



The New Messenger
October Edition 05OC24



Message From Sharon:

Dear Friends,

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed Jesus.

Now the diocese is contemplating a new initiative called “Cast the Net”. It is a four-pronged program which involves: renewing spirituality; inspiring faith in action; reimagining ministry; and transforming the diocese. So, what does this mean?

First of all, it means asking ourselves some serious questions:

- As individuals, and as a parish, are we actively working to grow in the knowledge and love of God? Do we have appropriate opportunities for children, youth and adults to enhance their spiritual development? Do we have, or can we raise up leaders to facilitate this development?
- The bible teaches us that faith without works is dead. Ouch! But it is true that the closer we grow in our relationship with God, the more we desire to serve him in this world. Many of our church members are, in fact, serving God in the wider community.

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Now we are called to reflect, and perhaps, reevaluate, our sense of our parish's purpose and mission to the world. What is the most important thing we can do, in today's society, that will serve God's purpose for the world?

- For too long we have thought of ministry as "something the priest does". But we are all baptized into the ministry of Christ, and each of us is tasked with identifying our own particular place in the ministry of our church. It's not always easy! And then, after some time has elapsed, we may find that we have outgrown a particular ministry, but we're not sure what we want to do next. A parish which encourages its members to explore new possibilities, is a parish which has energy, enthusiasm, and abundant joy.
- Transforming the diocese is not something any one parish can do! Nevertheless, when our parish is transformed, and the parishes around us are transformed, the diocese as a whole becomes renewed, reinvigorated and blessed.

From my perspective, St. Matthew's has come a long way in the past two years. Indeed, I often think of that Lenten hymn: "We Rise Again From Ashes". We have truly risen from the devastation caused by COVID and financial difficulties. I believe that we are now ready to start thinking about the possibilities which lie before us. God has placed us here for a purpose: let's go and find out what that purpose is!

Faithfully,

Sharon+

St. Matthew's Poinsettia Bazaar/Craft Market 2024

St. Matthew's Annual Bazaar and Craft Market is coming quickly. Please mark your calendar for Saturday, November 2nd from 10 am to 2 pm.

We have been busy getting ready for our biggest fundraiser of the year. A team of volunteers have made almost 200 jars of jam. Our bakers are working on pies and tarts. There have been several work parties where dedicated and creative individuals have come together to share their talents and create some new and exciting items for us to sell.

Our Café will be serving tea, coffee and scones in the morning then lunch will be available to purchase as well. Enjoy a bowl of homemade soup and a bun or pulled pork, coleslaw and a bun.

This year our Bake Table will have tasty items that have been made at the church. As well, we have the Health Department's approval to ask our parishioners to bake items at home that can be donated to the Bake Table at the Bazaar. We will need to record your name and contact information when you bring in your baked goods on Thursday or Friday before the Bazaar. If you are not a baker, you can make a monetary donation to help purchase supplies for the kitchen.

We will have beautiful Gift Baskets to raffle and a new wheelbarrow for our silent auction. We have some wonderful donations for this table. Our parishioners and local businesses have been very generous.

Different items can be found at our White Elephant Table, Attic Treasures, Sewing, Knitting and Pick A Pocket (we are now accepting donations of items under \$1). Baby Basics will have new and gently used items for sale and our beautiful Christmas Centre will once again dazzle you with the spirit of Christmas. The Country Kitchen will have a variety of items from jam, fudge, treats and sugar scrub to campfire starters, woodcrafts and more.

If you are talented and have created something for us, please let us know. If you have items at your home that you no longer need, please consider donating them. We will be collecting these items at the church beginning October 21st and 23rd between 10 am and 1 pm or any day of the week of October 28th between 10 am and 1 pm. All new and gently used items are welcome including books, puzzles, CDs, jewellery, baby items, Christmas decorations, etc. Please no large items, lamps, electronics or furniture. Please leave your donations neatly on the stage.

Thank you to all those who have already volunteered their time. If you would like to help, there are lots of ways to assist us. You can join us on Monday afternoons from 1 to 3 pm in the church hall on September 30, October 7, or 28. There will be a different focus each week. Come, socialize and have some fun!

If you can lend a hand setting up on Thursday, October 31st at 9 am, you can join us in the church hall. If you are interested in helping on the day of the Bazaar/Craft Market, we would be happy to find you a place of interest where you can assist. Please let us know.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this valuable fundraiser for St. Matthew's. If you have any questions, want to help or have donations, please contact us.

Tell your family and friends and please join us on November 2nd.
Blessings,

Natalie Hempstead, Bazaar Co-Coordinator
lenchemp@sympatico.ca or 905-579-1729

Lynne Denniston, Bazaar Co-Coordinator
notsinned@rogers.com or 905-723-6494

1 Which king liked to do things on his own?

Answers to the jokes are on page 16.



St. Matthew's Poinsettia Bazaar/Craft Market

135 Wilson Road South, Oshawa
Saturday, November 2, 2024
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

*Bake Table, Baby Items,
Attic Treasures, Vintage Jewelry,
Handmade Knitting & Sewing Items
Christmas Items New & Used
Jams & Jellies, Books & CD's
Gift Baskets, White Elephant*

Café – Lunch Available

Cash or E-Transfer Accepted



St. Peter's Food Bank Update

FOOD BANK SUNDAY IS BACK!

At the last Parish Council meeting in September it was agreed that the 1st Sunday of each month would be designated as FOOD BANK SUNDAY!



What is food insecurity?

Food insecurity, is the inability to obtain a sufficient diet due to income-related food access. Food insecurity can range from worrying about running out of food before getting money to buy more, to not eating for a whole day or more.

Who experiences food insecurity in Ontario?

Food insecurity touches the lives of many Ontarians, including 1 in 5 children. Latest estimates show that food insecurity impacts 16% of households in Ontario, which means that approximately 2,340,000 people across the province can't afford nutritious food on a regular basis.

Over 50% of food insecure households in Ontario are reliant on wages, salaries, and self-employment as their main sources of income vs. social assistance, employment insurance, pensions, and other sources.

During this Fall season, food bank visits continue to reach crisis levels in communities across the Durham Region, with children, individuals and families turning to food banks for essentials like rice, proteins and fresh produce.

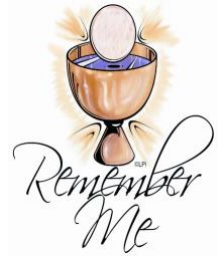
Help us continue to fight local food insecurity by donating as often as possible, particularly on the 1st Sunday of each month. St. Matthew's continues to support St. Peter's Food Bank with food and hygiene items. Our donations are taken by a group of volunteers to St. Peter's Anglican Church on Cedar Street, Oshawa. Their doors are open each Tuesday evening (except the 5th Tuesday of the month) to help people who are experiencing food insecurities.

Most requested food donations are pasta, peanut butter, tea, instant coffee, cereal, pasta, canned goods (soups, fruit, meat, beans etc.), crackers, pasta sauce. On the personal hygiene side of things donations of body wash or soap, shampoo, toilet tissue, toothpaste, toothbrushes, diapers (sizes 5 & 6 or pull-ups) are always needed.

Every contribution is appreciated. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to Lynne Denniston.

Ok St. Matthew's lets show them what we can do for this cause.

News From The Altar



Hello,

Didn't the Church look beautiful for our Patronal Festival on September 22, 2024!

The red flowers on the Altar and the red frontals on the altars, lectern and pulpit were simple yet meaningful. The Altar Guild is responsible for all that. Yes, they do an amazing job. You see, the Guild does more than just clean and prepare for communion!

The Altar Guild invites you to come out to our next meeting on December 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at the Church to see first-hand what the Guild does and what our responsibilities are. The Altar Guild is always looking for new members and would welcome anyone interested in helping with this vital and important ministry. Men, Women and teens are all welcome.

Last year we welcomed Cheryl Gargal and Jackie Ricketts to the Guild and this month we welcome Cheryl Black. We are very pleased to have them join this ministry. We now have four groups of two people plus a group of two who clean the linens weekly.

However on a sad note we advise that Margo McLaughlin has retired from active duty after fifty (50) years. Margo will still be around to help on the special occasions. The more the merrier!

If you have any questions or are interested in this Ministry please contact me at 905-723-6494 or email – notsinned@rogers.com (My email is not a joke, notsinned is Denniston backwards – so convenient).

Lynne Denniston

News From The Men's Coffee Group

A small group of men continue to meet weekly to share stories and have a few laughs. We meet in the church hall most weeks except the last Thursday of the month when we visit a local restaurant for breakfast, here is a list of a few of the places we have visited:



Molly's, Coco Frutti, Bridgette's, Quick Flame, Halibut House, Sunset Grill, Eggsmart and East Grille. If you are interested, please join us.

We meet Thursday mornings at 10:00 am. Fresh coffee is made. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Hempstead (905) 579-1729.

If you wish to receive a reminder for coffee, please give Gord Rogers your cell number and he text you Thurs. morning.

2. Who was the smartest man in the Bible?

Sunday School

On Sundays, there is Sunday School for all ages of children to attend. We have lots planned for the children to learn and have fun! We are looking for volunteers or parents that could help us, which would be greatly appreciated. Looking forward to seeing all the children attending Sunday School. The Sunday School Teachers are Tricia Zoet, Allyson Lemire, and Andrea Williams

Music Director's



MESSAGE FROM THE ORGAN



CHURCH CHOIR: As we continue to grow our choir as a church to enrich our services and worship experience to God, may we continue to use our gifts and talents in worship to give every worshipper a meaningful experience and have an encounter with God for good health, peace, joy, and love. **You are all welcome to join the church choir!**

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Every Sunday morning from 9:00 am – 10:00 am before the service begins.

Yours in Christ,
Abraham Ogunmola,
Director of Music@ St. Mathews Anglican Church, Oshawa

A Note From Our Administrator.

My name is Tricia and I am your office administrator. If you have any questions or concerns, you may come to me at any time, email me or call at the office. Office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 1pm.

Tricia, Blessings to all!

Circle Of Friends



The Circle of Friends met on Monday September 16 at 12:30 in the Church Basement. Members brought their brown bag lunch. Tea, coffee and chocolate chip cookies were provided. While eating we discussed what the group would like for activities in 2024-25. Here is a list of what was presented.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| October 21 | May Ho will speak about Tax Benefits when making donations
We will also repair the hymn books. |
| November 18 | Guest Speaker – Jill Copithorne will give presentation on CKDL5, a seizure disorder to raise awareness. |
| December 16 | Christmas Lunch |
| January 20 | Murder Mystery – Event Leader is Selena Rawe |
| February 17 | Downsizing Divas? |
| March 17 | Prepare Hygiene Bags for donation |
| April 21 | Chris Hempstead – Crime Stoppers presentation |
| May | To be determined |
| June 16 | Visit Peony garden |

Sixteen members and one guest completed 65 post cards to be sent to the Frontline Defenders in Ukraine. Well done! I then met with my contact Helen Bujorek on Tuesday, to give her the cards together with our \$35 donation for postage. She was grateful and pleased. The cards left for Ukraine on Wed September 18. Their website

<https://postcardstothefrontcanada.com/> is worth viewing. I understand St. Matthew's will be part of their next on-line newsletter.

The cards do make a difference in the soldier's lives.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED! ALL ARE WELCOME



Shortly after the COF's did the cards for the frontline defenders of the Ukraine. Cheryl remembered she had an article about writing letters to our troops. Even though they are not in combat, many are still away from home on active service over the holidays letters to them would help take away the sting of being away from home and family. Info in the article to the right.

Thank you, Cheryl.

COMMUNITY

HEY DURHAM! SEND A LETTER TO A CANADIAN MILITARY MEMBER

DURHAM - Imagine being a member of the military and away from family and friends during the holiday season.

That can be tough, but there is a way for civilians to make the holidays a little more festive for members of the Canadian Armed Forces. It's quite simple actually - write

them a letter or send them a Christmas card.

In fact, the Canadian military encourages people to write letters to troops. Letters can be written by individuals or in bulk by schools, groups, businesses and associations.

It's a chance to let a member of the military

know how much people support and honour their sacrifice.

Items should be sent to Any Canadian Armed Forces Member, P.O. Box 5004 Stn. Forces, Belleville, Ont., K8N 5W6.

Only letters, post cards and greeting cards can be sent, and postage is required.

Back in June the group visited the peony garden



Patronal Festival

After celebrating our Patronal Festival at the services upstairs, we then went to the lower hall for a fantastic potluck lunch. As always, the food spread was phenomenal. Everyone that attended had a good time and went away with a full belly and new memories.

On behalf of all who attend I would like to thank all who brought in food and those who helped to run this event.



Johnson's Baptism



Parish Family Friday Dinner



Another Parish Family Friday dinner success, with good food and lots of socializing by all.

3 When someone needed a boat made, what did the people in town say?

Photo Challenge

So, what's this all about?

The Canadian Church Calendar – Anglican Edition for 2024 has 25 pictures published.

Any parish can submit photos with a brief description by March 31st for possible publication in the following year's calendar.

What I am proposing is for members of St. Matthew's to submit photos of our Church for the 2026 calendar. We will be submitting these by March 31st, 2025, which happens to be our 70th anniversary year. Photos can be inside or outside. Photos can be in summer, fall or winter. Criteria is outlined below.

At June Parish Council it was decided that all photos would be submitted to Lynne Denniston at notsinned@rogers.com by January 31st, 2025. Sometime in February we will have a potluck lunch after a Sunday service where all photos will be displayed. Each person will be given five (5) tickets to choose their favourite five photos, much like a silent auction. The five photos with the most tickets will be submitted for the 2026 Canadian Church Calendar – Anglican Edition.

Photo submission criteria: (copied from the Anglican Church of Canada website)

1. Photos should be wide instead of tall. *Vertically-oriented photos are less likely to be chosen as they do not often work with the horizontal orientation of the calendar.*
2. File size should be at least 1MB in size (one megabyte).

(For the experts out there: images of 3500px wide or larger, 4:3 orientation are preferred. If you don't know what this means, don't worry about it! Just submit what you have.)

3. Permission to submit the photo must be secured from anyone identifiable in the photo itself (or for minors in the photo(s), parent/guardian permission is required).

Additional tips:

- Photos showcasing church building exteriors are popular among the calendar audience; photos which focus on people tend to be less popular.
- Consider submitting photos from multiple seasons of the year. Offering a variety of images increase the potential of one being selected.
- Let us know if your church or parish is celebrating an anniversary for the calendar year—it has made a difference in the selection process at times!

Something To Think About

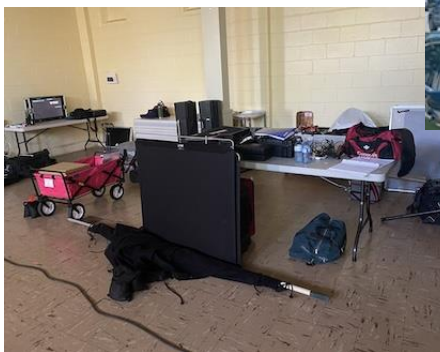
Dear God, help me to love my neighbour more than I love my Bible, defend the oppressed more than I defend my theological beliefs, and love humanity more than I love my religion.

Parking Lot Line Painting

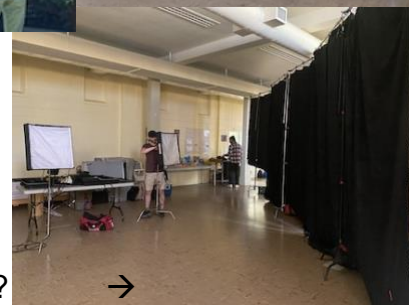


The neighbour next door came out and asked Gord what moron parking in the middle of the driveway. HaHaHa. I was one of them as we did this to stop people from driving in to the lot while we were painting.

TV Mini-Series Shoot Part One



What is behind the curtain?



A movie production company rented our property and lower hall to shoot scenes for a TV mini-series about a man recovering from his opioid addiction, it is partially based on the lead actor's life. They decided to shoot this in and around Oshawa as we have the dubious distinction of having one of the highest OPIOID crisis per capita in Canada. They picked our church as we are host to AA and GA group meetings.

Hopefully there will be a part two once the mini-series is released in late 2024 or early 2025. The name of the mini-series will be called Disrepair.

If you would like more info you can speak to me (Harry).

Goodbye Too Our Friend Brian.



We would like to wish Brian all the best as he starts his new life in London. You are always welcome to come and visit us any time. All the best from your St. Matthew's friends.

4 What's a Christian's favorite card game?

Marlene's 80th

An Altar Guild meeting was held at Marie's house where they had a surprise birthday celebration for Marlene's 80th birthday with the help of Marlene's sister.



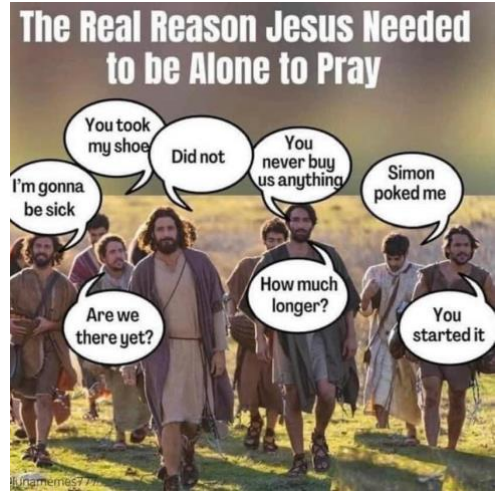
Then you have these two-party crashers.

The Funnies

For the cyclist in the church:

It's my first week working at the bicycle factory and they already made me a spokesperson.

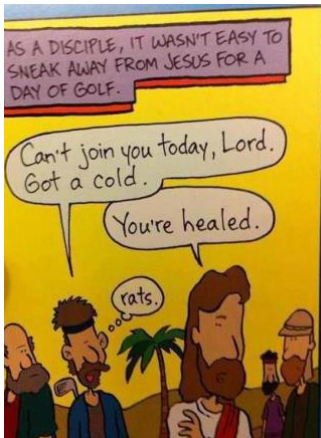
Every morning, I get hit by the same bicycle It's a vicious cycle.



The main function of your big toe is to make sure all the furniture in the house is in the right place.

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'
The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus'



Ladies don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.



This next pic was sent in anonymously, someone found my secret sleeping place. Some people think I live at the church is this the truth or not. The truth is out there. HaHaHa.

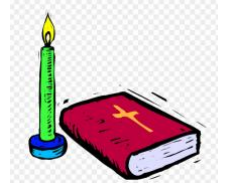


Answers to the jokes.

- 1 "Solomon."
- 2 "Abraham Knew a Lot."
- 3 "We Noah guy."
- 4 "Eucharist."



Religious Word Search

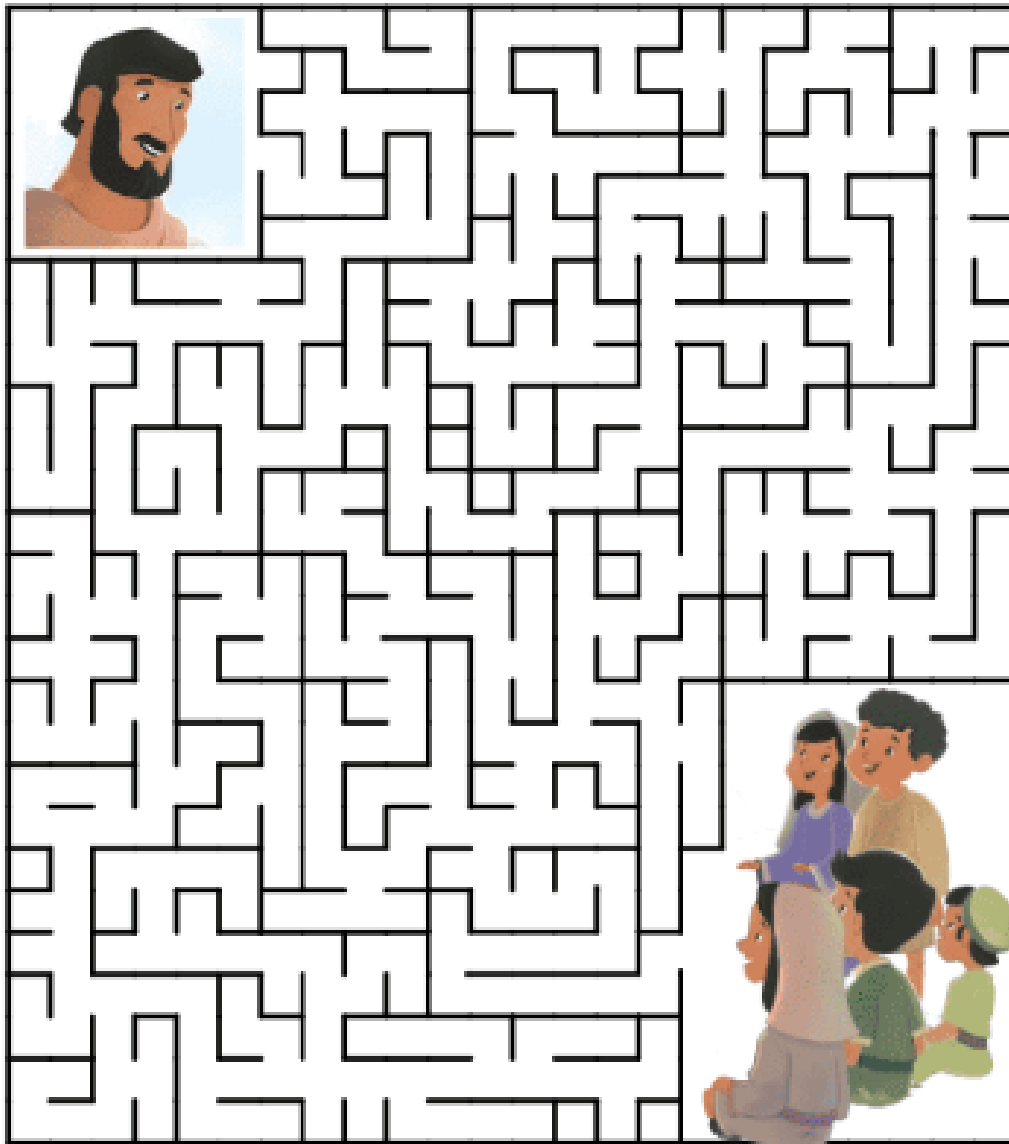


Altar, Animals, Ararat, Ark, Balsam, Bird, Clouds, Covenant, Creatures, Decks, Descendants, Destroy, Door, Earth, Float, Floodgates, Floodwaters, Food, Forty days, Forty nights, Fruitful, Genesis, Ham, Japheth, Judgment, Livestock, Mankind, Mate, Mountains, Multiply, Nephilim, Noah, Rainbow, Righteous, Shem, Sin, Violence, Wickedness

For The Kids Or The Young At Heart

Jesus and the Children Maze

Help connect Jesus and the children.



A Note From The Editor:

At any time, you can submit an article for the newsletter, and it will be put in the next issue. As always you can do that at the following e-mail address or put it in the office. hester633@gmail.com

Many Thanks. H

Phone numbers you may need.

Wardens:

Carolyn Willoughby 905-435-5255
Cheryl Gargal 905-723-0599
May Ho 905-668-5009

Sexton/Maintenance

Harry Hester 905-242-0621

Parish Administrator/Secretary

Tricia Zoet 905-725-9841
office@stmatthewsoshawa.ca

Saint Matthew's Anglican Church

135 Wilson Road South
Oshawa ON, L1H 6B9

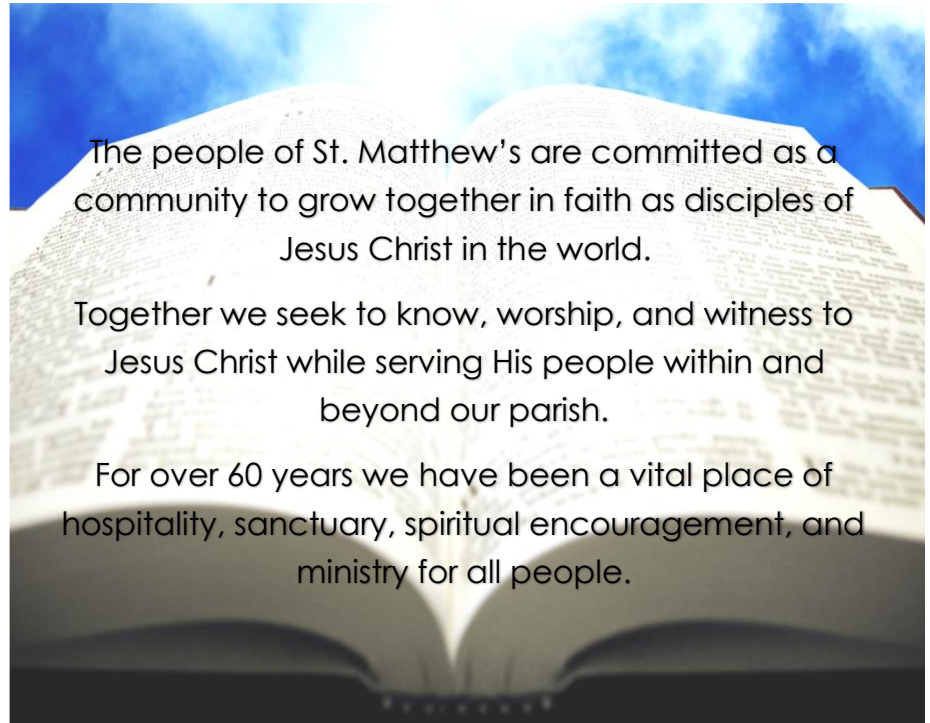
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Visit us on Facebook

**A Warm and Welcoming
Church with Heart**



The St. Matthew's Messenger is a quarterly newsletter pertaining to the parish of St. Matthew's Anglican Church Oshawa. It is our hope that this publication be informative to the members of St. Matthew's and inviting to anyone who would like to participate in any social event, study, or service described in these pages.

As this publication is a reflection of the community of our parishioners, we invite any person or group at St. Matthew's to submit articles, stories, poetry or any other items of interest for future publications.

***Please have your submissions for the next edition of the St. Matthew's Messenger submitted by
To be announced***

***Submissions may be made in writing to Harry Hester, or by email to: hester633@gmail.com
or put it in the office. We sincerely hope you have enjoyed this publication and will want to share it
with your friends.***

Thanks H



**May God bless you, and keep you
aways.
Amen.**

