



The Vine October 2022
St. Helen's Anglican Church
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Clergy: The Ven. Rhonda Waters

A Message from the Venerable Rhonda Waters

A thought on Thanksgiving

For many years, my family has purchased a farm share from a local farm as part of a CSA program (community supported agriculture). We pay a flat fee in the winter and then, in late spring, begin collecting a weekly box of beautiful, farm-fresh produce. In this way, we take on a small share of the risks inherent in farming – late springs, early frosts, too much rain, too little rain – as well as the rewards – bumper crops of strawberries or corn or radishes (sometimes, it's a mixed blessing). For the months of June-October, our meal planning revolves around what we received that week and, sometimes, we have to be pretty disciplined about using it all up before the next week's bounty arrives (even the radishes). The abundance of God's creation can be positively overwhelming!

Thanksgiving invites us to pause and acknowledge the generosity of God, who made this beautiful earth and all that sustains us. But true thanksgiving is more than simply saying "thank you". As creatures made in the image of a generous God, we are called to be a reflection of that generosity, offering up that which God has given to us so that it might be a blessing to others. And, when we give, we discover the beautiful logic of God's economy: we are blessed by the very act of giving.

So, in this Thanksgiving season, I invite you to consider your own spiritual practice of generosity. What do you give? To whom? Why? What do you keep and why? And what does God have to say about all of that?

And let me know if you would like some radishes next summer.

Worship

- **Sunday, October 2 - Orange Shirt Day - 8 & 10 Holy Eucharist;**
- **Sunday, October 9 -Thanksgiving - 8 & 10 Holy Eucharist;**
- **Sunday, October 16 19th after Pentecost - 8 & 10 Holy Eucharist;**
- **Sunday, October 23, 20th after Pentecost - 8 & 10 Holy Eucharist; and**
- **Sunday, October 30, 21st after Pentecost - 8 & 10 Holy Eucharist.**

Chair of Worship: The Venerable Rhonda Waters

Discipleship



St. Helen's Youth Ministry Youth, save the date! Oct. 13th @ 6:00 pm Youth Adult Dinner Party + Board Game Night on Oct. 28th @ 7:00 pm (Costumes encouraged but not required!)

Bible Study – Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:00: Has now resumed with an informal time of conversation on the coming Sunday's Gospel reading, led by our priest, Rhonda+.

Daily Readings Two devotional series are available in the front foyer for your use, *Day by Day*, and *Our Daily Bread*. Your \$2 donation covers the costs. 2023 Church Calendars are also available in the Church office at a cost of \$6.00 each.

Chair of Discipleship: Jeff McRae

Stewardship

Finances - Pre Authorized Remittance Even with the cuts to the budget this year we are still substantially behind in income. Please consider PAR. A call to the church office (613-824-2010) or an e-mail to st.helen@on.aibn.com will facilitate any changes you wish to make. A pamphlet describing this programme and how to increase your gift on a regular basis is available. If you are already on PAR, please raise your monthly amount as you are able.

Property Thanks to all those who continued to keep our property in good shape, inside and out, throughout the summer months, including our Quiet Garden team, grass cutters, the POG team and the cleaners.

Chair of Stewardship: Colin Taylor

Outreach

The Well "Muffins Made with Love" for The Well's Breakfast Program has resumed. Please bring your muffins to the church on Sundays and place them in the freezer. Thanks to Arch Campbell for his ongoing delivery ministry.

No Clothing – Please note that we are not able to accept used clothing at this time. Please take any clothing and other such donations to the Salvation Army, for their Thrift Store, or Bibles for Missions.

Thank you for your generous contributions to September's Outreach collections!

October's Collection is: *Pasta & Pasta Sauce*

All collection receptacles for Outreach are located in the front foyer.

Chair of Outreach: Sharon Tremaine

Community

The first weekend in October was truly special:



Our first (annual?) **Blessing of the Animals Party** welcomed 150-200 people to the church grounds over the course of 2 hours on Saturday afternoon. Pets were blessed, games were played, faces were painted, treats were eaten, and then the Little Ray's Nature Centre Show began in the hall. We met (and blessed) a tarantula, snakes, lizards, a turtle, an armadillo, a ferret, and a crocodilian – each one created and beloved by God! In addition to being a lot of fun, we collected \$185 for the Ottawa Humane Society. Many, many thanks to everyone who helped with the planning, set-up, hosting, and clean-up.

Then, on Sunday, we observed Orange Shirt Day. The congregation was awash in orange, a visible sign of our commitment to remember Canada's colonial past and work to create a just and respectful future with Indigenous peoples on this, their territory. Audrey Lawrence and Brenda Reid generously shared parts of their stories with us, each in unique and powerful ways. There was a deep sense of hope in the power of God to bring about reconciliation and new life.

St. Helen's Quiet Garden – Memorial Stones- Thanks for the Memories - The Fall progresses and the flowers in our Quiet Garden are being prepared for their winter sleep. Thank you to the diligent gardeners who have caringly tended the plants on our behalf. It has been some time since our last appeal to those who wish to make a donation in the form of a memorial stone to grace the border of the garden. Is there someone you would like to honour in this manner? Please fill out the "Thanks for the Memories" donation form on our website at <https://sthelens.ca/newsite3/st-helens-quiet-garden/>. The completed forms should be dropped off at the church office by end October for timely processing of the order. For any questions, please contact John Leech

St. Helen's Art Fair - The success of the May Art Fair can be measured in many ways:

- ✓ The 33 works of original art sold;
- ✓ A total of \$3,554 in sales;
- ✓ \$2,791 returned to the local artists community;
- ✓ 16 very satisfied artists, many of whom are most interested in returning;
- ✓ Many more visitors from outside St. Helen's parish than last year's virtual Art Fair, and
- ✓ Over 22 fantastic volunteers who helped setup the Art Fair in Trinity Hall and assist the artists and guests.

And most significant, \$1,287 was donated to PWRDF's Initiative E+ campaign to support Ukrainian civilians displaced by the war as was sanctioned by Council last April. To undertake a 3rd art fair in 2023 will require the efforts of more volunteers early on to spearhead an even larger community promotion and engagement program and to plan and arrange the logistics for the Fair. For questions or to volunteer, please contact: Brian Glenn, Art Fair Coordinator, sthelensartfair@gmail.com

Pastoral Care

Prayer Chain We understand that our God walks with us on every step of Life's journey, in relationship with us whether we are aware of the presence of the Holy One or not! St. Helen's 'prayer warriors' are prepared to offer intercessions on behalf of others for God's blessing upon any number of concerns, needs or issues. Often we pray for healing; we can do that for you and your loved ones, *if you let us know!* To request prayer support please e-mail the church office at office@sthelens.ca or Maggie Lorimer at: mlorimer@rogers.com

'Comfort Quilts' made by the Sewing/Quilting group are available for anyone suffering illness or recovering from surgery etc. Please contact Judy Lutes and/or the clergy.

Ladies' Craft Group has now resumed on Wednesdays, @ 9 AM - New members and ideas welcomed!

Coffee Hour Coffee, tea, juice and fellowship available after the 10:00 am service. Please come to Trinity Hall and join the chat! Volunteers welcome! Sign up and full instructions are available in the servery. Coffee, tea and juice are all supplied by the church.

Chair of Community: Lorna Ponting

St. Helen's Christmas Bazaar November 12, 2022



We're counting on you to help us out...in the preparing, selling and buying some of the wonderful items we'll have on display.

This year, in addition to the fabulous apple pies made right here in the church kitchen, we will be baking Christmas cakes and puddings, rum balls, and meat pies - look for them on the Bake Table. Start thinking about your culinary contribution to the Bake Table, it yields the most income and is dependent on our combined donations.

October is the time to bring in your donations...Donation boxes will be in the spare office for:

Knitted items and Crafts - must be handmade
Jams and other preserves - must be sealed (lids that have popped cannot be sold)
Pre-loved jewelry
Attic Treasures - small decor items (as display space is limited)

Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be available soon in Trinity Hall.

For any questions please contact us - Bazaar Coordinators:

Helen Giroux (hlgiroux@rogers.com) and Sandra Clark (sandraleeclark@hotmail.com)