



News from

New St. James Presbyterian Church

A Mission Church

Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others

October 5, 2020

From the Publisher

As we deal with the present wave of COVID-19, and prepare for the possibility of a second wave, we can respond in a number of different ways. We could pretend it is not happening (with possibly dire consequences if we do!); we could shut ourselves off from any human contact; or we could heed wise advice, take appropriate steps to ensure our personal safety and the safety of others, and adjust. Clearly, New St. James has chosen the third of these. We are learning new skills, and discovering new ways of communicating, and developing new ways of being in community with one another, all so that we can continue to fulfil our mission statement of *Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others*. Once again, the issue of the newsletter is evidence of how we are doing that.

From the Interim Moderator page 2
From the Clerk of Session page 3
From the Music Director page 4
Mission and Social Action page 6
Your Website Corner page 7

From Women's Council page 8
Contact List page 9
Order form page 10
Children's activity page 12

A Long and Winding Road

It has been more than three years since you, the good people of New St James, and I, your troublesome Interim Moderator, were yoked together. Such a long journey!

I've worked alongside the Search Committee as it sought a new Minister and I've given guidance to the Session. When called upon, I've helped out with pastoral and administrative matters as they've arisen. I sought out Ministers who could serve New St James week by week in the pulpit and be a pastoral presence during the long 'interregnum'.

Through it all, I've come to know a wide cast of characters. New St James is a wonderful congregation. It's blessed with committed staff and competent leadership. May I make mention, in that regard, of Bruce Curtis, the Clerk of Session? He is wise and proficient in all the right ways, and I've personally benefited from the privilege of knowing him and working alongside him.

The history of New St James is long and notable. There's every reason to believe its future will be too. Calling a new Presbyterian Minister may take longer than electing a new Pope, but for New St James the long and winding road that leads to the Induction of a New Minister will soon reach its destination.

Rev. Andrew Fullerton,
Your troublesome Interim Moderator for just a short while longer

The Rev. Dr. David Clark preached for a Call to New St James on Sunday, September 27. The Call will be processed by the Presbytery of London. I'm quite sure they will approve the Call. We all wish this didn't have to happen in the middle of a pandemic, but we're intrepid and resourceful people, are we not? We can make this work, and we will be glad and grateful.

Dr. Clark is clever and kind. He brings a breadth of experience to New St James. Not only has he served capably as Minister of a Congregation, he has also served competently as a Chaplain in the Canadian Armed Forces, and as a part-time Lecturer at the University of Toronto while he was completing a splendid dissertation for a Ph.D. degree. Those who know him recognise his pastoral gifts and his good character.

We often mire ourselves in issues of 'fit' and 'match' when we think of Calling a Minister. Will this person 'fit us' like a hand in a glove, and 'match us' the way a piece slots into a puzzle? Those questions haven't been ignored. But down the centuries, through prayer and experience, the Church has discerned another 'agency' at work, one that knows more than we do.

It's the 'Hand of God's Providence'. I believe that, through our many months of waiting and working, Providence has been at work too.



From the Clerk of Session

While the past couple of weeks have been exceptionally busy for the Church, it has been for very good reason as we move ahead in our search and “Call” process. It was with great excitement that the Rev. Dr. David Clark “Preached for the Call” on Sunday, September 27, 2020. The Ruling Elders of the Session were in attendance to hear the service and significant effort was made to live-stream, record (for later viewing) and broadcast the service by FM frequency for the Congregation to hear. By all reports received on the day and in subsequent days, Rev. Clark’s service and sermon were well received as he preached an inspiring and uplifting sermon.

Later in the afternoon of September 27, a virtual online Congregational meeting was held for the Church to consider proceeding with the Call and extending

an invitation for the Rev. David Clark to become our next Minister.

I am happy to report that the Congregation overwhelmingly voted in favour of Rev. David Clark. Following from that meeting, the Elders of New St. James made phone calls to their District members to seek their support on the “Call Documents” which were compiled for presentation to the Presbytery of London with New St. James’ request that the Presbytery approve and sustain the Call request. Should the London Presbytery sustain the Call, the interim Moderator and Clerk of Session will appear before the Presbytery of Brampton to request that Rev. Clark be released and transferred to the London Presbytery.

The remainder of the work to accomplish the Call process will take several weeks

to complete. Should we be successful in completing the Call by getting support from the Congregation and approval from the appropriate Presbyteries, we will be in a better position later in November to determine the timing for Rev. Clark to join us at New St. James.

The efforts of many people in preparing for and delivering the in-person Worship Service, and livestreaming, recording and broadcasting must be acknowledged. Thank you to Torin Chiles for his fine musical selections and our soloist Ariel Harwood-Jones, both of which augmented the worship service beautifully. Thank you to Torin, Nawton and Tennyson Chiles for all of their technical competence and abilities to livestream the service. A special thanks to Steve Harris for a truly wonderful recording of the service for our members to view. Thanks to Rob McGugan and Frank Walsh for being ushers and managing the Session in the Sanctuary and to Charlene Beynon for all of her work in coordinating the virtual online meetings. And finally, thank you to Rev. Clark for all of his preparations and being with us in worship and delivering his well-received service!

While we are not done yet, I would like to express my appreciation to our Interim Moderator, Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton, and the Search Committee (Charlene Beynon, Frank Walsh, Steve Harris, Rob McGugan, Tim Van Hees,

Bruce Curtis, Clerk of Session.

Monica Sass, Susan McNair, Tom DeKay, Bruce Curtis) for their endurance, unflinching patience, support and cooperation throughout this search process. The Committee stayed on track in looking for a capable minister with the right combination of qualities and skills to become the Minister at New St. James. Their diligence and perception have helped choosing a fine candidate minister for our Church. Further, the insight and leadership provided by Rev. Fullerton have been invaluable throughout the process. Thank you to Rev. Fullerton and all of the Committee!

All of this activity related to the Call process has certainly occupied a great deal of time for the Session, Interim Moderator and Church Leadership. While we have not lost sight of the issue of COVID-19 and worship services, our focus of attention has been rightly directed toward the Call process. Once time permits, we will be reviewing the COVID situation in light of current circumstances with respect to worship. Ontario has recently moved into the second wave of COVID and any decision regarding a return to worship must take into account the extent of virus in the community, the risk of spreading the virus, and keeping both our staff and Congregation healthy and safe. Stay tuned and we will update you on these matters as things progress and we have information to share.

From the Music Director

I write this dispatch for our NSJ Newsletter sitting in my dining room on a Thursday evening. That sounds normal enough, but for me for the past 20 years,

it has been anything but normal to be at home on a Thursday evening. Thursdays are affectionately known across this country as "Choir Night in Canada" since

almost all churches hold their Choir rehearsals on Thursday evenings. Community Choirs and other singing endeavours all know NOT to schedule anything on Thursday nights since all the singers will be in church on Thursday evenings. Even opera companies traditionally have the Thursday night before a Friday evening opening night as the "dark" night before the run!

For the past 20 years (I was Music Director out at Strathroy United Church before coming to NSJ in 2004!) I have gone directly from my last lesson (5:30pm) at the Faculty of Music to the church where I scarf down a dinner (lovingly prepared and packed by Lesley), and prepare for the choir rehearsal that begins at 7:30. This often involves some photocopying, practicing the accompaniments, score study and then a little quiet time to focus my brain. I share this with you to give you some insight into why it feels so very odd for me to be sitting at my dining room table as Lesley prepares dinner on a THURSDAY evening. The rhythm of long years... is OFF! And I cannot begin to describe how I miss the fellowship and music-making with the choir members of NSJ.

The scriptures last Sunday that Rev. Dr. David Clark preached upon were about trusting God, even when spending time in a barren wilderness, and even in times of privation and loneliness. Those

Torin Chiles

readings and the words of David's thoughtful sermon spoke to me powerfully. They were a comfort, a solace, and an encouragement to persevere in faith, in community, with a clear mission and with love. I found myself thinking to myself on Sunday afternoon, "we can DO this", "we ARE making a difference", "things will get better and evolve as we learn"!

Sometimes a sermon can be a bit of a pep-talk and I think the readings of this past Sunday and the wise words of Rev. Dr. David Clark were heard by me at just the right time, and in just the right way, to sooth my unsettled feelings of being out of my normal rhythm and my deep sense of loss as we do without the NSJ Choir and indeed without our normal Sunday service. That loss of music, fellowship and spiritual connection is distressing to me, and I am sure that it is to others too, but we WILL make it through this wilderness. The desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose and springs will break forth abundantly. Let me not be impatient, let me not put God to the test, let me not lose faith, let me seek to do good where and how I can.

My eyesight is not what it once was and sometimes I rest my eyes during the sermon. (Note from the Publisher: ?!?!?) A teasing chorister once asked me if I was catching forty winks! Not this past Sunday, thank God!



Mission and Social Action Committee

Despite the lack of face-to-face meetings, the Committee has kept in touch with e-mails and phone calls. Thus, donations to various agencies have been on-going.

We were not able to sponsor any children to attend Camp Kintail this summer because all overnight camping was halted. In the meantime, the Committee has sent a total of \$3,000 to the camp to help off-set the daily costs of maintaining the grounds and cabins.

With schools now in session, the Committee donated \$800 to the May Court Club of London to assist with its school nutrition program.

A new affordable housing initiative has come to the attention of the Committee. Information from a CBC commentary

Lyn Hill, Convenor

states: "**Indwell** is a Hamilton-based Christian organization which is turning the site of the old *Embassy Hotel* at 744 Dundas Street, London, into *Embassy Commons*. The 72-unit apartment building will be geared towards people struggling with addiction, mental health or finding a stable place to live."

Indwell's first London residence, *Woodfield Gate*, opened last year at 356 Dundas Street. Linda De Bruyn has lived at *Woodfield Gate* for about a year and says, "I want to tell people that Indwell does give people hope. I have had a wonderful transition living at Indwell. I have overcome a lot. There is a lot of support."

Members of the Mission and Social Action Committee will tour *Woodfield Gate* later this month.

An Invitation for You!

If you have not already viewed the high quality video of Dr. David Clark preaching for the Call, please visit the website www.newstjames.ca You will see the video prominently on the homepage. Special thanks to Steve Harris for the recording and editing the video to include the bulletin, names of participants, the scripture lessons and the psalm etc. and to Steve Langham for getting the video on the website ASAP.

If you are reading this online just click the link below to see the video. You can also forward the link to others who have internet access. Thanks to the Facebook Team, the link is also on the NSJ Facebook page.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTyglPNm-FU&t=3028s>

Don't have a computer or internet access? If you or someone you know would like a CD recording of Dr. Clark's sermon, please contact the Church Office at 519-434-1127 or email admin@newstjames.ca

New Ways of Doing Business

The year 2020 is one we will all remember. So many things have changed as a result of COVID including how we celebrate with family and friends, how we "go" to work, get our groceries, shop, reach our health care providers and especially how we connect and worship as a Congregation.

For many who have "grown up" with technology, this has been a smooth transition- just more of the same. For many others, it has been a steep learning curve with both challenges and new learning opportunities. As one

congregant shared: "you really can teach an old dog new tricks".

Using video conferences to accomplish important business and to stay in touch with family and friends is becoming increasingly more common. Nonetheless, this is a new format for many. The video conferences offered a much needed opportunity during the restrictions imposed by the COVID pandemic to virtually meet Dr. Clark and to "attend" a Congregational Meeting. The response to register for the video conferences and the commitment and determination to participate either online or by phone was so very positive and encouraging.

How's the Website Doing?

The Committee continues to be encouraged with results to date. Here is a look at our most recent results in comparison to those reported in the June and September 2020 editions of the Newsletter:

Number of Visitors in the past 30 days* as of:

| | | |
|--------|--------|---------|
| June 2 | Aug 22 | Sept 28 |
| 594 | 733 | 1250 |

It is promising to see this upward trend. With your help promoting the website, we look forward to seeing these numbers increase even more.

In addition, on September 27, 2020, when Dr. Clark preached for the Call, we reached another significant milestone - there were 1000 hits to the website that day. A record for sure!

Over the past 30 days, the top five pages have remained relatively consistent with previous reports with the exception of

the Donate page sitting at #10:

1. Homepage
2. Sermons
3. Leadership
4. Prayer Board
5. Get Involved

Donations continue to be needed to support the ongoing ministries of the NSJ and can be mailed or dropped off at the Church, Monday - Thursday. Since the building remains closed, please call or email Judi Le Blanc, Office Administrator at 519-434-1127 or email admin@newstjames.ca if you wish to drop off a donation.

Check out the website for the other ways that you can donate such as by credit card, PAR (preauthorized remittance) or E-transfer. If you are reading this on line, click the following link to be connected to the Donate page on the website: <http://newstjames.ca/donate-2>

Just a Few Quick Reminders

Continue to worship each Sunday using Facebook Live by visiting the NSJ Facebook page on the homepage of the website. No need to have a Facebook account. The service is broadcast from the Sanctuary. Thanks to Rev. Mark McLennan, and Torin, Nawton and Tennyson Chiles for making these weekly

Until next time, your Website Committee: Steve Langham, John Malone, Andrew Reid and Charlene Beynon

It will take more than a pandemic to stop Women's Council!

Preserves and baking marketplace
Women's Council has organized a virtual Marketplace to replace the Christmas Bazaar which we will not be able to have this year. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find a list of all the items that have been made, or are being made, by

services available. If you are not able to watch at 10:30 on Sunday mornings, you can watch the service at another time that works for you.

- Check out Rev. McLennan's Mid-Week Meditations. These are posted every Wednesday and can be found on the Sermon page and also see the link posted on the NSJ Facebook page.
- Visit our redesigned and updated website at www.newstjames.ca The old address has been "decommissioned" and will no longer work.
- To reach Judi Le Blanc, Office Administrator by email, her address is admin@newstjames.ca The former email address no longer works.
- Would you like to post something on the NSJ Facebook page? Contact the Facebook Team (Blue Say, Leslie Banks, Monica Sass and Nawton Chiles) at facebook@newstjames.ca
- Any questions or feedback about the website? Please contact us at web@newstjames.ca

We appreciate that not everyone has internet access. Please help us promote NSJ by sharing information posted on the website with others in your circle so that we may all stay connected. Watch for future updates in upcoming editions of the Newsletter.

our members for you to purchase and enjoy. The baking will be fresh (except the items listed as frozen) and brought in just before you pick it up. You are welcome to tell your friends about the sale. Our aim is to sell out!
If you wish to order anything off the list

of products, please call or email Karen Buchwald - 519-641-6742 or email karenbuchwald@hotmail.com You may leave a message but be sure to leave your name and phone number. If you email, please include your phone number. Orders are taken on a first come first served basis and you may order now. Your orders will be confirmed. There is certainly a possibility that we could sell out of some things. On Saturday, October 24, anytime

between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., you will come to the Oxford Street parking lot where you will be greeted outside while you remain in your car. You will give your name and someone will get your order for you. You will pay that person and then be on your way! If you do not have transportation available to do this pickup, please tell Karen when you place your order. Thank you for your support,

Women's Council

Contact List

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Interim Moderator | Rev Dr Andrew Fullerton afullerton.elmwoodchurch.ca@gmail.com |
| Supply Minister | Rev Mark McLennan mmclennan@newstjames.ca |
| Clerk of Session | Bruce Curtis bcurtis@newstjames.ca |
| Music Director | Torin W. Chiles tchiles@newstjames.ca |
| Office Administrator | Judi LeBlanc admin@newstjames.ca |
| Custodian | Mark McDonald admin@newstjames.ca |
| Newsletter publisher | Andrew Reid areid@newstjames.ca |

New St James Presbyterian Church
280 Oxford Street East, London, Ontario N6A 1V4
519.434.1127 www.newstjames.ca

PRESERVES, DELI AND BAKING GOODS

| ITEM | DESCRIPTION | Price |
|-------------------|---|----------|
| JAMS | Strawberry Jam - 250 ml | \$ 4.50 |
| | Strawberry Jam - 125 ml | \$ 2.50 |
| | Strawberry Rhubarb Jam - 250 ml | \$ 4.50 |
| | Blueberry Jam - 250 ml | \$ 4.50 |
| | Peach Blueberry Jam - 250 ml | \$ 4.50 |
| | Rhubarb Ginger Jam - 250 ml | \$ 4.50 |
| | Rhubarb Ginger Jam - 500 ml | \$ 7.50 |
| | | |
| JELLY | Concord & Carmenere Grape Wine Jelly - 250 ml | \$ 5.00 |
| | Red Pepper Jelly - 250 ml | \$ 4.50 |
| | | |
| MARMALADES | Peach Schnapps Marmalade - 250 ml | \$ 5.00 |
| | Orange Marmalade - 250 ml | \$ 5.00 |
| | Orange Marmalade - 500 ml | \$ 8.00 |
| | | |
| PRESERVES | Roasted Peach Preserves - 250 ml | \$ 5.00 |
| | | |
| BEETS | Pickled Beets - Spicy | \$ 4.50 |
| | Pickled Beets | \$ 4.50 |
| | | |
| RELISH | Relish | \$ 4.00 |
| | | |
| PICKLES | Sweet Pickles | \$ 4.50 |
| | | |
| SALSA | Salsa - Medium Spice | \$ 4.50 |
| | | |
| JELLY | Red Pepper Jelly - 250 ml | \$ 4.50 |
| | | |
| ANTI-PASTA | Anti-Pasta - 500 ml | \$ 8.00 |
| | | |
| DELI | Cabbage Rolls - package of 2 | \$ 6.00 |
| | Hamburger Meat Pies - package of 6 | \$ 20.00 |
| | | |
| BAKING | | |
| LOAVES | Fruit Loaf | \$ 6.00 |
| | Banana Nut Loaf | \$ 6.00 |
| | Lemon Loaf | \$ 6.00 |
| | Chocolate Chip Banana Loaf | \$ 6.00 |
| | Chocolate Chip Zucchini Loaves | \$ 6.00 |
| | Zucchini Pineapple Loaf | \$ 6.00 |
| | Lemon Poppy Seed Loaf | \$ 6.00 |
| | Banana Loaf | \$ 6.00 |
| | Date Loaf | \$ 6.00 |
| | Gingerbread Deluxe | \$ 6.00 |
| | Blueberry Loaf - medium -size 4"w X 8"l X 2"h | \$ 4.00 |

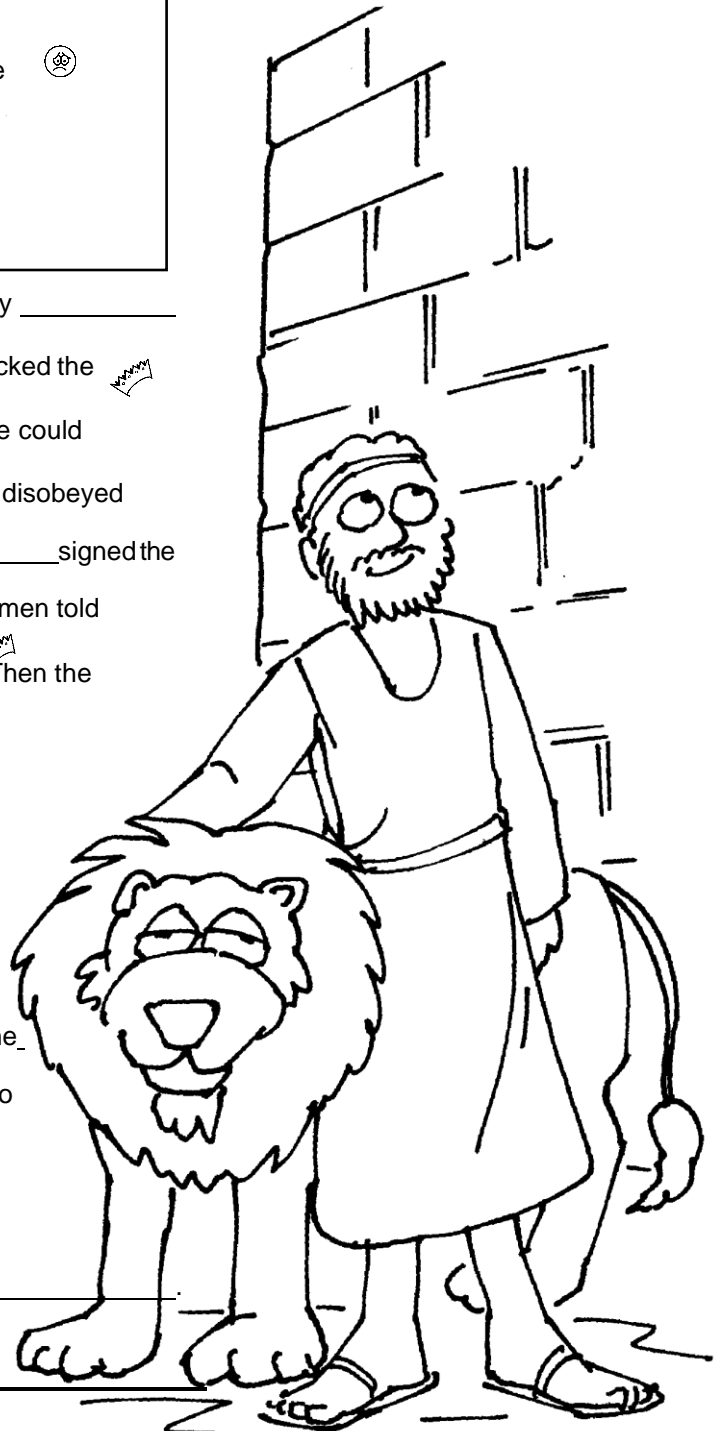
| | | |
|----------------|--|----------|
| | Banana Loaf - small - 3 1/2" X 5 1/2" pan | \$ 3.00 |
| SCONES | Plain Scones - package of 4 | \$ 3.00 |
| | Raisin Scones - package of 4 | \$ 3.50 |
| | Cheese Scones - package of 4 | \$ 3.50 |
| BREAD | Golden Gate Bread - 14" X 3" | \$ 4.00 |
| BUNS | Honey Whole Wheat - package of 12 | \$ 5.00 |
| MUFFINS | Oatmeal Fruit - package of 6 | \$ 5.00 |
| | Chocolate Chip Cream Cheese - package of 6 | \$ 5.00 |
| | Mini Chocolate Chip Banana - packages of 12 | \$ 5.00 |
| SQUARES | Raspberry Macaroon Bars - package of 6 | \$ 5.00 |
| | Brownies - package of 6 | \$ 5.00 |
| | Cranberry Pecan Bars - package of 6 | \$ 5.00 |
| | Hedgehog Squares - package of 6 | \$ 5.00 |
| TARTS | Cranberry Mincemeat (small) - package of 6 | \$ 5.00 |
| | Butter Tarts - package of 6 | \$ 7.00 |
| PIES | Apple - Frozen - 9 inch | \$ 8.00 |
| CRISPS | Apple Crisp - Frozen | \$ 6.00 |
| CAKES | Christmas Cake | \$ 12.00 |
| | Carrot Cake with cream cheese icing - 8" X 8" pan | \$ 8.00 |
| COOKIES | Coconut Oatmeal Crisps - package of 6 | \$ 2.50 |
| | Ginger Sparkle Cookies (soft molasses) - package of 6 | \$ 2.50 |
| | Mixture of different kinds of cookies (includes shortbread)- 18 cookies to a plate | \$ 8.00 |
| MISC | Fudge - package of 6 | \$ 5.00 |
| | Bits and Bites - no nuts (small cans) | \$ 3.00 |
| | Jars of Honey | \$ 10.00 |

Daniel always worshiped God. Then something happened.

Code

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------|
| = plan | = serve | = law | = lions | = sad |
| = pray | = Daniel | = angel | = night | |
| = | = | = alive | = rescue | |
| = worship | = king | = | = morning | |
| = see | = den | = Darius | | |
| | | | | |

_____ was a good man in the kingdom of Babylon, trusted by _____
. Some other administrators grew jealous! They tricked the
 and presented him a _____ that for 30 days, no one could
 any god or man, only the _____. Those who disobeyed
would be thrown into the _____, _____. So the _____ signed the
_____. _____ continued to _____. The jealous men told
 that _____ had broken the _____. Then the
 knew he'd been tricked. But he couldn't change the
_____, and he was very _____. As _____ was sent
to the _____, _____, the _____ said, "May
your God, whom you _____ continually,
_____ you!" _____ stayed up all
_____ worrying. When _____ came, he hurried to the
_____, _____ to _____ what had happened to
_____. _____ found
_____ and well. The _____ had
not hurt him. The Lord had sent an _____ to protect



Name _____