

## HONEY & LOCUST



**St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church,  
Bright's Grove**

## Church Services

On Sunday, May 9 The Reverend Amanda Longmoore+ will preside over the 10:30 am virtual Zoom service as we celebrate the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter and Mother's Day. Amanda, Deb Walker, Mike Moloney, and Gord Mackenzie have been looking at our IT and believe we have a good plan for Sunday – come worship and celebrate with us!

Lay Reader Nicole Grieve kindly presided over our April 25 service with Brenden, Susan and Ken contributing music – including Psalm 23 “The Lord is my Shepherd”. Amanda presided over May 2<sup>nd</sup>'s service. The pictures following reflect the thoughtful joy and love from Nicole, Amanda, Brenden, Ken, and Susan.



Lyn Kidd has started to use potted altar-blooms sometimes as you can see in the pictures of Amanda and Nicole ... more to come on that greenery next issue.

*Please continue to wash your hands, Stay Home except for essential excursions, wear a mask if you are in public, socially distance, acknowledge angst (I sure do;-) and continue to be kind to yourself and others—we are in this together. Vaccines are rolling out, but our infection rate remains high in areas as people struggle with the need to take precautions for a few more months. Be strong – comply – and remember “You will never look into the eyes of someone God does not love.”*

The status of church building access remains as outlined in the [January 15 edition](#) of Honey & Locust. Essentially only one person/Covid-bubble pair in the church at a time, with 3 to 5 people permitted for a virtual service. Should Lambton move to an Orange, Yellow or Green zone, then we will reassess options for use of the church building per the [February 11 letter from Church House](#).

*Adjacent: **Our tenants moved!** Here is the pollinator garden this week after the beehives were moved to the east side of the church by the chimney (pictured on the next page)*

## +Bishop Todd To Dedicate our Wilderness Pollinator Garden



**Circle September 18th on your calendar.**

That's the **NEW DAY** +The Right Reverend Todd Townshend, Bishop of Huron is tentatively coming to St. John in the Wilderness to lead the dedication and blessing of the Pollinator Garden behind the church. As you know the garden was installed last summer with financial support from the Anglican Foundation of Canada and the hard work, inspiration and love of a team led by Bob Halliday.

The date was moved this week from the end of May to September 18. We selected a Saturday with +Bishop Todd so that youth and children would be able to join the ceremony. By this time, we also hope to be able to perhaps share some cake (hoping Covid has subsided by then).





Thanks to Doug Winch and Haley Walker (pictured here by photographer and beekeeper Doug) for moving the bees. This location enables us to meet provincial regulations regarding beehive location – a bee inspector came out with a measuring tape and recommended the location. Many neighbours stop to enjoy the bees and thank us for bringing them to the community.

More details on the Bishop's dedication visit will be announced closer to the date.



We continue to pray that Father Shaun will heal and return to work.

## Hello to You wonderful People of St. John's in the Wilderness ♥

...Judith Bond

By now most of you will have heard that being somewhat nomadic, David and I are on the move again. But at least this time we are only going to London, Ontario. I always intended writing a short goodbye, but Deb recently called me to write a bit of a biography and to include lots of pictures. So, you can blame her if this becomes boring!



I was born in Bristol England and have two younger brothers. When I was 17, I went with a school friend and her parents to holiday for two weeks at a boarding house in Torquay, Devon. The son of the house



was David Bond whom I first set eyes on when he was working at a student job in a Wimpey Bar (a hamburger chain), complete with bow tie. We were both 17 at the time. He went on to King's College, London to do a degree in French and Spanish. I went to Newton Park Teachers Training College in Bath. The campus was set in the grounds of an eighteenth-century mansion and I did history classes in the remains of a Norman castle.

We both started working in London in 1965, me in an inner-city school with 42 children in my class. It was not exactly easy.



*Newton Park in Bath – history class in the remains of an 18<sup>th</sup> century Norman mansion.*



Unfortunately, during that year David had health problems due to a recurrence of childhood asthma, and he spent quite a lot of time in hospital. A change of climate was recommended, and he applied to work in Canada with the result that on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1966, Father's Day, we told my parents that we had to get married because we were going to Hamilton. My mother responded with the news that she had to have a hysterectomy asap! I don't know how we did it, but we did. I continued working in London till about 23<sup>rd</sup> July, mum had her operation but missed 2 weeks of convalescence and David landed in hospital yet again, until 2 days before the wedding on 6<sup>th</sup> August. He had one day to buy the ring and get a haircut. Our wedding day was the wettest day in England for that year.





We emigrated on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1966 when I was 22, and David started at McMaster as a graduate teaching assistant.



*Emigration day. David's pockets were filled with cutlery given as wedding presents. Imagine doing that now!*

He earned a pittance, so I had to work. I considered myself fortunate as in October I was accepted to teach a Gr. 6 class in a small school in West Flamborough. I had not yet

learned to drive so the Principal gave me a ride to and from school. But I did not realise that the position had become available because the Principal was a tyrant and staff were resigning. He lost his job at the end of the school year, but it was a tough year for me adapting to a Canadian curriculum and working in a toxic environment. The air in Hamilton did not agree with David, so he ended up writing his master's thesis in an oxygen tent in Chedoke Hospital. But it was not all bad as we lived in a fantastic, fully furnished apartment and we were helped by wonderful Graduate friends from Vancouver. They introduced us to many Canadian customs.

But a drier climate was necessary so after attending Expo 67 we went by train to Saskatoon where David started work as a lecturer in the French Department. Prayers were answered in that city. David recovered and has had no serious trouble ever since, he gained an external Ph.D. from London, England and progressed to become Professor and Head of the French and Spanish Department. I worked until our two daughters, Susan and Rebecca were born, in 1970 and 1973. Susan's first year saw me typing his thesis of about 1000 pages, making four carbon copies. She spent much time sitting in her baby seat, on the table beside my typewriter.

People were so kind and welcoming in Saskatoon and friendship took on a new meaning. We were introduced to many more Canadian ways of life by our friends there – the bbq, camping, fishing, drive in cinema, even snowmobiling.





*BBQing and snowmobiling in Canada*



*David, in the dry weather of Saskatchewan.*

We attended St. Stephen's Anglican church, which was spirit filled and led by Larry Mitchell, father of Andrew Mitchell who later became choir master here at St. John's during Rob Lemon's time. The girls did well at school, even during a sabbatical year in Montpellier France. In fact, we did lots of trips back to England as the girls were the only grandchildren on both sides of the family. Our parents had been really good about us emigrating and their not being able to see the children in those days before zoom and video calls. Eventually we bought a small apartment in Torquay so as to facilitate visits with family and friends. The



*Susan and Becky - 1975*

apartment served us well for thirty years, for sabbaticals and once retired we used it often, sometimes for three months at a time. It enabled us to explore the United Kingdom, Europe and many other countries so we have been blessed. We especially enjoyed being able to go for hikes in the country and I loved spring flowers such as bluebells, primroses and daffodils and heather on Dartmoor.





*A vacation with Charlene Adams and Doug Winch in Torquay in 2012*



*Charlene brought her craft and scissors with her to Torquay – What a view and haircut!*



*Doug and Charlene – Walking in Torquay.*



*Ridgeway Heights*



*David enjoying fish and chips at Ridgeway*





*Lovely walking in Devon - David*

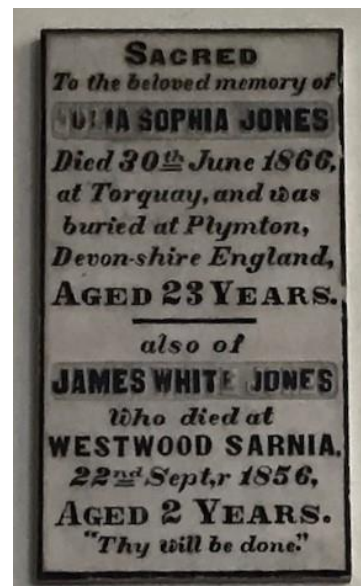


*I could not cross those steppingstones today but enjoyed crossing them then.*

Susan went to McGill when she was still 17 and Becky did med. School at U of S and McMaster. They both ended up working in Ontario, Susan as a speech pathologist in London and Becky as a family doctor in Nipigon. This produced a dilemma as we had hoped to retire to British Columbia, but after years of travelling back and forth to England we did not want to add travelling back and forth to Ontario to the list. We began exploring Southern Ontario and favoured Meaford. But in 2003 after 3 months in England we returned to

Saskatoon via Susan's to celebrate David's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. She took us with toddler Evan to Canatara Zoo and came back via Bright's Grove to show us the beach side community. Lo and behold there was a house for sale and a year later we moved into our present home. Yet another long-distance move! David had one more year to work in Saskatoon and retired in 2005.

I first went to an 8 am service at St. John in the Wilderess and would you believe there on the wall was a plaque that mentioned Torquay! I knew I was in the right place.



In fact, this whole area is full of familiar names from Devon – Exmouth, Exeter, Plympton, Crediton, etc.

Bill and Marlene Gallie were

the first to make me feel at home and then the rest of you fantastic people joined them, as well as Rob Lemon. He even got me to do Bible readings, something I had been too nervous to do at St. Stephen's.

As a child in Bristol, I went to a Methodist Sunday School and took a trail of neighbour's children with me. When I met David, he went to a Baptist church but lost



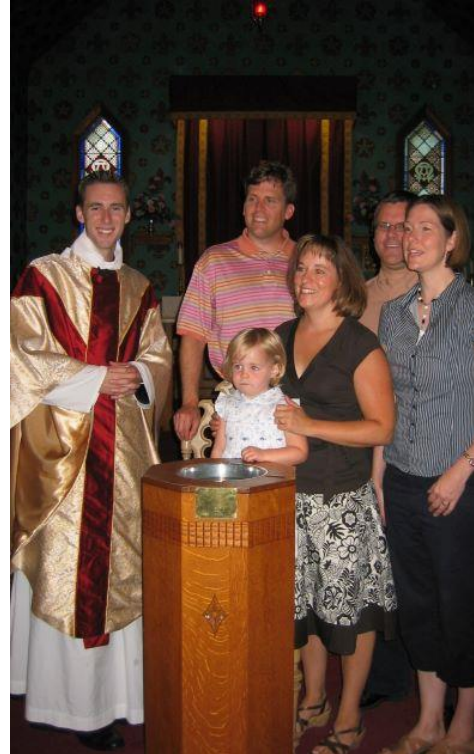
the need for church while a student. Susan and Becky were servers at St. Stephen's, but now busy schedules keep them from regular attendance. Their children, when little, all enjoyed St. John in the Wilderness and the three girls, Charlotte, Sarah and Lola were all baptised here. But now even they have other activities to keep them from attending regularly. Something wrong with that!



*Sarah with Nathaniel Hinton Santos being joyfully escorted by The Reverend Ray Jenkins+ during their baptism.*



*The Reverend Kim Metalka+ baptizing Lola as Becky holds her.*



*Charlotte being baptized by The Reverend Rob Lemon+.*

But what is even more wrong is that I am leaving too. The house is too big for us now especially the stairs for me, as arthritis begins to bug. We will be renting a three-bedroom apartment providing a room for David's books and a guest room. So friends are welcome to stay. I hope to attend St. Anne's in Byron, but it will be hard pressed to be another St. John's for me. I will miss you all very much though since I will only be an hour away, I will definitely be back visiting, even for turkey pies in November, covid willing. It is sad that covid has prevented personal contact this last year or so but know that I have enjoyed being a member of this great family and congregation. Thank you everyone and keep healthy and loving the way you do so easily.

*Postscript from Deb:*

I got a quick picture of Judith and David walking along the lake path in Bright's Grove – David really liked that construction equipment...but not as much as those fish and chips in Torquay I sense! We were blessed to regularly share your company Judith and David and extended family. Come back and visit, please!!

Evan, Charlotte, Sarah and Lola...it was a privilege and joy to teach you in Sunday School, have you in Christmas Pageants and at least 3 of you (Sarah, Charlotte, and Lola) even joined in the VBS fun! Alleluia!



God's love. ♥

## Share Your Joy/Journey in the Honey & Locust

If you have a paragraph or two you would like to publish in Honey & Locust, perhaps a hello/profile of a parish member, an update for a church/community group you are part of, a favourite project or memory or prayer you would like to share, a family update ...whatever is on your mind that might be meaningful/ joyous for your congregation to hear...please craft the words and send them to [debwalker@cogeco.ca](mailto:debwalker@cogeco.ca)

## St. John in the Wilderness Red T-Shirts – Order if You Want One

After multiple requests from parishioners, I visited Dave at Team Outfitters to determine options for St. John in the Wilderness T-Shirts for parishioners who want to buy one.

Many parishioners, a few years ago, purchased a beautiful cherry-red T-Shirt with our name, a cross and a dove stitched onto it. Sandra Fraser lovingly arranged for these and they have seen great use. They are made of thicker material (thick enough to enable stitching of the name and symbols); some folks loved the thicker fabric, some found them a little warm in summer months. So, in the spirit of addressing varying parishioner's needs we are going to introduce a slightly different design.



Dave and I agreed on using the same fabric as the Bluewater Triathlon T-shirts in red. This is cool, technical-grade fabric. The red is redder than cherry-red...I love both. "St. John in the Wilderness" and a fish symbol will be silk-screened on in the same area we had the with the cherry-red shirts. Cost will be \$25/T-shirt for sizes up to XL. For XXL and above cost will be \$30/T-shirt.

If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, please contact me in the next week or two.

....Deb Walker

## Church Maintenance

Thanks to Gord MacKenzie for setting up 150 feet of ethernet cable so we can go directly from the Cogeco internet signal to Zoom (without WiFi). Thanks to his daughter Noelle Lewis for the donation of the cable!



*Gord setting up ethernet cable in the sacristy to go to the sanctuary*

Thanks to Jim Mayer for donating a push lawn mower to the church. Brent Anderson and Jim are working on a cover for it in between the kitchen and sanctuary buildings.

## Mental Health Week – Thankfully!

.... Tara Fraser & Deb Walker

May 3 to 9 is CMHA Mental Health Week. It is time to #GetReal about how you feel.

The campaign this year is '**Name it, don't numb it**' and here is a link to resources many of us can use for ourselves and loved ones during the very real stresses of Covid: <https://mentalhealthweek.ca/>

Says Tara: "For me, the more my children learn about what mental health means and practice good mental health habits then the more I feel they have learned something really great from me."

From Deb: "Growing up I saw family members struggle with mental health, and during Covid many of us are struggling with mental health...and it can help very much to name it".

Here are some wise words from the CMHA campaign:

*These are times of extreme anxiety and isolation, so feeling worried and lonely just makes sense. Good mental health doesn't mean feeling happy all the time.*

*This Mental Health Week, let's name,  
express and deal with our emotions – even  
the uncomfortable ones. Because heavy  
feelings lighten when you put them into  
words.*

*Embrace all of your emotions – whether  
they feel good or challenging or difficult.  
It's all part of being human.*

*This week – and every week after – don't go  
uncomfortably numb. #GetReal about how  
you feel. And name it, don't numb it.*

## Lay Reader Janice Reflects



"He gives power  
to the faint and  
strengthens the  
powerless".

Isaiah 40:29  
NRSV

The question today is, "Do you feel faint or powerless?" And the answer is, "These days, when do I not feel faint or powerless?" I feel that way when, although we've been educated, I see active cases of a crazy virus increase. I do my part to protect others and myself as I know that our church family does. It's frustrating!

In the midst of this ongoing pandemic, you've heard so many many people say "You just have to hang on." Well, you've tried and you've failed. You tried again and you failed again. You tried a third time and, yes, you failed again. Three strikes and

you're out, right? But hold on, this isn't the ninth inning. The game is far from over. The season is just beginning! (Go Jays Go! Sorry to Tiger fans but I am my father's child.)

Anyway, the Coach believes in you. The Coach is promising you strength and power. So, yes, we say it again! Hang in there! The team is counting on you. You're going to get through. Take this verse and make it yours today.

And, if you feel like you just don't have any strength left? Find someone to lean on and use a bit of their strength. I'm available and stronger than you may think. Life is a team sport, don't you know?

Let us pray:

What will this day be like, God? Maybe we feel faint or powerless right now. We've felt it before. The odds are that we'll feel it again. If it happens, when it happens, when we end up feeling a bit faint and powerless, we'll be hanging on to the promise of today's verse. Strength and power to make it through - that's what we need. Today, tomorrow and for a good long time to come. Amen.

"Nothing can dim the light which shines from within." - Maya Angelou

Catching for You!

...Janice McAlpine



## Farewell Wilf Tarbet



Wilf Tarbet took the hand of Jesus following a brief illness on April 19, 2021.

He is with wife Mary again. Many of you will know Wilf – he was a warden at St. John in the Wilderness. An organic chemist by profession. I remember the twinkle in his eyes as he would tell a story. He was always learning; The Venerable Kristen Aikman, Archdeacon of Lambton-Kent, aptly posted the following for Wilf: “...my prayer for Wilf is that he may now have all the answers he sought after in this life. Rest peacefully Wilf.”

Here is a link to [Wilf's obituary](#). God bless.



## Welcome Ariel Linden Macht

MacKenzie, Jesse and Francis Macht are thrilled to welcome baby Ariel Linden Macht to the world .... as are Auntie Haley, Grandpa Ken and Nanny Deb Walker! Ariel means “Lion of God” in Hebrew. He was born when the Linden trees of Sarnia were in full bloom ... white petals everywhere, including the Macht’s front steps. Ariel was 8 lb 5 ounces, healthy, and born at home. Here are a few pictures to convey some of the joy we all feel.





Yours in Faith,

Deb Walker, Peter Langille, Janice McAlpine,  
and The Reverend Amanda Longmoore+  
Wardens, Lay Reader, and Interim Priest

*"You will never look into the eyes of  
someone God does not love."*

Postscript:

I love the flowers this time of year when I  
deliver Honey and Locust ... here are the  
magical violas on Hazel Millholland's steps.



*Hi Hazel!*

*Thanks for  
the flowers  
and the  
smile...even  
Molly's bark  
brings me joy  
now!*

*...Deb*



## St. John in the Wilderness, Brights Grove

## Church Services

(May 5, 2021 Update)

*"You will never look into the eyes  
of someone God does not love."*A free phone line for prayer,  
reflections, worship and a  
reminder you're not alone.**1-888-229-5422**With love, from the Anglican  
Churches of Lambton-KentListen to the prompts to  
hear the sermon and  
readings from our services  
on the St. John in the  
Wilderness line.Option 2 for Reverend  
Gord Simmons' silly joke  
of the week 😊

Date	Day of Church Calendar (And Officiant if Other than The Reverend Amanda Longmoore)	Time	Service	Location (See Notes 1 & 2)	Colour	Readings
May 2, 2021	Fifth Sunday of Easter	8:30 am	BCP Morning Prayer	Zoom	White	Act 8: 26 - 40
		10:30 am	Morning Prayer	Zoom		Psalm 22: 24 - 30 1 John 4: 7 - 21 John 15: 1 - 8
May 9, 2021	Sixth Sunday of Easter	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	Zoom	White	Acts 10: 44 - 48 Psalm 98 1 John 5: 1 - 6 John 15: 9 - 17
May 16, 2021	Seventh Sunday of Easter (+Bishop Todd)	10:30 am	Church House Synod Worship Service	Facebook Live from diocesan website	White	More information on how to join the service will come a couple of days prior to the service
May 23, 2021	The Day of Pentecost	8:30 am	BCP Morning Prayer	Zoom	Red	Ezekiel 37: 1 - 14
		TBD	TBD	Zoom		Psalm 104: 25 - 35, 37b Acts 2: 1 - 21 John 15: 26 - 27, 16: 4b - 15
May 30, 2021	Trinity Sunday (Lay Reader Sandra Fraser)	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	Zoom	White	Isaiah 6: 1 - 8 Psalm 29 Romans 8: 12 - 17 John 3: 1 - 17

Note (1) Zoom Services - Deb Walker or Peter Langille will issue, via email, an invitation to the Zoom service a few days before the service.  
-For 8:30 am services these go to traditional attendees pre-covid as well as to people who request invitations (just ask Peter or Deb)  
-For 10:30 am/main services these go to everyone on the parish list with an email, the invitation is also posted on our Facebook

Note (2) We try to save a video Zoom Sunday and issue a saved and edited version of the service recording.  
It will issue within 1 to 3 days of the service with a link going out via the church's email.  
Audio recordings of the readings, psalm and sermon will be placed on the prayer telephone line on Monday or Tuesday

Please check your e-mail regularly to see if there are changes – this is a fluid time given Covid.

Keep wearing those masks, washing your hands, maintain social distance, be kind, acknowledge Angst, and.....recognize Blessings;-)  
>((( ))\*>

2896 Old Lakeshore Road  
Bright's Grove, ON  
Telephone: 519-869-2403  
E-Mail: [stjohninthewildernesschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stjohninthewildernesschurch@gmail.com)

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