



The Mustard Seed

October 2022

Newsletter

of

*St. John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

47 McLachlin St. S., Arnprior
Ontario K7S 2Z1

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Church Council

See us on facebook:

St. John's Lutheran Church Arnprior

On the web: stjohnsarnprior.com

Pastor's Message

Being "Church" in a new time

Within the pages of this newsletter you will read that our "Visioning Retreat" has happened. This is the second piece of work for our faith community in order to look ahead, and with God's guidance, sail our way forward. The first component was the summer survey.

While all of this has been happening the property committee has been very hard at work and busy redoing the basement and kitchen floors. There has also been a support team providing hearty lunches for these worker bees. **We thank all of you for all of this work.**

Our lives are filled with ongoing change and ever deepening growth. So also our church life. The beautiful falling leaves of autumn remind us of this. This can be a time of enrichment for all of us. This season invites us to pause and face the deeper issues of the future. These reflections may shake our security. We can learn how to live and develop a deeper trust in the unknowns of life. We can believe more fully in the promises of our faith, which are easy to speak, but sometimes very difficult to truly accept.

The next steps for St. John's looking ahead, **means that everyone needs to speak up!** Your church council provides general oversight to the life and activities of your church. They also seek to involve all members of their church in discussions about our future here. These are important topics, and all are invited to have a say in any dialogues.

Let us pray: God of autumn, you believe in us, you enrich our lives, and you entrust us with the freedom to choose life. Grant us patience when we do not see our blessings. For all of this we are thankful. Amen

P+Norine

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds. But when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches." - Matthew 13: 31-32

XMAS BAZAAR

Saturday November 12th

9:00am to Noon

Please put aside items for St. John's Christmas Bazaar and ask family and friends to do the same. We're looking for the following new or gently used items:

- * Preserves (and baking later)
- * Furniture
- * Household items and decor
- * Jewellery
- * Kids toys and items (e.g. sleds, bikes, helmets, booster seats, cradle)


You can drop them off on Sunday Nov 6th, or any day the week of Nov 7th with prior arrangements with Alison—613 618-5729

Baking should be dropped off Fri Nov 11.

Thanks.

Inspirational Bee Story



My dad has bees.  Today I went to his house and he showed me all of the honey he had gotten from the hives. He took the lid off of a 5 gallon bucket full of honey and on top of the honey there were 3 little bees, struggling. They were covered in sticky honey and drowning. I asked him if we could help them and he said he was sure they wouldn't survive. Casualties of honey collection I suppose.

I asked him again if we could at least get them out and kill them quickly, after all he was the one who taught me to put a suffering animal (or bug) out of its misery. He finally conceded and scooped the bees out of the bucket. He put them in an empty Chobani yogurt container and put the plastic container outside.

Because he had disrupted the hive with the earlier honey collection, there were bees flying all over outside.

We put the 3 little bees in the container on a bench and left them to their fate. My dad called me out a little while later to show me what was happening. These three little bees were surrounded by all of their sisters (all of the bees are females) and they were cleaning the sticky nearly dead bees, helping them to get all of the honey off of their bodies.

We came back a short time later and there was only one little bee left in the container. She was still being tended to by her sisters.

When it was time for me to leave we checked one last time and all three of the bees had been cleaned off enough to fly away and the container was empty.

Those three little bees lived because they were surrounded by family and friends who would not give up on them, family and friends who refused to let them drown in their own stickiness and resolved to help until the last little bee could be set free.

Bee Sisters. Bee family. Bee Peers. Bee Teammates.

We could all learn a thing or two from these bees.

[Home, Garden and DIY](#)

October 2022 Calendar

DATE	EVENT
Thursday October 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00a.m. Church is open for window decorators • 10:30a.m. Prayer Team meets in the Pastor's office every Thursday morning.
Sunday October 9th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:30 a.m. Thanksgiving service with Holy Communion
Thurs October 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Lutheran Pastors meet in Quebec,10-1pm.
Saturday October 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Lutherlyn Fall Work Day
Sunday October 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:30a.m. Worship Service of Word & Prayer—Coffee hour after worship. • 1:30-3:30 p.m. UNPLUG CHALLENGE at Walter Zadow School, led by Craig Burkett. • 12 -3 CEC 269 John St. Celebration with family of Jean de Dieu Basabose (See notice p. 7)
Tuesday October 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 noon meeting of the Pastoral Care Team
Sunday October 23th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:30a.m. Worship Service of Word & Prayer
Monday October 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:00p.m. Church Council meets
Saturday October 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00a.m. Men's Breakfast at Jim's • Camp Lutherlyn Harvest Supper
Sunday October 30th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:30 a.m. REFORMATION Service with HOLY COMMUNION • Guest organist: KAREN PRINCE Coffee hour after worship. • Official opening of the basement!



Minutes of the September 26th, 2022 Council Meeting

Attendance:	Enid Blackwell	Pr. Norine (Zoom)	David Burkett
	Debbie Witt	Alison Burkett	Andy Kalnins
	Fred Steinke	Rachel Roesner (Zoom)	

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Pastor opened with a prayer.

- 1. Previous Minutes:** Debbie moved that the June 27, 2022 minutes be approved as distributed. Fred seconded, **CARRIED**. Also Debbie moved that the August 22, 2022 minutes for approval as distributed. Andy seconded, **CARRIED**.
- 2. Finance:** The deficit to the end of August is \$9,323. Commitments are \$2,240 under budget. Investment return is \$3,700 below budget. Utilities are \$350 over budget. Recommendations: Follow-up concerns about changes in donations, early Christmas appeal letter, year-end letter to Friends of the Parish suggesting a donation towards the Online Services. Christmas Eve 5:30 service with a pageant and envelopes in the bulletin and pass the plate. Alison moved that the Finance report be approved, seconded by Debbie, **CARRIED**.
- 3. Children and Youth:** Full Youth Planning Team to review some ideas for engaging youth put forth by Ryan and Alison. The youth led services under Ryan Zimmerling's leadership was "kid" friendly which also brought parents and grandparents to church which increased attendance. The UNPLUG events continue to engage children in different interesting activities. It was suggested that there be a youth led service once a month, the next one being in November. Sunday school will resume starting Oct.16 and volunteers are needed so as not to overtax Ryan. There will be a float in the Christmas parade.
- 4. Visioning Retreat** held September 24, 2022 with facilitator Pastor Lori Pilatzke. Attendees were:

Marion Leeck	Beryl Richardson	Enid Blackwell
Jeff Kargus	Norine Gullons	Dave Burkett
Alison Burkett	Cathy Zimmerling	Andy Kalnins

A brief summary (assets, ideas, focus) was presented. Brainstorming ideas discussed included:

Rentals, family worship, educational programs, partnerships, more volunteers, grants, mentoring, parenting classes, bike rodeo, blue Christmas and other recognition of hard times, cherub choir, movie nights, signage, alternatives to Christian rites (birth, marriage, death), caring conversations & partial rental of the church building, youth group and review of worship.

Council discussed some follow-up, including presentation, dialogue with and approval in principle process from congregation on any plans involving changes and major financial matters.

It was decided that presentations of the 3 focus areas will take place on Oct. 30, Nov. 6 & 13 after the service to the congregation. Dave will conduct small group walk throughs explaining the possible physical changes to the building.

Continued over —>

Minutes from August 22nd Council Meeting, continued

5. **Pastor's report:** This is for 2 months consisting of Kargus wedding preparation, visioning retreat, Rosiens 65th Wedding Anniversary celebration, Funerals at St. James, RAY meeting, men's breakfast, retreat planning/attendance, as well as her regular worship work, pastoral care and visits. The Pastoral Care Committee has helped her to be able to make 11 new contacts, including 8 in person visits, which was hard to do before.
 6. **Outreach:** Andy reported that there will be no Outreach activities for the remainder of 2022 as timing is not on our side. As well, support for the Fountain and the Food Bank are already in place. Application for Synod Compassionate Justice grant for Food Bank children's SnackPacks is being submitted by September 30. Outreach seeks approval, in principle, for fundraising for Hospice in February 2023. Outreach also suggests we resume a funding drive for Christmas Chickens in 2023; a heads up for budget process and planning. Enid advised of opportunity to meet with Rwandan peacebuilder Jean and family, finally being reunited here, on Oct. 16, Grace St. Andrews United Church, 12:00-3:00.
 7. **Communications:** Newsletter input deadline is October 4. Short term mission grant reports going in this week. Consideration of honouring volunteers.
 8. **Operations matters:** No Report
 9. **Property:** Regular chair lift maintenance was done. The vinyl for the kitchen arrived last week. Work on basement floor continues and with luck they will keep ahead of schedule.
 10. **Technology: No Report**
 11. **Closing – Round Table and Prayer**
- Next meeting: Monday, October 24 at 7:00.**

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for these people in your daily prayers:

From our congregation: Vicki, Jeff Obst, Ed & Rosemary, Jacqueline, Kenny T.

Friends of the Parish: Tere, Kathleen, children -Briar & Alivia, Ed, George W., Lynne Z., Claude, Wayne Stolz.

We pray for all who are hospitalized this month or having upcoming surgery.

Bless you for believing in the power of prayers. If you wish to add a name to this list, please contact Pastor Norine.

Season of Creation

The past 5 weeks celebrated the season of creation. Pastor started the season off with Ocean Sunday on September 4th. The next three Sundays (Fauna, Storm and Cosmos) were youth led services. Pastor then ended the season with the Blessing of the Animals on October 2nd. Thanks to all who made these services happen—Ryan, Julie, all the youth readers (and dancers), and Alison and Pastor.





YOU ARE INVITED!

All are welcome to meet Jean de Dieu Basabose and his family, on Sunday, October 16, 12-3 p.m. at the Christian Education Centre.

This is a time to rejoice as a long journey is coming to an end. Jean first visited with us in 2015, when he met and spoke with St. John's folks. Later, in May 2018, Jean left his beloved Rwanda, given threats to this life over his peace-building and anti-corruption work. Canada and our community provided a safe haven for him and he has become a Canadian resident. Sadly, his family could not come; they reached safety in another part of Africa. The family maintained daily contact over 4 1/2 yr.

Now they will be reunited. Grace and their 3 boys arrive in Canada October

6. Since the family considers Arnprior as their Canadian home community, they will spend 2+ weeks here to meet many who have provided love and support. They will then move to the Waterloo Region where Jean works for organizations that support refugee resettlement and community-based research, and will live in Ayr, Ontario and begin their Canadian family life there.

Arnpriorcares has supported Jean and family since 2018. It is an initiative organized by Arnprior community members in 4 church communities, Emmanuel Anglican Church, Gateway Church, Grace St. Andrew's United Church and St. John's Lutheran Church, and includes some Waterloo region supporters now, too. For further information, contact Theresa Dunn at dunn2property@gmail.com or Jean at basabosejd@gmx.com.

Jean's family, including his mother





Basement Floor Project

Many hardworking volunteers have nearly finished the basement. At this point all the Vinyl has been laid in the main room, the kitchen and the rear hallway and washrooms. Solid core, water-proof vinyl plank was laid over an underlay which is also waterproof and allows air circulation underneath. The concrete floor had many spots which needed to be chiselled or ground off. Randy, Rex and Jeff did the bulk of this dirty work.

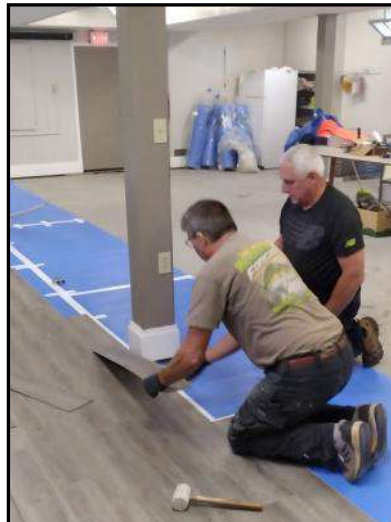
A new storage closet was built to house the extra chairs and tables not in use.

The kitchen floor is a complementary colour to the main area to better blend with the cabinets.

There will be an official re-opening of the basement on Reformation Sunday, October 30th. Coffee hour will be held in the basement.

Great thanks to the worker team: Jeff, Randy, Fred, Kevin, Cathy, Gerald, Rex and Dave. Special thanks to those who kept the team very well fed: Beryl and Keith, Enid, Mel and Marion, and Kathy Tonkin.

Remaining to be done: painting, baseboard repair, washroom fixtures re-installed and transition strips. The front hallway and washrooms will be done after the team takes a bit of a break.



NOTICES

Information Sessions: Visioning and Planning

As noted in the minutes of the Council meeting of September 26, (item 5) 9 members of St. John's participated in a retreat time with facilitator Rev. Lori Pilatzke, on September 24. We considered results of our congregational visioning survey, where we are now, our hopes, our assets and some possibilities for moving forward together.

This ongoing visioning and planning work was anticipated some years ago. It now continues in light of the effects of COVID since 2019, and general diminishment of in person worship attendance and in representation across varied life stages among membership. We also recognize that this retreat is but one step in our work, and that further gatherings and discussions with all are needed as to how we continue as a community.

As part of these further gatherings, **information sessions will be held with members on several areas of possible change and focus named at the retreat**, building renovation and rental, youth group concept, and worship review.

These are currently projected to begin the end of this month.

Please plan to participate in these sessions, to be held following worship.

Any questions, please contact Enid, 613 623-7017.

Looking For . . .

A good condition second-hand car or SUV that needs little repairs & will pass a safety. Needed for a working single parent in our community at a reasonable price. If you have any contacts or connections that may be helpful, please contact P. Norine. Thank you





HUMOUR

Some days
I amaze myself.
Other days, I put my
keys in the fridge.

It only takes one
slow-walking
person in the
grocery store to
destroy the
illusion that I'm
a nice person.

Billion dollar idea.
A smoke detector
that shuts off
when you yell
"I'm just cooking!"

A police officer called the
station on his radio.
"I have an interesting
case here. An old lady
shot her husband for
stepping on the floor she
just mopped."
"Have you arrested the
woman?"
Not yet. The floor's still
wet.

I'm in a Wal-Mart
parking lot
watching a woman
who can't
remember where
she parked. Every
time she holds her
remote in the air, I
honk my horn.



Nothing spoils a
good story like
the arrival of an
eyewitness.
~ Mark Twain
Bizwaremagic's Funny Quotes



UNPLUG Youth Program

Here are highlights of the events held since the last newsletter.



Sep 11: "Trip to Morris Island". Six children came on this trip – 3 were children who were introduced to UNPLUG at "Drumming" at Waba Cottage and at least 1 of the 2 other new families were friends of the others. Ryan Zimmerling led the trip with Zach as support and Jeff Kargus as the host.



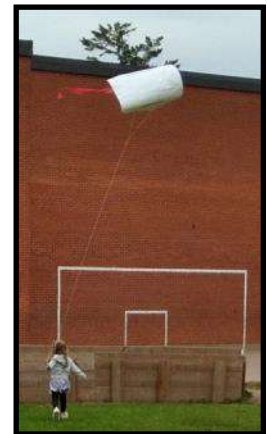
Sep 25: "Build, Decorate and Fly a Kite": Five children took part in the Kites event led by Dave Burkett with help from Phoenix Mosiondz-Sagmeister and Alison as host. We started off in the Sanctuary (after a great BBQ social – thanks



Randy & Debbie) to watch a short video on impressive professional kites to give the kids some ideas.



We then moved to the Lounge to decorate the kites - each child used their own creativity for the design – and build them. You'll see a picture of the final kites. We moved then to Walter Zadow School to try to fly them – there wasn't a breeze in the sky, but kids with the help of their adult, could get the kites flying by running. They spent quite a bit of time doing that and then moved over to play on the fantastic new playground equipment at the school. (P.S. This was the first UNPLUG event to be partially indoors – rain was



threatened – not good for kite decorating.)

Oct 2: "Eight kids learned, enjoyed and socialized in a 'Choose Your Own' Survival Adventure afternoon with activity leader Ryan and support Zach on Sunday afternoon, October 2nd. Glorious weather in the fall field and woods enhanced the outdoor time, as they chose:



What survival equipment to take into the forest? Which way to go? When you are lost, to stay put or move on? What to use to build a basic tarp shelter? What fire wood, stones and fire starting material to collect? Which is easier- flint lighting or match lighting? How to keep your fire going? What to find and do to help an injured group member? Where to hunt for water? What to do to attract aerial search and rescue helicopters? How to stay together and support one another? A good afternoon with very engaged kids.



search and rescue helicopters? How to stay together and support one another? A good afternoon with very engaged kids.

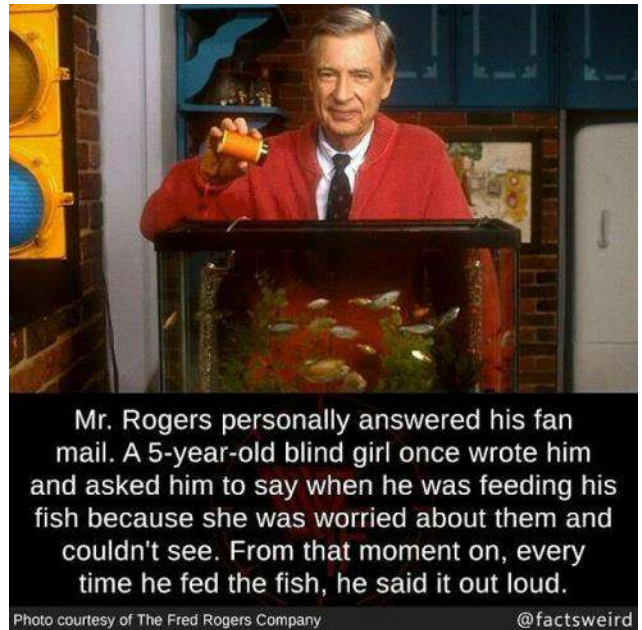
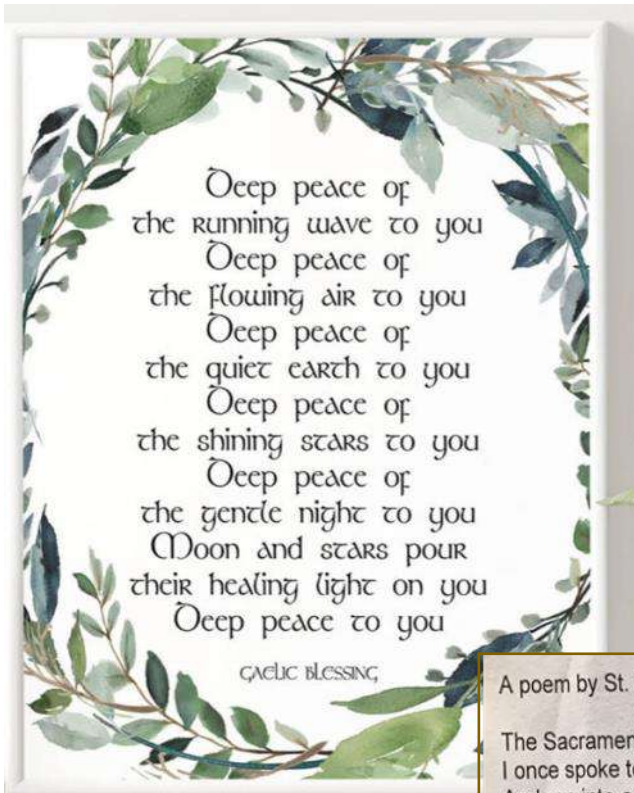


Upcoming UNPLUG Plans

Oct 16: “UNPLUG Challenge II” at Walter Zadow School. We decided to move this from Robert Simpson Park to the school because of the great playground equipment and the gaga ball pit. That will facilitate the children having a good chunk of unstructured play time as well as any organized challenges. Craig will lead this again with help from Zach and host Dave.

Nov 6: “Come Meet Indigo and Learn about Wild Bird Rehabilitation”. Patty McLaughlin, Education Program Coordinator from the Ottawa Valley Wild Bird Care Centre will lead this event at Fitzroy Provincial Park. Indigo is a live American Kestrel who can’t be released into the wild. Patty also uses taxidermy to keep the presentation as hands-on as possible. Participants will get to touch and explore many different wings, feet, and beaks during the presentation to help them with their understanding and identification of birds. Kids then can dissect real owl pellets to see what the owls have recently eaten – a very popular activity. Binoculars will be available for anyone arriving early.

Nov 20 & Dec 4: events haven’t been finalized.



A poem by St. Francis of Assisi.

The Sacraments
 I once spoke to my friend, an old squirrel, about the Sacraments...he got so excited
 And ran into a hollow in his tree and came
 Back holding some acorns, an owl feather and a ribbon he had found.
 And I just smiled and said "Yes, dear, you understand
 Everything imparts
 His grace"



October 2022



BIRTHDAYS

October 10th—Cathy Zimmerling

October 12th—Nate Zimmerling

October 21st—Jeff Kargus

October 25th—Rosemary Drziak

October 26th—Kayla Zimmerling

October 27th—Fred Steinke

October 30th—Stella Boese

October 30th—June Wolff

October 31st—Joyce Headrick

ANNIVERSARIES

October 10th—Bartly & Linda Roberts

October 11th—Greg & Debbie Steinke

October 23rd—Bob & Enid Hinchley



Elephant Family Sleeping

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 2022



DATE	READING	ALTAR	USHERS	COUNTERS	Social
Oct 2 nd	Joy Statham	Beryl & Keith	Debbie & Bob	Debbie & Bob	Barb F.
Oct 9 th	Debbie/Jeff Kargus	Beryl & Keith	Debbie & Bob	Debbie & Bob	
Oct 16 th	Maureen Rueckwald	Beryl & Keith	Debbie & Bob	Debbie & Bob	TBC
Oct 23 rd	Mark Boese	Beryl & Keith	Debbie & Bob	Debbie & Bob	
Oct 30 th	Ryan/Julie Zimmerling & family	Beryl & Keith	Debbie & Bob	Debbie & Bob	TBC

The Prayer Jar in the Narthex

This jar is a confidential place to list your prayer concerns and put them in the jar. NO ONE will be reading these at all. The Prayer Team simply raises up the contents in prayer without knowing what is requested on the notes.

Please feel free to add yours at any time, using the post it notes on the narthex table.

Thank you, P+Norine