## Announcements - March 17, 2024

New St. James is a mask-friendly environment. If you are feeling unwell, please consider joining Worship online, avoiding in-person attendance, and wearing a mask.

Please join us following worship for refreshments and fellowship in New St. James Hall.

This morning, Highland Group welcomes young children into **the nursery**, outside the west doors of the Sanctuary.

Join us for **Holy Week** at New St. James! An in-person **Maundy Thursday** service, with Holy Communion, will take place on March 28 at 7:00 p.m. On **Good Friday** (March 29) at 10:30 a.m., an in-person Cantata will be offered, featuring guest instrumentalists and the Choir of New St. James. On **Easter Sunday** (March 31), we will celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord with an in-person and livestreamed service, featuring guest instrumentalists.

The **Mission and Social Action Committee** is running its annual project called "Back to Basics." It will run until March 31, Easter Sunday. The Committee is looking for donations of NEW socks and underwear. This year, added to the "basics" list are feminine hygiene products. They are one of the most requested items at some agencies. Donation baskets are at all entrances. If you can't get out to shop and would like to participate in this project, donation envelopes are available from Lyn Hill.

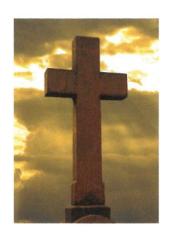
**Spring Garage and Rummage Sale**, Saturday, May 4, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon Please continue to gather donations for this upcoming sale. Donations can be brought in and put in the room designated across from the upstairs kitchen. Thank you for continuing to support Women's Council. Help will be needed so please note this date on your calendars. For more information, please contact Karen Buchwald (at 519.641.6742 or karenbuchwald@hotmail.com) or Deb Noble-Van Hees (at 519.471.6857 or denvh1@hotmail.com).

There are now several options for you to provide regular financial support to New St. James:

- For Offering Envelopes, please call the Church Office (519.434.1127)
- Cheques may be mailed to NSJ: 280 Oxford St. E., London, ON N6A IV4
- Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) it is a convenient way to give—and the church benefits from your steady contributions. Contributions are automatically debited from your bank account on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. To sign up for PAR, call the Church Office or visit www.newstjames.ca/donate-2
- To make an offering through e-transfer, please email Judi Le Blanc (Office Administrator) at admin@newstjames.ca

Income Tax statements are issued by New St. James each year by the end of February. Thank you for supporting the life and mission of New St. James!

**Announcements** are an important way to keep the congregation informed about the ministry of NSJ. The weekly deadline for submitting a requested announcement is <u>Wednesday at noon</u>. Announcements are reserved for information regarding the ministry of New St. James and the Presbyterian Church in Canada.



## Fifth Sunday in Lent

Written by the Rev. John Bannerman (PWS&D Committee Co-Convener)

One: On this fifth Sunday of Lent, we discover a troubled Jesus in prayer as he contemplates his death on the cross.

All: We are grateful for the prayers of Jesus and for the times in the gospels when Jesus prayed.

One: In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus threw himself on the ground and prayed, "Remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."

All: And so we pray, as Jesus taught us,

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven."



## From Leprosy Recovery to Empowering Others



Gulam Hasmad, a 29-year-old man from Banke district in Nepal, was diagnosed with leprosy after experiencing symptoms such as blisters and swelling. Due to a delay in diagnosis, he developed complications, including a hand deformity and eye issues.

Gulam was able to undergo corrective surgeries at Green Pastures Hospital, supported by PWS&D. Gulam and his family were grateful that the procedures meant he regained the use of his hand and eye.

Afterward, Gulam started a self-help group for people affected by leprosy, including those recently diagnosed. He now actively raises awareness about leprosy and what can be done about it. Additionally, Gulam helped his mother and brother seek medical help, leading to their own leprosy diagnoses. Today, Gulam continues to be a positive impact on his community.

This Lenten season, faithfully respond to Christ's call to provide healthy futures for all. PWS&D is working to provide access to medical care and treatment for those who need it most.



2402123305