

HONEY & LOCUST



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

Church Services

Sunday, June 20 is The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost and Father's Day - The Reverend Amanda Longmoore+ will preside over 8:30 am and 10:30 am virtual Zoom services. Susan, Brenden, and Ken will celebrate with music from church. Blessings.

Thanks to Amanda, Brenden, Peter, and Deb for reconfiguring the singing/music sound with a new piece of equipment (yes, a little more IT hardware) – Brenden and Amanda continue to fine tune this, feedback from you, our parishioners, has been "Alleluia" positive.

Jim Mayer, with only 4 days notice, was creative, skilled, and kind enough to make a beautiful and welcoming wooden rainbow

piece of art which is now in our church sign for the month of June – Pride Month.



*Thanks, Jim,
for helping
us to
celebrate
inclusiveness,
acceptance,
and
positivity!*

*Above, Rev
Amanda
shows her
joy...
reflecting our
parish.*

Pictures from the services earlier in June and the testing of the music sound set-up prior to last week's first use of the equipment follow.



Reverend Amanda, Organist Susan, Choir Director Brenden, and Warden Peter setting up and testing the reconfigured sound system mid-week prior to June 13th church service. Ken, singing the psalm below.



Aruna Anderson offering the Prayers of the People over Zoom from her home.

All...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 experience shows that we need to remain vigilant. Be strong – comply – and remember “You will never look into the eyes of someone God does not love.”

Moving Forward

...Reverend Amanda Longmoore+

As our COVID restrictions loosen and we begin the process of getting back to something more normal as a parish, I'd like to share with you two things that will be happening over the next month.

The first is that with the loosening of restrictions in phase 1 of recovery, we are allowed to have a few more people in the church building for the 10:30 service. Deb and Peter (as wardens) and I met earlier this week and decided that we'd like to offer a chance for folks who have been unable to connect by Zoom to come join those leading in worship on Sunday mornings. So, if you haven't been able to join us online and would like to come to the church building to be present for worship, please give Peter or Deb a call to let them know. Once we know how many people are interested, one of them will contact you to let you know when you're able to come. Unfortunately, space is very limited so you may not be able to come every week.

At this stage, our worship will remain primarily on Zoom, which means that what you experience in the church building on Sunday morning won't be what you're used to. Worship will continue to be Morning Prayer for the next month, and the person leading worship will be seated at a computer at the front of the church. You will be able to see and hear what's happening online and will have a copy of the service to take part. Congregational singing is not yet allowed, but you can enjoy hearing the hymns in person. Masks must be worn for the entire time you're in the building.

The second thing I want to share is some good news. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** Everyone is invited to come together (yes, in person!!) for an outdoor service on the church lawn on Sunday, July 18th at 10:30.

There are no restrictions on numbers of people gathering outdoors as long as distancing can be maintained. We will be celebrating Eucharist together (bread only) and more details will be shared as we get closer to the date. You will be asked to bring your own chair, masks must be worn even outside because we're gathering in a larger group, and as exciting as it will be to be back, we really do need to keep our 2m distance. Congregational singing will not be allowed, but we will have music! Rain date will be the following Sunday (July 25th).

It's important to note that things won't be "back to normal" after our outdoor service. Depending on which stage of recovery we're in, more details about what worship will look like going into August will also be shared closer to the date when we have more information.

One last thing to note: we often use the language of "reopening the church" to talk about being able to gather in the building again. I would remind us that the church isn't the building, it's us; it's people. Because of that, the church was never closed. Ministry has continued, maybe not in the usual ways, but there has been lots of creativity in making things happen while we haven't been able to be in our building. So while we use the term "reopening" to describe this process, I would encourage you to think of it more as "regathering" since it's impossible to close the church.

...Reverend Amanda

Stepping Down as President of our ACW

...Brenda Clingersmith

It is with a heavy heart that I am announcing I am stepping down as president of Saint Johns ACW. I am honored to have held this position for 11 years. Wow it has been a wonderful time. The women of this parish are so hard-working and ready for any challenge. When I look back and see the wonderful things we have accomplished, I am so grateful to be part of such an awesome group. I know there is someone out there who would appreciate having the same experience.

It is not an onerous job. We meet in the parish hall once a month and the meetings last for about two hours. Meetings consist of a devotional, business meeting, program consisting of speaker, bible study, craft etc. or field trip. We wouldn't be doing all of these at each meeting!

So if you were interested in spreading fellowship and stewardship to ladies of the parish please contact Brenda at 519-869-8116 or mamaclingy@gmail.com

Your sister in Christ,

Brenda



Postscript From Deb



Brenda...this is one of my favourite pictures of you...a truly joyous woman who feels God's grace in your life daily. Thank you for all you have done leading our ACW, contributing many ideas to our church, and over the years helping A LOT with Christmas Pageant. We all are richer for "The Butterfly Song" which you brought to many of us "....thank you Father for making me me". See you in church ♥

Wilderness Pollinator Garden



Circle September 18th on your calendar.

That's the 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 from the end of May to September 18 due to the state of Covid. 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).

Wilderness Pollinator Garden Images



The Making of a Queen Bee

...Haley Walker and Doug Winch

This has been a busy spring for our bees at St John in the Wilderness!

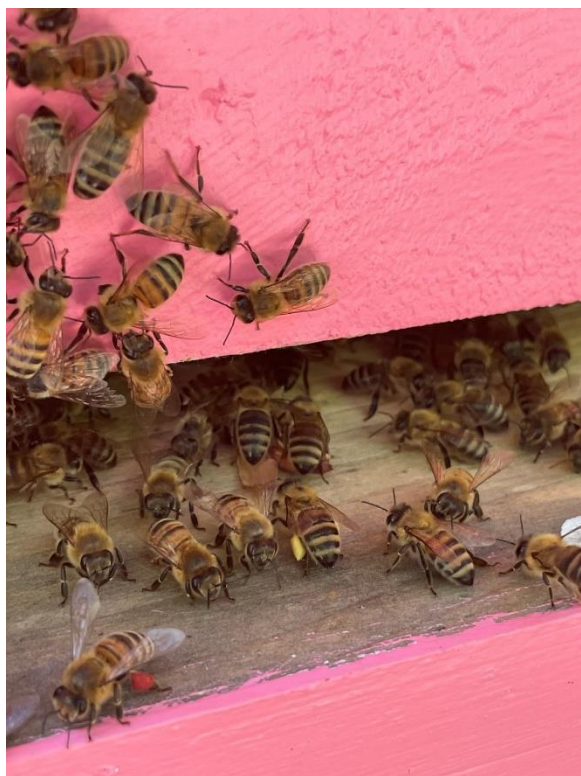
In springtime, it is a beehive's job to build a big, strong population, so that when the main "honey flow" season begins in June, the beehives are bursting at the seams and ready to collect honey. This spring was warm, long, and splendid (do you remember how long we had blossoms on the trees?) which means it was excellent

weather for bees. This resulted in an explosion of bee populations all throughout Sarnia Lambton!



Our beehives at the church building, painted joyfully (one by young Fran Macht) and brimming full of bees





When a colony of bees gets too big for its home, it forms a swarm. During a swarm, the Queen Bee flies out of the hive and takes half the bees with her to find a new home. She leaves behind a newly hatched Queen in the old hive, and suddenly one hive becomes two...this is how bees create new colonies in the wild!

This spring was a big year for swarming. If you were lucky, maybe you found a swarm in your backyard, like I found in a backyard near Canatara Park. Although swarms may look scary, they are actually very docile – these bees are typically full to the brim with honey and they have no babies or larvae to protect, they are just looking for a new home.



A swarm I found in a backyard at Canatara Park

If you ever see a swarm of bees like the one above, don't fret – just call your local beekeepers (Haley or Doug) and we'll be there in a buzz to scoop that swarm into a box. You may even get a jar of honey out of it!

So, after all this swarming talk, you may be wondering...did the St John in the Wilderness hives swarm this year?

They did not! Because our bees are in a very public area, we aimed to avoid swarming at all costs. To ensure our population stayed small, we performed a "split" on April 23rd – this is when you manually split the beehive in half, which acts as a "woman-made"

swarm. In our pink box, we put the old Queen and half the bees. We left the other half of the bees in the multicolored box and hoped they would create their own Queen



Doug performing a split of one of our beehives

A Queen is very important to a colony of bees. Without her, their population cannot grow and the colony will die within a few months. The bees in the multicoloured box could sense right away that their Queen was gone, so they got right to work replacing her.

To replace their Queen, the bees looked for recently laid eggs in their hive, and then they began feeding the eggs & larvae “royal jelly” – this jelly literally turns eggs into

royalty! Our bees created about 10 potential Queen bees, and after 14 days, the first Queen Bees emerged from their cells.



Queen cell (peanut size) versus many worker bee cells.

Once hatched, the Queens immediately began a Battle Royale – only the strongest Queen survives! The Queens let out little “piping” sounds to locate each other in the multicoloured hive. They duked it out until there was one Queen to rule them all – Queen of the Multicoloured Hive!

The newly crowned Queen was still a virgin Queen, however. Five days after hatching, she needed to head out on her mating flight. The queen flew up to eight kilometers to find “drones” (male bees) from other colonies. On a mating flight, it is the Queen’s goal to mate with as many drones as possible – she only goes on one mating flight in her life, and more drones means better biodiversity for her hive! The mating flight was the most dangerous part of our Queen’s life – only about 60% return to their hives, and many are lost to sudden

weather changes, hungry birds, or they just can't find their way home.

Luckily, on May 30th, five weeks after we left the multicoloured hive to create a Queen, we opened the box and were blessed to see our new Queen back from her mating flight, laying eggs and growing larvae. This means the hive will have lots of time to collect honey this summer and, God willing, we will have a happy & sweet harvest in late August.

Now that we're into June, the bees have one job – go out and get that honey! We'll be checking out the hive every few weeks to make sure the new Queen settles in well. If you see Doug or I out by the hives, feel free to stop by and say hello...and, once COVID permits, if you want to join us for a hive inspection, I have a couple extra bee suits to spare, including one for kids.



Queen bee circled top adjacent. Beekeeper Doug bottom adjacent.



Haley, young Arthur and his parents inspect a hive at the Walker's home.

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

Inn of the Good Shepherd Thanks, and We Need 6 Cooks, Please!

On June 6, you helped to feed 90+ people at The Inn – Thank you – that is a lot of folk! You are an integral part in The Inn's mission to provide services with dignity to local people who need food, shelter, and other essentials. Thanks for helping folks in need. Pictured below and on the next 2 pages are some of you who cooked and served.

On July 3 Peter Langille with family Eve, Durham and Perrin will box at the Inn. We need 6 cooks; please call or email Deb Walker if you will cook (5 lb of meatloaf and 25 baked potatoes per cook).



Boxers at the Inn on June 6 left to right: Katherine Gray, Tara Fraser, Katie Curran, Janine Ross. They boxed up 93 meals...the most meals we have served since the start of Covid. Thanks very much for all your work and the gracious way you did it!



Thanks Denise Hillary (above) and Sandra Fraser (below).



Thanks Maggie Brownridge above and Pat & Don Poland (below).

Thanks All You Cooks!





Hi Al and Fran Taylor. Thanks!

Lay Reader Janice Reflects



A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall."

~ 1 Samuel 17:4, New International Version

Nine feet tall. NINE FEET TALL! That's taller than anyone playing in the NBA, taller than the tallest person in the Guinness Book of

World Records., taller than anyone you know. But the thing is, this verse isn't just about tall people.

Have you got any giants threatening you?! You know what I mean... things or people or situations that make you feel small, helpless, vulnerable. There are lots of things in our life that seem to tower over us, so much so that we feel helpless to move or do anything at all.

Don't let those giants wear you down! Stand up for what you believe in, for who you are. Don't let those giants tower over you. They're big, yeah, but you're not alone. God is with you. Hang on, no matter what you have to face, and know that those giants, ultimately, are not going to win!

Let us pray:

The week is ending, Gracious God, this week with all its demands, expectations and tragedies. There have been a variety of things we've had to deal with. Some of them seem like giants - challenges, situations, people, illness that seem almost insurmountable. We pray for the strength to be able to deal with all those things that seem so big, so tall, so hard to conquer. Help us to feel you with us. Amen.

"Be patient and tough; someday this pain will be useful to you." ~ Ovid

St. John in the Wilderness Mission and Vision

Our Mission

To Love God and to share His love with others.

Our Vision

To show a welcoming, visible sign of Christ in a growing community, and to strive to meet the spiritual needs of everyone in a facility which is accessible, safe, environmentally friendly, and addresses the space requirements of all.

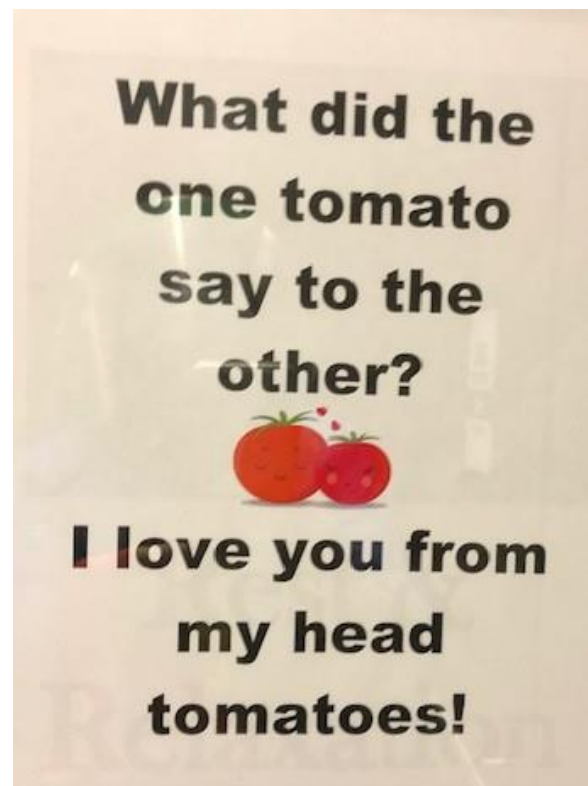
Yours in Faith,

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 visit my mum in Landmark a few times a week. The elevator art is always fun. My mum and I share the love of the pun.



Blessings, Deb.

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

St. John in the Wilderness, Brights Grove
Church Services
June 17, 2021 Update)

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-Kent

Listen 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
June 6, 2021	2nd Sunday after Pentecost	8:30 am	BCP Morning Prayer	Zoom	Green	1 Samuel 8: 4 - 11, 16 - 20 Psalm 138
		10:30 am	Morning Prayer	Zoom		2 Corinthians 4: 13 - 5: 1 Mark 3: 20 - 35
June 13, 2021	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	Zoom	Green	1 Samuel 15: 34 - 16: 13 Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10, 14-17 Mark 4: 26 - 34
June 20, 2021	4th Sunday after Pentecost	8:30 am	BCP Morning Prayer	Zoom	Green	1 Samuel 17: 32 - 49 Psalm 9: 9 - 20
		10:30 am	Morning Prayer	Zoom		2 Corinthians 6: 1 - 13 Mark 4: 35 - 41
June 27, 2021	5th Sunday after Pentecost (Lay Reader Janice McAlpine)	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	Zoom	Green	2 Samuel 1: 1, 17 - 27 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 8: 7 - 15 Mark 5: 21 - 43

- 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;-)
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