

HONEY & LOCUST



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

Church Services

Sunday, June 6 is The Second Sunday after Pentecost - The Reverend Amanda Longmoore+ will preside over the 8:30 am and 10:30 am virtual Zoom services. Susan, Brenden, and Ken will celebrate with music from church, and we may have our new microphone configuration in time to try it this Sunday – Alleluia, praise the Lord!



Thanks to Mavis and Ingrid for reading and offering the Prayers of the People on Trinity Sunday.



The flowers on the altar were given by Shalleen and Darryl Hunt to the Glory of God on Pentecost in Thanksgiving for Family; and, by Marie Foubister in celebration of hubby Jim's birthday on May 30. I am smiling just looking at them again here!



Thanks very much to Lay Reader Sandra Fraser for presiding over Trinity Sunday's service. She offered a wonderful sermon contemplating our relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Thank you, Sandra.

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.”

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. Bishop Todd has indicated that at some point in June we can likely go to 10 people in church (with special permission we are already at 6 people)....Wardens Peter and Deb will keep you posted on steps to open more as the summer progresses.



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



Nick Alexander, who dug and planted the garden last summer, came out to inspect it and is replacing the Sun Drop plants.

I went out and visited Nick to get his advice on some native plant shrubs to accent my privet hedge and pick out some native shade plants for my newly formed wooded perennial garden. His native plant landscape business is going well, plant selection is by joyous and knowledgeable appointment (just call 226-349-3939 ... he is out on Bob & Susan Halliday's property on Churchill Line). Small world – as I was planting the shrubs, I was chatting with my next door neighbour and it turns out he is Nick's godfather.

Church Community

...Brenden Fraser



When asked to write for Honey and Locust, Deb Walker reminded me of a time many years ago, when I came by her house to deliver a sales pitch for Cutco knives. I had a job selling Cutco for the summer, and my mom had reached out to some people at the church to hear my pitch.

This got me thinking about the importance of the “church community”. I remember clearly, one of the first times that I truly understood the value of this community. There was a blind auction right before Christmas, I was home for the weekend from university, and was heading back to Windsor on a Sunday night. Before I went back to school that night, I drove my dad to the church, (I think my mom was already there, or coming later, not sure) and stayed for the pot-luck dinner and blind auction afterwards.

It played out something like this: someone bid on a bag that looked like wine, and sure enough, it was. So, the next time a bag came up that looked like wine, I went after it. I out-bid anyone willing to bid against me and won my prize. I opened it up and sure enough... dish towels! No wine. A few lots later, I tried my luck again, and this time... more dish towels! It was hilarious and I will never forget that night in the church hall.

While not what I was hoping to take back to school with me, the dish towels stuck with me for the remaining years of school and even more so, in my memory.

It wasn't about the wine, the towels, or anything else that was bid on that evening. It was about laughs, a meal and a community.

They say that a church is not a building, but the people in it, and I think that is no truer than at St. John in the Wilderness. Don't get me wrong, I love our building, I have countless memories there. I have celebrated my confirmation in that building, I have mourned the death of my grandmother in that building. I have celebrated my brother's marriage in that building, and I have mourned my own father's passing in that building. I have led anthems with the choir, sang solos at other people's weddings, and even had the great privilege to celebrate my own marriage there. It is sufficient to say that the building at St. John in the Wilderness is a major part of my life.

However, it's never the building that stands out; it is the faces in the pews. It is the kind words of comfort or excited words of joy. It is the voices of the choir and the notes of the organ. It is the laughs heard during coffee hour, the clinking of soup bowls during a soup and sandwich. It is the people and their actions that make up the memories; and they would be just as special, no matter where they took place.

This past year, we've all been removed from our sense of community, and from our building. We have all been clinging to our community, through the once

unconventional and now familiar online services.

For me, it has been somewhat of a comfort to go to the building to broadcast services out to the community. When I'm there, I imagine the sounds and sights of what service used to look like. Sometimes it is as real as the pew I sit on.

As we soldier on, and hopefully near the end of this pandemic, my hope for everyone reading this is, that you recall a memory of your own which brings you back to the community gathered, and cling to it. Know that soon, we will gather again, as a community, with song and praise and joy, in that familiar building, as a church.

Brenden Fraser





Sam and Brenden and family



ago that I could not figure what to do with other than cut things like wire and bushes...where kitchen shears. Tough as nails, come apart at the screw in a second for washing. What memories and what a deal, Brenden!



Great Church Community

P.S from Deb:

This whole article warmed my heart I relate very much to it and am so grateful to Brenden for putting words to his feelings, which I sense many of us share.

The tea towels...well I can totally relate. Any time I use my 10-inch Cutco bread knife I think of Brenden and mum Sandra. I called Brenden and asked him for an article for Honey & Locust after Haley asked me if I had "kitchen shears" so she could bisect a chicken to BBQ. I thought initially "no" but then suddenly realized that those Cutco scissors I got from Brenden all those years

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

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

www.facebook.com/groups/524453119787144/
www.stjohninthewilderness.com

Bromeliads

Lyn Kidd & Deb Walker (Intro)

From Deb:

Our little church executive were just chatting one evening when Ingrid Schmid said, let's mix things up a little with altar flowers – let's have cut flowers some weeks when folks donate flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate an event etc, and let's try something like potted plants other times. Well, we all loved this idea and so I went and asked our altar flower volunteer Lyn Kidd on her thoughts and ideas. Lyn, it turns out, is into bromeliads and you may have noticed several Sundays now, when a potted plant is on the altar – one of Lyn's many potted plants which she cares for at home and brings to church for the glory of God and to share with us.



A bromeliad

From Lyn:



Patty Peace Lily

We were acquainted with our first bromeliad when Ian's mom went into Twin Lakes Terrace. It was a bright, showy, "in your face" plant that required very little care. Perfect for a nursing home setting. As the years went on, we would acquire the occasional bromeliad just for fun. The giant blooms lasted for weeks, sometimes even months. They came in a huge variety of colours, and, like people, were all very different. Ian decided that, rather than discarding them after they finished blooming, he would let them rest on the basement window ledge to see what would happen. What a grand surprise when little

sprouts came up out of the base of the plants. It took several months. We found out that these are called “pups”, and you could remove them and plant them. It was a great surprise to have our “next generation” bloom. Now, we continue to have about a dozen dozing in the basement windows. Around the middle of May, we may see some action and be able to transplant a pup into its own pot.

www.thespruce.com/grow-bromeliads-indoors-1902667



The Nursery

Thanks very much, Lyn Kidd
from the Church Executive & Council ❤️



Lyn with Baby Beluga Bamboo



Altar Baby

St. John in the Wilderness Mission and Vision

Our Mission

To Love God and to share His love with others.

Our Vision

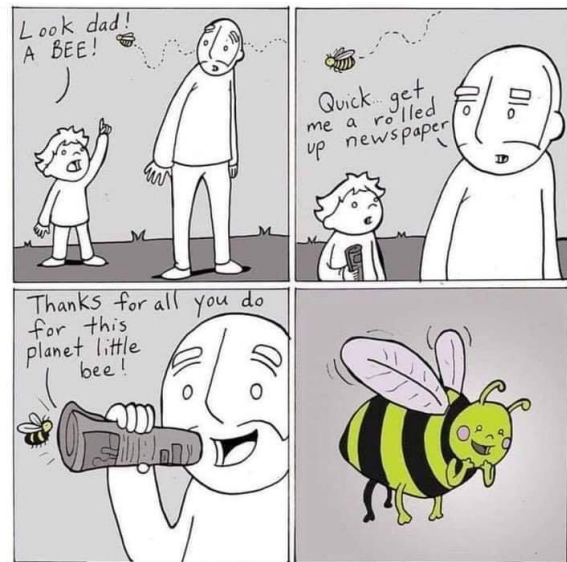
To show a welcoming, visible sign of Christ in a growing community, and to strive to meet the spiritual needs of everyone in a facility which is accessible, safe, environmentally friendly, and addresses the space requirements of all.

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:



The Ontario government is offering support to beekeepers with 10 hives or more to support and strengthen the health of honeybees ... so more than our 2, but still so nice to know!

[Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs | Ontario Newsroom](#)

(Thanks, Tara Fraser for passing this along)

Doug Winch and Haley Walker waved to an unplanned, socially distanced, audience of 14 kids and adults earlier in the week when they were tending our church hives.

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

St. John in the Wilderness, Brights Grove Church Services

June 6, 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)	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;-)
>((()))*>