

Catch the Spirit News



Summer 2016

Visit from Amazonian

Every Sunday we pray for our companion diocese in Amazonia. I would like to explain a little more fully where Amazonia is so that our congregation may have a better idea of the location of this diocese.

Amazonia is a huge state in the North of Brasil; large parts of it are in the Amazon jungle. The biggest city is Belen with a population of approximately 2.5 million people. There is one Anglican Church in the city and our visitors Father Marcos and his wife Lourdes, visitors to our diocese, spent a few days in our deanery. Father Marcos and his wife enjoyed the hospitality of our deanery including spending time at John and Jean Anderson home. Father Marcos preached at several churches in our deanery and enjoyed visiting several areas of interest in Essex County.

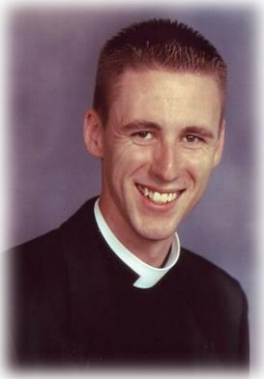
They also enjoyed a short visit to St Mark's by the Lake where they were greeted by

Father Rob. Our church is slightly larger than theirs but very comparable which was of great interest to Father Marcos.

Whilst hosting Father Marcos and his wife Lourdes; John enjoyed the opportunity to speak Brazilian for 24 hours as he was born in Brasil and it being his first language allowed him a free refresher course.

Following their visit here they have moved on to other deaneries in our diocese prior to returning home to Brasil in mid-June.





RECTORS REPORT

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We've just come out of Easter and Pentecost and we now find ourselves in long stretch of ordinary time, the season after Pentecost. The colour of this season, seen in the altar hangings at church and in the vestments we wear, is green and the reason for that is because this is a time where we are not celebrating a particular event in the life of Jesus. What we are celebrating at this time of year is the gift of life with God. Green is the colour for this season because it is a time when we are focused on growing in our life with God. We grow in thanksgiving, in faith, in love, in joy, and in peace. These rich blessings are part of our lives because God is part of our lives.

At Synod this year our new coadjutor bishop, the Right Reverend Linda Nicholls called us to commit to growing in our relationship with God. She suggested doing something new like joining a bible study or prayer group, covenanting with a friend to read scripture and pray together, finding a spiritual director or going on retreat. These are wonderful suggestions that will, without a doubt, help us grow in our life with God. Summer isn't necessarily the easiest time for those sorts of activities because church life tends to be at a low ebb and people are travelling and visiting. Those activities lend themselves more to fall when church life is a little more active.

For this time, summertime, where church life is a little slower and a little more restful I want to suggest that we commit ourselves to prayer. Pray when you get up and give thanks for another warm, beautiful day. Pray in the garden giving thanks for the beauty and wonder of creation. Pray at meals giving thanks for God's abundant, sustaining love. Pray at church giving thanks for our wonderful community and fellowship. Pray as you travel giving thanks for times of recreation and leisure. Pray on the porch, deck, dock, in the yard, or wherever you sit down to enjoy a cold drink and some quiet time giving thanks for rest and refreshment. It doesn't have to be a long prayer, it doesn't have to be a fancy prayer, just talk to God and listen to God. The best thing about prayer is that it won't interrupt the easygoing experience of summer that we all long for, it can just happen whenever the opportunity presents itself, but committing to prayer will still help us to grow in our life with God by building our relationship with God through time spent together. So let's pray our way through this summer so that we can grow in our life with God enjoying the rich blessings that he lavishes on us every day.

Yours in Christ,

Robert Lemon +

The Rev'd Fr. Robert Lemon
Rector, St. Mark's by the Lake

Pastoral Care Team

Currently we have twenty three parishioners on our list who we call or visit. We enjoy listening to their stories of life, and catching up with what is happening to them now. I think they look forward to seeing us, and enjoy the company and contact with someone from St. Marks By The Lake Church. We try and keep them up to date on the happenings of the church as many of these people are not able to come to church anymore. Our team is dedicated and we are committed to keep this connection. If you know of anyone or if you would like a visit, please contact the church office or Barbara Lyons at blyons6@cogeco.ca or 519 966 -7732.



Sincerely,
Barbara Lyons

ST. MARK'S BY THE LAKE YOUTH and SUNDAY SCHOOL

THANK YOU!!

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for the incredible support you continue to show for our youth ministry! The community at St. Mark's by the Lake is like an extended family! This year has been a busy one as we prepare to join other Anglican and Lutheran young people at the CLAY gathering in Charlottetown this August. We are really excited about attending and could not have achieved this without your support! We will come back with many stories and pictures to share!

Summer Sunday School

Throughout the summer, a modified children's program will be available during the 1030am service. If you are interested in volunteering to assist for a week or two, please contact Jane Cornett (519- 818-5263). No formal teaching is needed- there are lots of projects, games, crafts for the children to do and the rooms are air conditioned!! Nursery will also continue to be offered during the summer months- new volunteers should contact Sally Charlton or Jane.

ipad/tables/phone Lessons

The youth are offering lessons for iPads/tablets/ phones. Please sign up at welcome desk if you are interested in some lessons and we will offer them throughout the summer. Also, feel free to bring your device to church for quick lessons before or after the 10:30 service.





**ST. MARK'S BY THE
LAKE**

PIG ROAST

150 St. Mark's Rd., Tecumseh



Saturday July 9th

5:00-8:00 pm

Freewill Offering

Cash Bar

Tickets available from:

Church Office: 519-735-4921

A note from the Rector on recent events...

I am generally hesitant to make major comments about the events of our day because of my background as an historian. I know it takes a long time to figure out exactly what has happened in a given circumstance because events are always more complicated than they seem and it frustrates me when they are over simplified and foolish conclusions are drawn. That said, I have recognised over the last few days, through the response to the mass shooting in Orlando, that there is a deep sense of vulnerability and insecurity experienced by members of the LGBTQ community and that that is present regardless of the geographic and political environment that they live in. They are not alone in this sense of vulnerability and insecurity either. People of aboriginal origin experience this, people who ascribe to the Muslim faith experience this, elderly people experience this, women experience this, people of different ethnic backgrounds experience this, black people experience this, people living in poverty experience this. Even in our immediate community all sorts of people feel absolutely vulnerable and unprotected by the wider society. This is not just something that is experienced in other, "less enlightened" places, it is experienced here, in St. Clair Beach, in Tecumseh, in Windsor and it shouldn't be. It is not relevant whether you agree with people or their way of life, there is no reason that anyone should ever feel unsafe; we can disagree and still live together with respect and kindness. As human beings, as members of this society, as people of faith we need to work to love and care for all of our neighbours regardless of any reality of their lives, we need to ensure that they feel safe in our presence and in the broader community, and we need to work to influence the people around us to be loving and kind, so that no one feels vulnerable and insecure for the simple and basic realities of their lives. We are all responsible for creating a safe society and helping our neighbours to feel safe. Loving all our neighbours is a powerful way to live out that responsibility and it is a way of living that Jesus calls us to every day so that dignity and respect will mark the existence of every human being and there will be an accurate reflection in this world of the truth of God's abundant and eternal love for the whole human family. Prayer is another way for us to live out our responsibility by asking God to be active in the world changing it, healing it, and making it new. Our world and our community need to change and it is God's power that can accomplish that change. Let's pray for God's power to do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine to change the world and then let's embody God's power by loving as we've been loved by Christ.

Wishing you every blessing and all of God's love in Christ, I remain,

Yours in Christ,
Rob +

Upcoming Events

TALENT SHOW!!!



Start brushing up on your talent and let's have a great evening together! Put the date of Saturday Aug 6th aside and get ready for an evening of fun and laughter! Details to follow soon



**Michelle Mainwaring
and Cast Present...**

**Peace, Love & Murder
A Murder Mystery Dinner**

Ticket Price
\$25

June 24th, 2015 – 6:00pm

Cash Bar

Finance Review

Revenues to date are \$98,000 which is well above this point last year. Offerings are up about \$2,000 (although we are \$5,000 short of target on capital donations), Montessori has paid more for use of the hall, and St. Mary's sent \$5,000 for Refugee support.

Expenses are slightly higher than last year but less than budgeted. The expected increase in apportionment is offset by the reduction on loan payments. Refugee costs have been minimal due to government support, but that will end in the fall. The mild winter weather resulted in some utilities savings. CLAY conference costs are sufficiently covered by targeted fundraising.

The overall deficit is about \$1,300. There is a healthy reserve of cash to make mortgage payments and refugee assistance for the rest of the year.

Your faithful treasurer,
Mark

Warden's Report

We are all so appreciative that Spring has finally sprung – although seeing snow the week before Victoria Day was a bit of a shock. We did appreciate Father Rob's rendition of "Let it Snow"! Parish life continues to be active, as always. Thank you to those who organized and supported The Kentucky Derby Party, The Golf Tournament, Meat Pie making, and the upcoming Murder Mystery Dinner.

Our refugee family arrived safe and sound – many thanks to those who continue to provide ongoing support (financial, physical and spiritual). John and Jean Anderson had the opportunity to host the visitors from our companion diocese of Amazonia. John is from Brazil originally, and it was wonderful to be able to personalize those we pray for every Sunday.

The Youth Group continue to raise funds for their upcoming trip to the CLAY Conference. The Mothers' Day Brunch was such a huge success that people requested a Fathers' Day Brunch and the youth have promised to provide another wonderful "between services" meal.

We were pleased to welcome Geoff and Margaret back from Arizona – the last of the "snowbirds" have finally arrived!

Throughout the summer months, please remember that church is open every Sunday☺ Whether you are in town or on vacation, please keep our parish family in your prayers.

Yours in Christ

The Wardens.



John Anderson
Rector's Warden



Amanda Dibbs
People's Warden



Christian Paulton
Deputy Rector's Warden



Carolyn Mastellotto
Deputy People's Warden



Golf Day Fun




KENTUCKY
DERBY



WINDSOR RESIDENCE FOR YOUNG MEN UPDATE

Your donations have been assisting the WRYM since they opened in 2012, by providing socks, underwear, backpacks and various items of clothing. A very generous supporter of WRYM has offered to match, up to \$200,000, any donations they receive. This would enable them to continue their good work, supporting young men in our community. Should you be able to assist in at this time, please make your cheque payable to WRYM, Attn: Greg Goulin, 1505 Langlois Ave., Windsor, On. N8X 4M3.



«AddressBlock»

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