

# Message from Fr. Stephen



## Back to Church 2011

I hope you all had a restful summer and enjoyed time with the people who are important to you. The children and I had a wonderful time visiting family in Nova Scotia and, contrary to forecasts, had pretty good weather! I am grateful to Fr. Stanley for taking such good care of you during my absence and for all who helped keep things clicking along like a well-oiled machine. I am especially grateful to members of the parish who are so committed to worship that they faithfully attended through the summer and in my absence. You are a blessing.

It is Back to Church time, both officially and unofficially. Unofficially, some people are heading back after sporadic summer attendance. The Kids' Club will open on September 11, providing a fun place for children to worship, enjoy fellowship and learn about the love of God made known to us in Jesus Christ. Our committees, choir and other groups are also ramping up for a new season. It is great to see things getting back into the swing.

Officially, September 25 is "Back to Church Sunday" - or "B2CS" as Bishop Poole calls it - in the Diocese of Toronto. I encourage every one of you to invite someone you know to church that day - in fact you can do this any Sunday throughout the year! Please only invite folks who are not already attending a church elsewhere. An invitation from a friend is the number one reason people give for why they started attending a church. We have a great community and an awesome gospel well worth sharing! Invitations will soon be available if you choose to use one.

There is a lot going on at St. John's but none of it could happen without you! Please consult the bulletin, Eagle and website ([www.stjohnschurchph.ca](http://www.stjohnschurchph.ca)) on a regular basis to see what is happening and the ways in which you can be part of our ministry to one another and the wider community.

Blessings in Christ,

The Rev. Stephen Vail, Incumbent

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### Sign of the Times



## Spiritual Development Committee

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Upcoming Spiritual Development events:

Jazz Service:

The Mike Janzen Trio will again be joining us for our annual Jazz Service, which coincides with the *Port Hope All Canadian Jazz Festival*. Join us at the 10:30 service on Sunday, September 25 to worship God at this lively service.

Fall Evensong Series:

“Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.” The Comfortable Words will be the theme of four weekly Evensong Services to be held Wednesday evenings beginning October 12 (October 12, 19, 26 and November 2) at 7:30 p.m. Each week a different preacher will provide insight into one of the four "comfortable words" statements. Come and join us for a pleasant evening choral service from the Book of Common Prayer. The preachers are Fr. Stephen, Fr. Ed Cachia, Jackie Foote, and Shane Watson.

Fall Study and Discussion Series:

Mark Wednesday November 9, 16, 23, and 30 in your calendar if you are interested in attending our fall study and discussion series in the Lower Parish Hall beginning at 7 p.m. Watch the bulletin and website for additional details as the series approaches. The theme is “What is Heaven Like?”

Parish Library:

If you missed the opportunity attend any of our recent parish movies nights, you may borrow the movies from our Parish Library at the back of the church. You will notice the following movies available for sign-out:

To Save a Life is about an all-star athlete and his girlfriend, that asks the question "What's my life going to be about?". The movie deals with some tough issues facing teens such as social divisions, school violence, cutting, suicide, teen pregnancy and divorce in a non-graphic but authentic manner.

Visit [www.tosavealifemovie.com](http://www.tosavealifemovie.com) to view the movie trailer.

Letters to God is based on the true story of a young boy who is battling cancer and how his daily prayer letters to God strengthen his family and community in hope and faith. Visit [www.letterstogodthemovie.com](http://www.letterstogodthemovie.com) to view to the movie trailer.

Faith Like Potatoes is based on the inspiring true story of Angus Buchan, the story weaves together the moving journey of a man who, like his potatoes, grows his faith, unseen until the harvest.

Visit [www.faithlikepotatoes.com](http://www.faithlikepotatoes.com) to view the movie trailer.

## Update on the Steeple from the Wardens

On June 5, we held a Special Vestry Meeting to decide whether to repair or remove the Church steeple. At that meeting, 79 people voted in favour of repair and 26 people voted in favour of removal. If the final estimates for repair exceed \$350,000, another Special Vestry will be called reconsider the question.

On June 23, the Diocesan Council gave approval for the repair to proceed based on the results of the vote at the Special Vestry Meeting and the proposed method of financing. The Council though, asked that the Church solicitor review the letter from our insurer which conveyed that coverage of the steeple repair was denied.

In June, a project manager was hired to oversee the repair. He is Bruno Dobri of Dobri Engineering located in Port Hope. Bruno has conducted design, inspection, tendering and contract administration for many land development and construction projects in the Port Hope and Cobourg area.

The original drawings of the construction of the Church were located at the Diocesan archives in Toronto. A copy of the drawings was provided to St. John's and forwarded to the project manager to assist in the design of the repair.

The project manager wrote a request for proposal for the design work which was to include: preparation of structural drawings and specifications for the repair, provision of options and recommendations for new roofing to replace the existing roof, preparation of a cost estimate and estimate of time to complete the construction, and, preparation of a tender package. In early July, this work was awarded to Durham Engineering from Oshawa.

During the first week of August, Durham Engineering submitted drawings and documents for review. The information was reviewed by the wardens with valuable input from Shane Watson and review comments were discussed with the project manager. He then had Durham Engineering make the required changes.

The project manager issued a proposal call for the repair work to five contractors on August 17 and site visits for the contractors were held on August 19 and 22. Separate prices are to be provided for the structural repair and for the roof replacement. The date for submission of tenders is August 31 and award of the contract will occur within 5 days. Construction is to start shortly after the award of the contract and the work should be completed within 8 – 10 weeks. Restrictions, if any, on access to the Church during construction will be determined by the contractor in consultation with the project manager.

Thank you very much to all who have made donations towards the repair of the steeple. This generosity is much appreciated. A separate account has been set up for the steeple repair and cheques can be made out to "St. John's Anglican Church - Save Our Steeple".

# Children's Ministry

## Vacation Bible Camp 2011



55 children, 31 adult and teen helpers and 2 babies enjoyed Bible stories, music, science, crafts and games at Shake It Up Cafe, the week of July 4 to July 8. The Bible is God's cookbook and each day we discovered a "secret ingredient" to help us live the way God wants us to live: Be Ready for God, Give Happily to God, Believe Fully in Jesus, Remember Jesus Often and Celebrate God Forever.

"Bread" was a theme of the week from unleavened bread in the Old Testament recipes to the new "Bread of Life" revealed through the New Testament recipes. Moses and the Passover from the Old Testament recipe in Exodus was our session one story and following simple instructions for matzo bread, we made our own unleavened bread. Our plan is to use these same matzo instructions for our own Communion Bread for our Children's Services and Children's Eucharist this season.

On the last day of our camp, it was our pleasure to welcome several children and teens from a newly formed Hand Bell Ringing group from St. Mark's Church under the direction of Mr. Randy Mills. The group is in its' early stages and St. John's VBC was one of the group's first audiences. Ave Verum and the Titanic theme were rung and five of St. John's children were invited to ring with them - a fun way to end a very special week.

Thanks to all who in any way shared this wonderful week with us.

### Sunday School

September 11 is our first Children's Service of the season. This service is planned with children in mind. Kids' Club resumes on September 18 with the story of *The Light (John 8:12)*. Each child is invited to light a candle from the Christ Candle and receive his or her own "Light". Our Kids' Club story schedule and calendar are included in the Eagle for your information. Please note Children's Eucharist will be observed on October 23 and December 11 and Advent 1 - November 27 and Christmas Eve will be Children's Services.

If you would like to join the children for Worship or volunteer in Kids' Club in any way, contact Marianne. [stjohnskids@bell.net](mailto:stjohnskids@bell.net) or 905 885 6718. We love to share.

## Sounds of Music

A generous invitation of music is extended to St. John's children age 8 and up to receive instruction in the playing of Hand Bells and to participate in a Bell Ringing group. Mr. Randy Mills, Choir Director and Organist at St Mark's and Trinity College School is offering his time and talent for this project. Mr. Mills teaches a similar children's Hand Bell group from St. Mark's Church.

Instruction and practices will take place on Mondays, beginning Monday September 19 from 3:00 to 3:55 p.m. in the basement of the Memorial Chapel at Trinity College School. The Hand Bells belong to TCS and were donated by the TCS Parents Guild. No previous musical experience is necessary and there is no charge for the instruction and participation. All that is required is commitment and the desire to make music.

Bell ringing is a "team" activity. For the program to be successful, it is hoped that 7 or 8 children will accept this invitation. Practices with Mr. Mills will involve learning how to hold and ring the bells correctly, learning to ring as a "team" and learning simple music notation. Hand Bell musical notation is easy to follow; notes are circled with red for right-hand bells and blue for left-hand bells. Each child will ring 2 bells, with learning quick and fun. Several short musical selections will be taught at the beginning and as confidence grows, more involved selections will be added. Mr. Mills will also be working with the St. Mark's group at their respective practice time and it is his plan to combine the groups for larger Bell Ringing activities.

We are already looking forward to hearing joyful music and seeing St. John's children join with St. Mark's children at St. John's on October 30 during the Prelude to the Sunday Choral Eucharist. The Hand Bell group will ring at St. Mark's during a similar visit at a later date. We also hope to have the opportunity to make music at a nursing or retirement home or other church functions.



Music is an integral part of any child's education. Private music instruction requiring an absence from school during school hours is recognized by the Ministry of Education. The Government of Ontario Education Act Section 21(2e) states "A person is excused from attendance at school if, the person is absent from school for the purpose of receiving instruction in music and the period of absence does not exceed one-half day in any week."

If your child/children (grandchild/grandchildren) are interested, please speak to Marianne for information as soon as possible.

Marianne is co-ordinating this program with Randy Mills.

It will be exciting to see where this will lead.



# Autumn

Find and circle all of the Autumn words that are hidden in the grid.  
The remaining letters spell a secret message - an Albert Camus quotation.

L O N G E R N I G H T S N A A U C N  
T O R U E S T U N Y R O K C I H R I  
M S O A Y Q E N I S I A O T R W O K  
R C Y H N E U V S T E R F H E O P P  
C E A A C G K I A S N O A A B R S M  
K N D N D S E R N E D S R N M C O U  
S C Y L N R G L U O L P M K E E C P  
Q R A K E I E R E T X G I S V R T S  
U Y D T M A N T S A E F N G O A O E  
A D Y D S I V G R T V S G I N C B P  
S N R N G Y W E H O E E N V W S E T  
H I E L P P A E S P H A S I V O R E  
B W T Y L L I H C T E S P N R F L M  
F T S E V R A H Y E L O I G C R E B  
A A U H A L L O W E E N E F I O S E  
A F L S E V A E L W O L L E Y S L R  
L O B L W E C H E S T N U T S T R D

ACORN	EQUINOX	NOVEMBER	SEPTEMBER
APPLE	FALL	OCTOBER	SHORTER DAYS
BIRD MIGRATION	FARMING	ORANGE LEAVES	SQUASH
BLOWING LEAVES	FEAST	PIE	SWEET POTATOES
BLUSTERY DAY	FROST	PUMPKIN	THANKSGIVING
CANNING	HALLOWEEN	RAKE	TURKEY
CHESTNUTS	HARVEST	RED LEAVES	WINDY
CHILLY	HAYSTACK	SCARECROW	YELLOW LEAVES
COLD	HICKORY NUTS	SCHOOL	
CROPS	LONGER NIGHTS	SEASON	

Did you enjoy this puzzle? Visit: <http://www.puzzles.ca/wordsearch.html>

Kids' Club Calendar - Autumn 2011

September 11	Children's Church Service
September 18	Kids' Cub resumes The Light
September 25	Back to Church Sunday and Jazz Service The Good Shepherd
October 2	The Good Shepherd and the Lost Sheep
October 9	Thanksgiving Creation
October 16	Noah
October 23	Children's Eucharist Abram and Sara
October 30	Exodus
November 6	Remembrance Day Service Ten Best Ways to Live
November 13	Ark and a Tent for God
November 20	Reign of Christ The Promised Land
November 27	Advent I Children's Church Service no Kids' Club
December 4	Advent II The Prophets Show the Way to Bethlehem
December 11	Advent III Children's Eucharist Mary, Joseph and Shepherds Show the Way to Bethlehem
December 18	Advent IV The Magi Show the Way to Bethlehem Meeting the Christ Child Christmas Party
December 24	Christmas Eve Children's Service
December 25	No Kids' Club

Dates to remember:

Children's Eucharist: Oct.23 and Dec.11  
Stephen will join Kids' Club on these days.

Children's Church Services: Sept.11, Nov. 27 (Advent 1) and Christmas Eve  
Kids' Club will assist with handing out bulletins for Worship, taking up the collection, reading and making the Communion Bread. These services are planned with children in mind.

Hand Bells: Mondays, beginning September 19 from 3:00 p.m. to 3:55 p.m.  
at TCS Memorial Chapel

## JAM (Jesus and Me) Youth Group

Gift Cards –Our shop and support gift card sales is starting up again beginning Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup> (our first order date) continuing each month for those specials gifts you need or just for your regular everyday needs, like grocers and gas. Orders and money must be in to the Church office by the third Thursday of each month (we will not be ordering in the months of July, August or December – Christmas Orders to be place by Wednesday November 30<sup>th</sup>) by 9:00am. Order forms and retailers list may be found at the back of the Church on the Youth Bulletin Board as well as on our Church website, <http://www.stjohnschurchph.ca/> .

Bottle Drive – We are having another bottle drive during the Christmas Season or early January. If anyone has empty alcohol bottles that you would like to donate to JAM’s fund raising efforts please contact Karen Watson at 905-885-8622 or [watson.k@me.com](mailto:watson.k@me.com) and arrange a pick up date and time. If you have collected bottles over the summer and you wish to donate them sooner rather than later, that works for us too.

### Upcoming Events

Dates	Activity
Friday September 9 <sup>th</sup> 7:30-9:30pm	Welcome Back Night (introductions, planning and games) @ Lower Parish Hall
Friday September 23 <sup>th</sup> 7:30-9:30pm	Banner Painting & T-shirt Design with music.
Friday October 14 <sup>th</sup> 7:30-9:30pm	Movie Night: “Radio” Theme for the night is Impacting Others.
Friday October 28 <sup>th</sup> 7:30-9:30pm	Halloween Party: Come Dressed as someone/something else!
Come JAM with US! Check us out on Facebook too!	



## A Parish Hall meeting with Archbishop Colin Johnson by Bill Bickle

A Parish Hall meeting was held by Archbishop Colin Johnson in the St John's Parish Hall on Sunday evening June 12<sup>th</sup>. The Archbishop was returning from the consecration of the new bishop in the Diocese of Ontario in Kingston the previous day. He held a meeting like this in each of the four diocesan areas, to hear the mind of the people, and take the pulse of the Diocese. Colin is a gifted leader and is reshaping the Diocese in substantial ways. He is skilfully moving us away from the typical win-lose, black-white debate over same sex blessings. This is no easy feat given the polarized approach to dealing with issues is so prevalent in our North American culture, not just in the Church.

The Archbishop started our time together by asking us to discuss what we value about church, then what we value about Anglicanism, and what gives us hope. Enabling the conversation about what church means to us, and why we participate, is fundamental to the health of parishes, and the Diocese. Also it helps us to affirm our individual commitment to speak the words and share them with members of our church family. If we are unable to articulate why we come to church, what belief means, and why we have hope for the future, then how can we tell our story? He provided several examples of how we can have renewed confidence in the Anglican Communion, our ability to communicate together, and how we make a difference in a world that is confused and often disheartened.

Given the Archbishop's vantage point as an important participant across the global Anglican Communion, I asked how he sees things currently. He sees much more dialogue, respect for one another, and less sense of the Communion on the brink of breaking up – we have pulled back from “the two sides of the debate hurling stones across and over the heads of the majority in the middle”. I was struck by two things in particular: his application of these same principles at the parish level; and how much we are a part of a much larger whole. We can model civility and respect in our discussions within the parish. Our ability to deal with our community's issues in a rational and competent fashion is attractive to visitors and those seeking something different than what they often see in politics, commerce or other areas of their lives. Anglicanism is a large body of approximately 80 million people and we worship in different ways across the globe. Marnie and I attended services recently at Holy Trinity Brompton (the home of Alpha) and St Paul's Cathedral – they couldn't have been more different! But worship styles and liturgical fine-points are not what define and unite us, it is our beliefs and how we live out our lives in communion with God and one another.

The local church is the hope of the world and we are blessed to be a part of it. I left the meeting with the Archbishop challenged and encouraged. We can make a difference, we can be a light in a dark world by reflecting Christ's light and love. Archbishop Colin relayed a powerful story told at Lambeth by a Māori bishop about the spread of Christianity to New Zealand. The native people were interested in what was about to be told them by the visitors because they believed good news was always accompanied by calm waters. When the ship arrived at shore on calm seas, they stepped back to make room for the visitors. The captain stepped onto land and said, “I bring you tidings of great joy that will be for all the people”, the same words the angels told the shepherds about the birth of Christ.

This good news is what binds us to one another, in the parish, in the Diocese, and across the Anglican Communion.



## Parish News

### Save Our Steeple "Harvest Walk" Fundraiser.

On Saturday, October 15th from 10a.m. till noon we are inviting members and friends of our parish to participate in our "Harvest Hike" fundraising walk to raise money for St. John's Steeple repair fund. The 5 kilometer "Harvest Hike" is set up much like a walkathon. It will take place at the Ganaraska Forest Centre along their groomed trails. St. John's walkers are asked to get sponsors for their trek. All sponsors donating at least 20 dollars will get a tax receipt from St. John's. All funds raised go directly to steeple repairs. For walkers wanting a more physically challenging course, a ten kilometer walk will also be available.

Walkers pay 20 dollars to walk which gets them a colourful Harvest Hike Tee Shirt, bottled water at the start and along the trail, followed by a delicious chili lunch complete with desserts. Families of four can enjoy the entire event for forty dollars. The trails will also have spotters at designated check points to ensure hiker's safety.

This is a great way to get those members of the community, not directly affiliated with St. John's, involved in our fundraising efforts. Please consider becoming a walker in this great family oriented activity. For more information, sign up sheets and sponsorship forms, contact Blake Holton at 905-885-7439 or via e mail at [holtons@sympatico.ca](mailto:holtons@sympatico.ca) It won't be the same if you're not there, so please plan to attend.

Many thanks to the Rotary Club of Northumberland Sunrise for organizing this event on St. John's behalf.

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**Now that we are getting back into the swing of things, here are some regular monthly dates to remember:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>Food Bank Sunday and the Laying on of Hands with Prayer</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday</b>	<b>Trinity Group meeting (following 10:00 service)</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday</b>	<b>Corporation meeting</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	<b>Men's Club Breakfast (following 8:30 service)</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday</b>	<b>Advisory Board meeting</b>

### **Natural Church Development**

On October 2, thirty members of our parish will participate in our first Natural Church Development (NCD) survey. NCD is a diagnostic tool, which helps churches see where things are going well and where there is room for improvement. It aims and helping churches become even healthier than they are. The survey centers around key characteristics common to vibrant and healthy churches around the globe. The participants in the survey have been invited according to the guidelines of NCD and following the advice of our coach, Val Whalley. We hope that this process will help us discern the best way forward as we continue the journey of serving the Lord at St. John's. For more information on NCD, see [www.ncdcanada.com](http://www.ncdcanada.com).

The Word Search Puzzle on page 7 quote is; "AUTUMN IS A SECOND SPRING WHEN EVERY LEAF IS A FLOWER"

**ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

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## Parish Calendar

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time &amp; Place</b>
<b>Battle of Britain Remembrance Service</b>	September 18, 2011	10:30 a.m. Service
<b>Back to Church Sunday and Jazz Service</b>	September 25, 2011	10:30 a.m. Service
<b>Trinity Group Fashion Show</b>	Wednesday October 12, 2011	Parish Hall
<b>Harvest Walk Steeple Fundraiser</b>	Saturday October 15, 2011	10:00 a.m. at the Ganaraska Forest Centre
<b>Chancel Guild Annual Meeting</b>	October 16, 2011	Noon
<b>Harvest Supper</b>	Saturday October 22, 2011	5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall
<b>Celebration of Hope Ecumenical Concert</b>	Saturday October 22, 2011	7 p.m. at Port Hope United Church
<b>Parish Halloween party</b>	Friday October 28, 2011	5:30 to 7:00 in the Parish Hall
<b>Eve of All Saints' with Bishop Linda Nicholls</b>	October 30, 2011	10:30 service
<b>Parish Breakfast</b>	November 6, 2011	Parish Hall
<b>Christmas Tea &amp; Bazaar</b>	Saturday November 12, 2011	Parish Hall
<b>Newcomers' Meet and Greet</b>	Wednesday December 7, 2011	7:00 p.m. at the Rectory
<b>The Christmas Story</b>	December 11 & 12, 2011	7:00 p.m. in the Church
<b>Advent Lessons &amp; Carols followed by our Family Christmas Party</b>	December 18, 2011	10:30 a.m. Service