In addition to her many musical connections, Brenda is owner/operator of Insight Energy Medicine in Kincardine, in holistic medicine.

After a long COVID absence, choir practices have resumed on Thursdays. Perhaps you have an interest in becoming part of the musical ministry.

You are most welcome to join the choir at Thursday evening rehearsals, and, of course, on Sundays. See Brenda for more details

We are delighted to have Brenda with us. Please stop by the organ bench to say hello!

Why Sit at Home?

Now that the world is opening up again to social interaction, why not get out and enjoy yourself? There are many opportunities at St. Paul's to get together with friends and neighbours, make some new friends, and have fun! Community Suppers take place on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, from 5:00—6:30 PM. Carpet

bowling is available every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30—3:30. Contact Christine Saunders (519-797-3387) for more detail. Yoga is offered Thursday mornings in the lower hall from 10 —11. Contact Arlene Windsor (519-797-3633) for more information. Yarn Lovers gather every Thursday from 1—3. Contact Cathy Woodley (519-797-1991) for details. Enjoy singing? Join the choir!



Lent with Leonard Cohen:

This year's Lenten Study involves listening to the songs of Leonard Cohen, and using simple, creative ways to respond, that stir our hearts, souls, and minds in deeply – felt ways.



Week One Song : "In My Secret Life"

Lent is traditionally a time of self-examination, but it is the opposite of self-absorption. Lenten examination is a clear-eyed look at the fantasies, inconsistencies, moments of clarity, and parts of the self that we want to hide from others, even ourselves, and especially God. Cohen's song is just such a clear-eyed view of this "secret life".

Week Two Song: "Come Healing"

Lent is a season when we can give free rein to our own longings for healing in ourselves and in the world. This song gives voice to those longings and the many forms healing can and needs to take.

Week Three Song: "Anthem"

Half way through Lent, we can be tempted to feel like we're 'failing' Lent. Our disciplines and promises are broken and uneven. This song is an invitation to return to the present and its possibilities; not to be stuck, but to return

to rejoicing with all our cracks. Maybe at this point in Lent we can come into the awareness that Lent is God's work in us. We're simply here to make room for that work to happen.

Week Four Song: "If It Be Your Will"

This is a song of deep longing and surrender. It's not hard to imagine its sentiment as akin to the prayer of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane before his arrest and crucifixion. It might be the closest of Cohen's songs in form and content to the laments

and longings of the psalms.

Week Five Song: "Love Itself"

In the last song before we enter the journey of Holy Week, this song speaks of a powerful; experience in an ordinary place. In a sunlit room, the singer glimpses how love transforms everything and dissolves the separation between all creation and the creator—the named and the nameless one. At the same time, the singer experiences the uncontainable, paradoxical nature of Love.

The Regional Ministry Lenten Study takes place each Wednesday in March, from 7:00—8:30, in Bevan Hall at St. Paul's. Each week ends with a brief chapel service in the church. You are most welcome to join this study group.

The Reverend Canon Carrie Irwin:



The Anglican Regional Ministry of Saugeen Shores, Tara and Chatsworth is delighted to share the following news!

Bishop Todd Townshend of the Anglican Diocese of Huron has announced the appointment of The Reverend Carrie Irwin as “Canon Catechist” along with 6 other Anglican Priests within the Diocese of Huron (The Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, The Reverend Dr. Stephen Hendry, The Reverend Mark Loyal, The Reverend Dr. Gordon Maitland, The Reverend Dr. Preston Parsons and The Reverend Dr. Lisa Wang). These appointments were effective February 19, 2023.

Reverend Carrie has been the Priest in Charge of the Regional Ministry of Saugeen Shores, Tara & Chatsworth for 8 years, and the Regional Dean of the Deanery of the Saugeens (encompassing the Anglican churches from the Blue Mountains in the east and Saugeen Shores in the

west, and the Bruce Peninsula in the north to Durham in the south) for 7 years.

What is a Canon Catechist in the Diocese of Huron? A catechist is someone who lets the Word of God echo through their life. They often demonstrate a life-long pursuit of the meaning and value of Christian faith in order to help others recognize the gospel in their own lives. The Canon Catechists will have a particular role in striving to share the joy of learning and faith-formation with all. They will also hold special responsibility for recognizing these gifts in lay members of the church, and, fostering this leadership and the catechetical life of the whole people of God.

Canon Carrie Irwin personifies this definition, as her entire life is dedicated to sharing the joy of Christian learning, faith formation, and recognizing the Gospel in everyone she encounters.

Canon Carrie will be formally recognized in her new role and will be honoured along with her fellow Canon Catechist appointees at the Huron Diocesan Synod Service in

London
on May
28,
2023.



DID YOU KNOW?...

Nestled just off Bayview Ave., on Cummer Ave. in Toronto is an amazing Guest House! It is run by the Sisters of St. John the Divine and is part of their convent. The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine was founded in 1884

Our former Primate Archbishop Fred Hiltz and his wife Lynne are both very involved with SSJD. He says, "While prayer has always been their first and foremost work, the sisters have given themselves to numerous other ministries including nursing, tending the elderly, teaching and working with the poor. They continue to provide pastoral care at St. John's Rehab, now part of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre."

The convent itself is made up of many parts. The chapel is beautiful and guests are welcome to join in Morning Prayer, Holy Eucharist, Evening Prayer and/or Compline (Night Prayer). They have a spacious library- a quiet place to research or read. A book display made up of new and classic spiritual books lines one main hallway. A garden courtyard and a wonderful labyrinth are always visible through windows that let in lots of light. Although the warmer months allow better access to outside areas, even in the winter the outdoor areas are serene. The refectory is also available to



guests with three very healthy home-cooked meals daily. The Sisters usually eat in silence and it is amazing how silence brings many thoughts to mind. Paying attention to what ideas & thoughts come to you during these quiet times is rewarding.

All in all, this place is such a comfort to be in. At different times, there are retreats and book studies offered. Some folks check in to have a day or two to recharge, chill out, perhaps meet with a spiritual advisor. In my case, I've had treatments during the week and have been here for 6 weeks now. You might consider the Guest House if you have an appointment or procedure in Toronto.

The Sisters themselves are so kind, so welcoming, so caring. In these times still considering COVID, masks are worn and hand sanitizer is used to pick up food in the Refectory but even with masks and silence, a comforting look and an "eye" smile is hard to miss!

I will be adding a copy of the book "A Journey Just Begun- The Story of an Anglican Sisterhood" in our library soon. Find out more about this wonderful resource and place of divine spirituality.

Smiles,
Marilyn Stewart

Travel the World With Us!

Interested in armchair travel? Then, join some of our travellers, who will share with you the highlights of their journeys. Two events are scheduled, following Community Suppers in April.

On Wednesday, April 12 at 7 PM, join Doug Goar, as he shares his photos of the Costa del Sol in the south of Spain.



On Wednesday, April 26 at 7, join Annie Veyvara-Divinski, to learn about her once-in-a-lifetime experience in Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.



Happenings at Christ Church, Tara

The congregation of Christ Church, Tara hosted a very successful Valentine's Luncheon on February 11. Guest speaker was Rev. Annie, who spoke on her recent trip to the Galapagos Islands. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful Valentine experience!



On March 3, Christ Church hosted the World Day of Prayer. Taiwan was highlighted this year.



Marmalade Season Here Again at St. Paul's, and More Pancakes!

It was fun to see the community gather again this year on "Pancake Tuesday" (Shrove Tuesday), for the delicious meal of pancakes, sausages, and pie. The community was delighted to take part!



St. Paul's ACW has once again been busy preparing their world-famous marmalade. Mark Saturday, May 27 from 10 – noon on your calendar for the Marmalade Tea in Bevan Hall. Marmalade and jellies will be on sale for only \$8 per jar. Get your supply before it is gone!



Upcoming Services / Events

Sunday, March 12, 19, 26 - Sundays in Lent

9 AM—St. Paul's

10 AM—Christ Church (not 12)

11:00 AM—St. John's

Wednesday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Lenten Study from 7:00—8:30 PM

At St. Paul's

Sunday, March 26—Taize Service

7:00 PM at St. Paul's

April 2—Palm / Passion Sunday:

9 AM—St. Paul's

10 AM—Christ Church

11:00 AM—St. John's

April 6—Maundy Thursday Service

7:00 PM at St. John's

April 10—Easter Sunday

9 AM—St. Paul's

10 AM—Christ Church

11:00 AM—St. John's



STEP BACK IN TIME

45TH PORT ELGIN ANTIQUES, VINTAGE
& COLLECTIBLES SHOW & SALE

JULY 14TH AND 15TH 2023

FRIDAY 10 AM – 5:00 PM
SATURDAY 10 AM – 4:00 PM

The Plex, 600 Tomlinson Dr, Port Elgin
Admission: \$8 adults, kids & students free
Ticket good for both days

COME REMINISCE AND FIND A TREASURE
30+ DEALERS

SPONSORED BY ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
HOMEMADE LUNCH, PIES & FAMOUS RHUBARB PUNCH IN CAFÉ, ATM AVAILABLE

Pancakes and Music at St. John's:



On Feb 19, following our Sunday service, we held a delicious pancake lunch in the parish hall, which was enjoyed by many. After fellowship and a great meal, we were delighted to host all singers (aspiring or seasoned)

for a Meet and Greet with our new Director of Music, Brenda Manderson. There was a wonderful turnout, including many youth from the community.

What a wonderful way to make exciting plans for our musical ministry along the lakeshore and make a joyful



Festival of Treasures 2023

Did you know that over \$5000 was distributed to local charities last year from our hugely successful Festival of Treasures. This year's Festival of Treasures is scheduled for Friday, August 4 and Saturday, August 5. The committee is hard at work organizing every detail. You can help to make it successful by beginning now to search for

the treasures around your house that you want to donate.



From the Priest Assistant's Pew:

It's March already and the sun is shining and the world is clearer and bluer (soon to be greener). You're probably wondering where I get the joy to say all this when it may not be so when you read this. I had the opportunity to travel to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands at the end of January for a journey of a lifetime. There are a few pictures in this newsletter to show you the sun (it was 35C with the humidity), the surf (yes the Pacific Ocean was that calm) and the flora and fauna that make up the incredibleness that is the Southern Hemisphere. To have dozens of hummingbirds land on your hand as you feed them was a spectacular feeling. To walk up a volcano that only erupted 5 years prior was somewhat terrifying but also amazing. To eat Ecuadorian food (plantains, rice and fish dozens of ways) and listen to the sea lions bark most of the night was just an assault (a good one) to the senses, all of them!

To take a break away from North America, what we call day to day life and immerse self into a completely different culture, language and ecology has made me realize that our world is a spectacular world with emphasis on us, as humans, on preserving and protecting what has grown and thrived before we even came along. So I reflected what do we, as a church, need to grow and



thrive the way we always have been? Well, there's the catch, it will never be the way it's always been. It can't. We can understand where we've come from, appreciate the hopes and dreams of our ancestors but it's the Grace of God that gives us the gifts to share what we have right NOW.

In the Galapagos there is tremendous effort not to look back so much but to look forward to what will be with breeding and nurturing centres for their beloved land tortoises. There is hope for the future with the endeavours of conservation and maintenance of what they have with the vision of growth, which may be slow, but it is happening, each and every day. The 130 year old

land tortoise I stood next to on Floreana Island was there not because of today's causes but the vision, hope and care of those that have gone before to make sure that tortoise had a place to roam.

If we nurture the plans of today that may not look like yesterday, we have hope for the future. No, we don't know what that will look like at all but we

can, God willing, give it a solid place to springboard from. I saw it first hand and I know it can be reality!

Shalom,

Annie+

St. Paul's Anglican Church, 248 High Street, Southampton, ON, N0H 2L0 519-797-2984

St. John's Anglican Church, 516 Mill Street, Box 1059, Port Elgin, ON, N0H 2C0 519-832-5757

Christ Church, 56 Bruce Road 17, Tara, ON, N0H 2N0

To contact The Rev. Carrie Irwin (Rector): Cell Phone: 519-377-3664; Email: revcarrieirwin@gmail.com

To contact The Rev. Ann Veyvara-Divinski (Priest Assistant): Cell Phone: 519-375-1816; Email: aveyvara@hotmail.com