



Welcome to St. Marks by the Lake Church.

We are a growing, loving, and caring community who are following Jesus.

We welcome all who are seeking a community where love and justice hold the same priority as they did for Jesus.



***150 St Mark's Rd
Tecumseh, ON N8N 2H4
519-735-4921
stmarkschurch@cogeco.net***

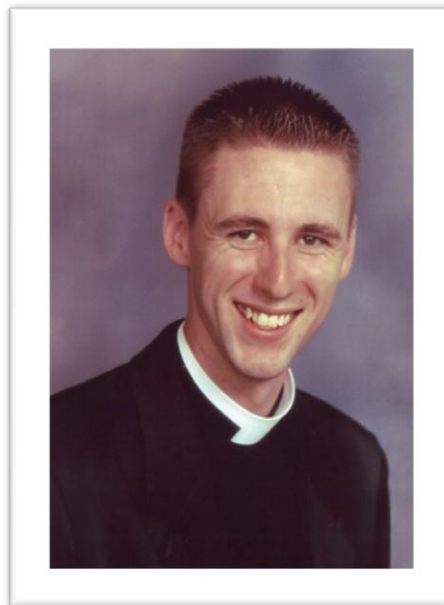
We are so happy that you have come to share with us and we thank-you for taking time to visit us as you seek out a church community. Finding a church can be a difficult task. Sometimes it is hard to find a community where welcome is extended freely and freedom to express one's self is extended to all. St. Mark's by-the-Lake is a community where indeed "ALL ARE WELCOME". You will find this church to be an open, inclusive and inviting community. We have worked hard in the past to create a church community where once a person walks through our door he/she is no longer a stranger. You may now be asking yourself questions about this church and what we do here. "Why come back to this church?" What does this church offer to the seeker?

We hope that this booklet will, in part, answer these questions. We realize of course that we cannot possibly sum up the work of a very active congregation in just a few pages, but we do hope to offer some of the flavour of this great church community to you.

This is a church that has a strong sense of community and serving God in this world. We hope that you find this a place where you may find God at work and where you may work to serve God. We are proud of the ministries that people in this church are doing and hope that you may learn a little more about this church in the pages that follow.

We would love for you to be a part of this exciting church community. If you would like to discuss this church and becoming a member please call our church office at 519 735 - 4921. Office hours are 9am – noon Tuesday - Friday.

The Reverend Rob Lemon is our Rector.



All are welcome...

In the name of God and on behalf of the parish I would like to welcome you to St. Mark's by the Lake Anglican Church. If you are a visitor, we would like to treat you like family and if you are potential parishioner, we would like to welcome to you to our family.

What you will find when you arrive is a group of people who are committed to walking the walk and talking the talk of faith. You will find a group who are interested not just in worshipping almighty God, a wonderful thing in itself, but who are also interested in serving God in the community. This is a dynamic parish, full of a life and vitality, which can only come from God. As a parish we know the good news of Jesus Christ, we tell the story and engage in the work that we've been called by God to do both inside and outside the walls of the church.

St. Mark's is located in the St. Clair Beach area of Tecumseh and has been for over fifty years. This is a faith community that has changed over time, with lots of people coming and going, but what hasn't changed is that it is a church where people from all walks of life, rich and poor, old and young, men and women, gather together to sing, pray, rejoice and build one another up in Christ. It is a community of faith where people look out for one another and care for one another. It is a community where all are welcome to gather and enjoy worship, fellowship, and faith.

Out of this care, love, and community, springs a compassionate and loving interest in the wider Windsor-Essex community and the wider world. We support a variety of outside organisations that work to help those in need in our community to enable them in their important work. Throughout the entire year there is always lots going on; we worship, we learn, we help, we work, we practice, we teach, we visit, we eat, we drink, we receive the blessings of God and we share them with our neighbours. We invite you to join us in all this so that you will know the abundant life, joy and peace that we know because of God's work in our midst.

Your in Christ,

The Rev'd Robert Lemon,

Rector, St. Mark's by the Lake

Rob joined St. Mark's as Rector (Senior Priest) in July of 2014. Rob was born in London Ontario and has conducted his entire ministry in the Diocese of Huron at the Lakeshore Parish in Bright's Grove and Camlachie, and then at St. John's in Leamington. Rob's passion is to teach the faith and invite others to know God's love at work in them and through their faithful actions. Rob enjoys family life with his wife Trisha and their two children Rebekah and Jacob.



Parish Structure

(As part of the Anglican Church of Canada, we at St. Mark's by-the Lake are bound by the constitutions and canons of the Diocese of Huron and the general Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, as expressed through our Diocesan Bishop the Right Reverend Bob Bennett.)

We are part of the Essex Deanery and the Venerable Jane Humphreys is our Archdeacon. She acts as the Bishop's representative in the Deanery.

We are a self-supporting parish, (who commonly consult with our Parish Leadership Team) leadership and decisions are made on behalf of the people through the rector, wardens and the PLT who make regular use of Parish committees to initiate and maintain Parish programs, property and mission.

Once a year (usually in January) a Parish Vestry is called. This is a meeting of all contributing Parish members of the age of sixteen years or above. Decisions made by vestry, with few exceptions, are binding; therefore we are governed and focused in the gathering of the total community. This is an excellent reason to attend this annual meeting.



How the Anglican Church is organized:

The Anglican Church of Canada has four main levels of governance. Across Canada there are approximately 1,700 individual churches or parishes, which are organized into 30 different dioceses, each led by a bishop. The national church office is known as General Synod.

The Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, is our national pastoral leader and works from the General Synod office in Toronto, Ont. The national office is divided into departments, and their work is guided by volunteer Anglicans through committees and councils. The Primate is Chief Executive Officer of General Synod.



General Synod is also the name for the national meeting of Canadian Anglicans, held every three years. Between these meetings the national church is governed by a smaller Council of General Synod that meets twice a year. The Anglican Church of Canada works and talks with many other churches through ecumenical dialogue or joint programs. We have a unique full-communion relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

ABOUT US:



Sunday Morning and other special services.

Sunday morning marks the chief celebration of our life in Christ. Sunday is the day that Christ rose from the dead. In his resurrection, we find our new life. There are two masses held...

8:00 am

The Celebration of Holy Eucharist using the 1962 Rite. (A quieter form of celebration.)

10:30 am

The Parish celebration of Holy Eucharist with choir, Sunday school and a variety of musical offerings. This service uses the 1985 Rite.

Services at St. Mark's by-the-Lake encourage active participation by all baptized members, including our offering of song, readers, and leaders for community prayers, greeters, servers and chancel guild.

Wednesday Morning Eucharist

Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 10.30 am. Lunch and fellowship is enjoyed after the service.

Greeters

Greeters are responsible for welcoming all parishioners to the 10:30 am service. They also hand out the hymn books, take up the offering and assign two or three other parishioners to take up the bread and wine for communion. During the service they also take a head count for attendance purposes.

Coffee Hours

To be a viable and caring family, we must get to know each other and spend time together. To this end, a time for coffee and fellowship is provided weekly following each 10.30 am service. Volunteers function as coffee hour hosts and hostesses. There is a coffee hour held once a month after the 8am service also.

Saints Days and Holy Days

The richness of Anglican worship includes much beyond what we do on a Sunday morning. The calendar of the church keeps faith with history and tradition in setting aside many days on which we commemorate the saints of the church. We mark events in our Lord's earthly life, and we remember the great people of God who have gone before. While we do not observe all of these, we try to keep many of them in our Parish.

Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, Holy Week including the Holy Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Easter Vigil, Good Friday & Holy Saturday) and Easter are all celebrated with commitment and enthusiasm. It is expected that all will participate in the music, prayers and teachings of these most Holy Days.

The Worship Team

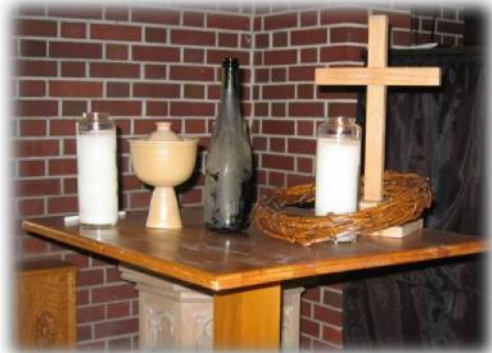
Christian worship is a corporate act which represents all the Christian people of God and, in particular, the local congregational culture and history. Acting as an advisory body to the Rector the worship team looks at the whole picture of Christian worship, what it is, what it has been, and what it can be. The team reflects what we do here at St. Mark's and plans for the future, based on those reflections and on feedback from the congregation.

It is an important and exciting committee, a little different from other groups. This team is always striving to make our worship invigorating, prayerful, contemplative and inclusive.

Assisting in Worship Service

We are indeed blessed here at St Mark's by-the-Lake with a large number of lay volunteers who assist us greatly at worship and carry out important ministries in our midst. On Sunday mornings our services involve not only the priest in a leadership position but many other lay volunteers who read from the bible, greet people as they come in, offer up prayers of the people, administer communion and many other tasks.

We thank all of these dedicated volunteers and encourage any newcomers to volunteer for any of these ministries. Please call the Rector or the Church Office at any time to participate in any of these ministries that you may be interested in.



Music Ministry

We have a very active choir led by our fantastic music Director Andrea Morosin. Singing is an act of prayer and form of worship for us at St. Mark's by-the-Lake. We are fortunate to have such a gifted and faithful group of people who continuously strive to do their best and bring all that they have to leading that powerful form of prayer. Our Choir is dynamic, and are active members of our faith community. If you love to sing (no training required) please join us as we practice on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm!



Parish Chancel Guild

One of the necessary ministries of the Anglican Church is the Chancel Guild (or Altar Guild in some parishes). The Guild is a dedicated group of persons who take care of the sacred altar, vessels, linens and other appointments in our Church for the weekly services and other special rites, as well as being responsible for the beautiful flowers which adorn our worship space every week. Currently there are 14 persons working in 4 teams. Each team has 14 rotations of 2 week duties.

If you would like to have flowers placed in the sanctuary as a memorial for loved ones or as thanksgiving to the glory of God, please sign up on the flowers list in the Narthex or contact the Church Office. These flowers are taken to the sick or shut-in's following the 10:30 service.

The Chancel Guild is an integral part of every service we hold, and their commitment and the love they bear for this church and its people are evidenced in the beauty of our sanctuary each week.

Please consider joining this group as they are in need of members: men, women, young and not so young are welcome!



Parish Leadership Team (PLT)

The PLT is the governing body within the Parish. In many parishes this might be referred to as the parish council. It is composed of persons elected by the parish at large and persons appointed by the Rector. The four church wardens sit on the PLT and form the corporation of the Parish. Other members of the council include the delegates to the synod and their alternates, the treasurer and the vestry clerk. An equal number of appointed members and elected members to the PLT are chosen at our annual congregational meeting, called the Vestry in January of each year.

The PLT meets monthly, excepting the summer, and tries to look at all aspects of our Parish life. From finances to Christian outreach, the council oversees all of our activities, and advises the rector and church wardens on matters temporal and spiritual. You will hear more about PLT in parish newsletters and our annual vestry meeting every January.

Parish Activities Committee (PAC)

At St. Mark's by-the-Lake we always enjoy social events. Some of these are more traditional events like the Christmas Bazaar, Turkey Dinner, Church Picnic, and Pancake Supper.

We also have events unique to our church like our Meat Pie makers who make meat pies as a fund raiser but also provide great times of fellowship together. Some of our events simply celebrate our Parish Family as a community of friends as we enjoy our Golf Day and Fall Barbecue and Auction. We invite and encourage you to join us in these activities.

PAC is an informally structured group of men and women (everyone is a member) who meet quarterly to review past social events, to suggest new ones, and to undertake some preliminary planning. Keeping in mind the present calendar of events they coordinate activities to complement one another.

Everyone is welcome. Input and suggestions are always encouraged and helpful. PAC is the perfect vehicle for anyone wishing to develop an idea or favourite event and can also be a means whereby parishioners can meet, share ideas and plans, and get to know each other a little better.

Angie Tuovinen and Janet Forster co-ordinate the PAC team. Come join the team!



Pastoral Care Team

At St. Mark's by-the-Lake we believe in caring for each other. All Christians are called to pray for all people and to care for each other at all times. Pastoral care is nothing more than bringing the love of God to a friend or neighbour. It is not by definition overly religious; rather it is human.

We are fortunate here at St. Mark's by-the-Lake to have a trained team of Pastoral care givers; People who visit other members of the Parish, visit folks in hospital, drop off a meal for someone who is ill, call those we haven't seen for a while, and in general to be available to be church to each other in the community.

If you wish a pastoral call or would like to connect with this group call the church office or email Barb Lyons at blyons6@cogeco.ca.

Property Committee

The property committee is a group of dedicated Parishioners that get together for ongoing maintenance of the church property.

If you are handy with a paintbrush or minor building repairs or have a skilled trade where you can assist, if you love gardening, or just want to come out and enjoy the company of others, please contact the church office or Steve White at (519) 727-3865

Outreach and Justice Team

The outreach for Justice Team takes seriously the call in Micah 6:8, "and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God." This is the solid base on which we have built our church's work for justice and outreach.

The base on which we work is built each year with a Lenten Justice Series. This is an annual series which is held one evening a week during Lent. It is a time we have set aside to contemplate God's call to do justice with the assistance of speakers versed in various areas of injustice in our community and in the world at large.



Each year following this series we meet to find ways as a church to aid in restoring justice in our community and the world. We look for acts of justice and kindness that are within our grasp and then act upon them.

We want not only to be aware but to be actively engaged in a ministry of justice making. We believe the small steps we are able to

make with God's help will join up with the small steps of others and together we can change the world.

If you are interested in participating in this work please speak to Jeannine Renaud or any member of the Outreach for Justice Team. You will also be made welcome at our meetings which are held the second Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M. upstairs in the room above Wellwood hall.

The Knit – Witts

These amazing ladies meet every Tuesday morning in the church hall. They have a great time, working hard at knitting items to meet the needs of the community. They have supported the Homeless Coalition, Nursing care facilities, Hospice, Children's Aid, Hiatus house and house of Sophrosyne. Donations of yarn are always happily accepted! Please feel free to join this group if you are able to knit. If you are not able to knit and you would like to learn, please come and join us.... We will teach you how to knit!



Garden Team

Starting in early Spring to late fall the gardens around the church need to be maintained. A committee of Volunteers manage the watering weeding and tending of the flower beds. Volunteers are always welcome.

CHILDREN and YOUTH

Our Director of the program is Jane Cornett. She is one of our gifts. She coordinates the weekly Sunday School Program and the Tweens program and oversees the Servers.



Children are a very important part of the life of our parish community. While some churches find ways to tolerate children and youth, we actively engage them in the life and witness of our church.

Nursery/Infant care

Infant and toddler care is available during the 10:30 am service on Sundays. The nursery, “The Ark” is located on the 2nd floor and is staffed by parish volunteers. A Family Room is also available at the back of the church, on the south side. Change tables are available in the washroom located across from the church office on the main floor and in the 2nd floor nursery. Please take advantage of this program if you have little ones!



Sunday School



The Sunday school program is offered to those 3 years to 12 years of age, during the 10:30 am service. The children begin in church with their families and go to Sunday school following a children’s commissioning. They return to their families in time to share the Eucharistic meal together and remain in the church after that.

The curriculum we use is a Rotation Model- studying a theme or story for 5-6 weeks at a time. The story is based on the lectionary readings in the church. Intergenerational services are held after each rotation.

Registration forms for Sunday school are at the welcome desk and we encourage all families to register their children- birth to grade 12, so that we may know a little more about your child and to prepare for any allergies or special needs that they may have.



The children are also involved in many outreach programs in the community; living out their baptismal vows and learning about the 5 marks of mission. Some of their projects have included: picking and donating apples for local food banks, planting and tending a vegetable garden at church for food banks, sponsoring a child in Haiti, and developing a recycle program for the church.

The children are a vital part of our own St. Mark's community as well as the wider church and community!

Several Holy Day events are also held at our church each year for children and families, and we invite deanery churches to join. One program is a 'Walk through Holy Week', which was developed to help the children to understand more fully, all the events that happen between Palm Sunday and Easter.



Youth

The youth (ages 12-16) meet periodically throughout the year to work together on outreach projects for our community and beyond. We have participated in Deanery Bike trips, We Day events and assist in our own community. The youth are also active participants in the day to day ministries of the parish.

Family Ministries

We are pleased to offer programs throughout the year involving the participation of our parish families. Everyone is encouraged to attend for fellowship and to learn together! The All Souls event as well as the Epiphany Party and the Walk Through Holy Week are some of the highlights that we share together in our spiritual journeys! Deanery families are invited to join as well.



First Communion Classes



Each year we endeavour to teach our 5-8 year olds about the importance of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We believe that baptism is full entry into membership in the church and often our children receive communion from a young age. Nonetheless, at the appropriate age we give full instruction to our children so that they come to appreciate the importance and power of the Sacrament.

Altar Servers

Servers participate in the 10:30am service each Sunday, acting as crucifer and assisting with Eucharist preparation. In addition, two servers act as torchbearers in a gospel procession. Young people wishing to become a server should contact Jane via e-mail at the following: janecornett@yahoo.com. All servers will receive training and be mentored with a senior server.

Come join us!

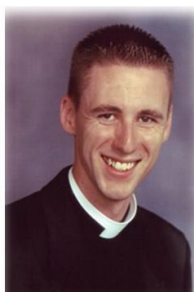
Safe Church – “sacred trust”

We follow the Diocesan policies regarding safety. All volunteers in high risk positions are asked to complete a sacred trust application and a police record check. This ensures the safety of both our volunteers and our parishioners.

Parish Leaders

Role	Name	Contact information
Priest	The Reverend Rob Lemon	(519)735-9384
Assistant Pastor	The Rev. Canon Geoff Dibbs	
Parish Administrator	Christie Paulton	(519) 735-4921
Church Wardens	Christian Paulton	(519) 839-5785
	Carolynne Mastellotto	(519) 735-1633
	Amanda Dibbs	(519) 979-1548
	John Anderson	(519) 979-8290
Lay Delegates-	Mark Charlton (Treasurer)	(519) 979-3897
	Chris McVeigh	(519) 962-5875
Safe Church Co-ordinator	Nelly Schuurman	(519) 739-9282
Envelope secretary	Jean Anderson	(519) 979-8290
Church music Director	Andrea Morosin	(519) 979-8875
Chancel Guild President	Amanda Dibbs	(519) 979-1548
Property Committee Coordinators	Jerry Pardy Steve White	(519) 798-3273 May-Oct (519) 727-3865
Youth ministry/servers	Jane Cornett	(519) 818-5263
Nursery coordinator	Sally Charlton	(519) 979-3897
Greeters and new members	John and Jean Anderson	(519) 979-8290
Pastoral Care Team	Barb Lyons Bev Watson	(519) 966-7732 (519) 979-8151
Outreach Justice Team	Janine Renaud – St. Louis	(519) 739-3785

Our Ministry Team



Reverend Rob Lemon
Rector



Rev. Canon Geoff Dibbs
Honourary Assistant



Jane Cornett
Youth Director



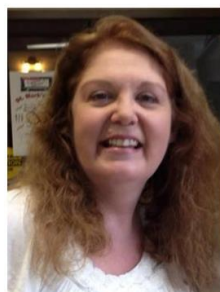
Andrea Morosin
Director of Music



Mark Charlton
Treasurer



John Anderson
Rector's Warden



Amanda Dibbs
People's Warden



Christian Paulton
Deputy Rector's Warden



Carolyn Mastellotto
Deputy People's Warden



Christie Paulton
Parish Administrator

St. Mark's by-the-Lake 150 St. Marks Road, Tecumseh, ON N8N 2H4
www.stmarkschurch.net • stmarkschurch@cogeco.net • 519-735-4921

Membership at St. Mark's by the Lake

We welcome all to life in our church. Anyone wishing to become a regular member of our community can receive all the necessary information from the Welcome Desk.

Life in the church is a life where we receive from our generous God and have the opportunity to reflect that generosity with our own. Please know that God's care and the care of this congregation are not determined by an individual's ability to give but we do hope for your support in helping us share God's blessings with the world. If you are able to help, the various methods of giving are envelopes, pre – approval debit payment or credit card payments.

We have a program in place that allows you to make arrangements with your bank or Credit Card Company to make offerings through automatic monthly withdrawals. The advantage of giving in this manner allows consistent budgeting for the church. All information and sign-up forms are available at The Welcome Desk.