

HONEY & LOCUST



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

Church Services

This Sunday, The Reverend Amanda Longmoore will lead us in worship over Zoom, please come join us...and invite a friend or neighbour to join Zoom as well.



Lay Reader Sandra Fraser – January 16



Thanks to Doug Winch who, I sense, shoveled the walk just before he captured this beautiful picture of our church building earlier in the week. A winter wonderland.

Lay Readers Sandra Fraser and Janice McAlpine, pictured here, led us over celebrations of the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of Epiphany while Amanda vacationed northwest of Ottawa – it was chilly but cozy said Amanda.



Peace from Lay Reader Janice McAlpine

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Order Your Pizza for Outreach...and a Good Meal!

[Here is a link to the above poster \(so you can see those flavours a little more clearly\)!](#)

Get your orders in this weekend to dwtsarnia@gmail.com These pizzas come uncooked on a piece of paperboard in a giant re-usable ziplock bag (Peter Langille loves these big ziplocks almost as much as the pizza itself!). There are even gluten-free pizzas. You can cook one pizza up, and/or you can freeze some pizzas for Superbowl Sunday or Valentine's Day.... or, if you are me, just for when you have a hankering for pizza.

The church will raise \$8.00 per bundle, which is pretty good. 100 bundles: \$800. Proceeds will go to outreach.

... Deb with gratitude to
Organizers Peter & Eve

Vestry – February 6, 2022

Our Vestry meeting will be on Sunday, February 6 via Zoom after the 10:30 am service. Any motions should be submitted sooner rather than later. Amanda will give her report as Rector as her sermon (so please join the service). Come be part of the oversight and running of your church – join us at Vestry.

There will not be a potluck lunch of course...but you can pour yourself coffee and perhaps dream of that wonderful Uncle Dad's pizza you placed an order for by the order deadline the night before in support of our fundraiser.



... Deb

Thanks Ross Leckie!



For years Ross Leckie and clan have mowed the north and east church yard all season, each season. Ross is our neighbour to the

west. Ross has even occasionally pressure washed the siding, helped with leaves and branches...you get the jist.

Every year we offer a token gift to Ross. This year we offered a certificate to Skeeters and a liter of honey harvested from our church's beehives during the summer. I love the banter of Ross smiling and insisting we did not have to; he truly is happy to help and have nephew Sean help ride that lawn mower. Ross's smiling eyes did light up at the sight of that jar of honey. Ross, it turns out, started having coffee with our bees most mornings during the summer. We are so blessed.

Brenda and Bob – Expecting a Grandchild ♥

At some point during Omicron January, I started to ask parishioners I bumped into, be it virtually or on a walk, "what are you doing to keep occupied during Omicron"?

Well, I was conversing with Brenda Clingersmith over her Servers Vestry report and asked the question. And what I got was a lot of joyful words on family and grandkids. Bob and her are expecting another grandchild!

Brenda sent a picture and her words of joy: "Here are the Clingersmith women – without the matriarch, she doesn't ski anymore! From the left back it's Cassandra, Beckie front Haley and Lexi at Horseshoe Valley. The happy news is that Cass and Nate are expecting a child in May. Needless

to say, Nana and Papa thank God for this blessing and are delighted"!



Congratulations Clingersmiths!

Share Your Joy/Story in the Honey & Locust

If you have a sentence or 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

Hello from Folk During Omicron!

Well, as I stated above, I started asking folk what they were doing to keep occupied during Covid....and here are "Hellos" with a few responses.

Marg Woodall



Hello from Marg and son-in-law Rick DeBoer. They were cleaning out the basement when I delivered a copy of Honey & Locust. Marg's daughter Carol DeBoer has also been helping; Carol mows the lawn in the summer, a big lawn. She uses the riding lawn mower Jack used. God bless Jack, he mowed that yard the week before he passed away in May of 2021.

Bev Crawley

I was speaking with Bev Crawley over the phone, and she passed on a "hello" to folk.

Bev knits Afghans for Palliative Care at Bluewater Health; she has for the last 20 years. I am hoping she helps once again at the Ironkid barbeque this summer!

Bev, like many of our parishioners, walks most days – depends upon the state of the ice on the walkways. Her route is 4 miles down near the river and it takes her a glorious 50 minutes or so to complete it. During the summer months she says she often sees my daughter Haley and friends running along the route (they all seem to get up early). Bev also visits with her great-grandchildren in town...they call her "Nana".

Maggie Brownridge

Hello from Maggie. Maggie responded with words and pictures to a simple text from me – I love her writing.

"Yes, I knit and quilt. I'll send a picture of an Afghan I just started, a quilt I made, and a Christmas stocking I knit. I've knit a personalized, with name, Christmas stocking for every step kid, grandkid, and great grandkid, and all the spouses. [Total of 20]

I don't know if you know but **Pauline Walsh** designed the ACW banner that hangs in the church, and I machine appliquéd it.

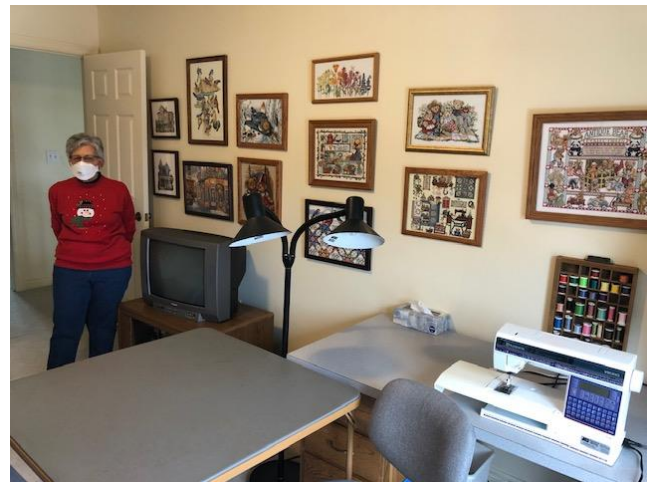
I just started a puzzle so there not much to see. The picture above the bed is one Gary did doing crewel embroidery".



Quilt made by Maggie with crewel embroidery flowers by Gary,

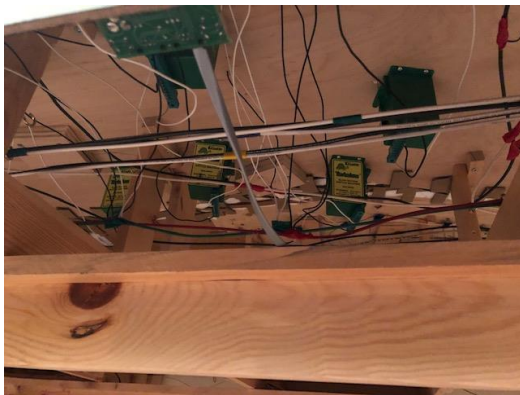


Maggie has a hobby room full of counted-cross-stitch she had done. Two things struck me. The beauty of the cross-stitch AND that hobby table, which is used often, had a clean surface!





Maggie showed me a whole room in her basement in which Gary built a model railroad – with model buildings, switch tracks, working lights. Here are “above” the table and below the table pictures. The wiring of a city! Maggie commented that she is trying to find a good home for the railroad now.



Maggie walks 30 to 60 minutes a day, outside in good weather and on her treadmill during these colder months; she does this to stay in shape for the golf season. Maggie loves playing golf!

Many of you see Maggie at our 10:30 am services – she is a Greeter and a Sides

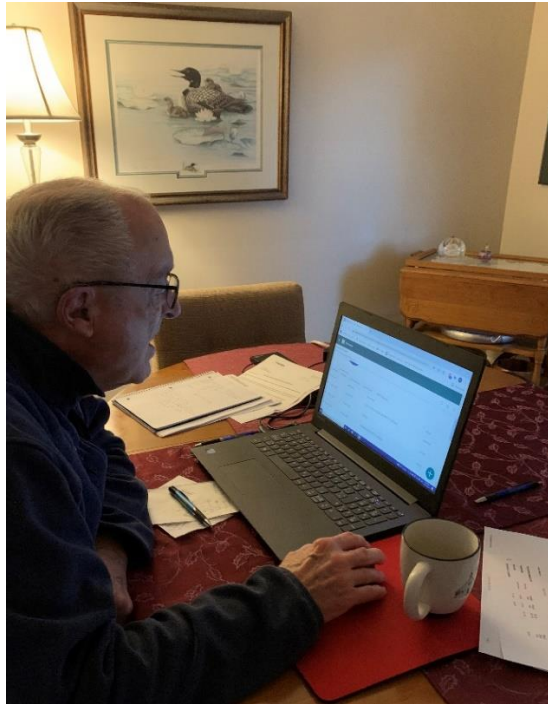


person. Maggie is our ACW secretary, she leads the Prayer Chain group, and she is looking forward to being a Server again in church post-covid. I did not see those 70 strawberry boxes she stores for our church turkey-pie event; but post-covid I sense she is looking forward to another turkey pie event/celebration.

Dave Hains and the Treasury Team

I asked Dave Hains what he was doing to stay occupied during Omicron; I must admit I already knew, and he knew I knew. Dave is the Treasurer of St. John in the Wilderness; he and Deputy Treasurer Brian Fogg are busy this time of year given it is year-end and budget planning time. The 2022 budget must be approved in Vestry.

Dave has been our Treasurer for the last 20 years; he was also our Treasurer a number of years prior to that for 4 years. Dave leads the Treasury team of: **Heather Holbrook, Brian Fogg, Sandra Lamoureux, and Mavis Schmid.**



Dave Hains at his computer being our Treasurer – Vestry preparation time.

Heather Holbrook is our church's secretary; she works two half-days a week at St. John in the Wilderness. She prepares our church's bulletins. Heather is also the secretary at Camlachie United Church. Both churches use the same accounting software. Heather inputs into our accounting software and issues cheques.

Sandra Lamoureux is our Envelope Secretary; she looks after component of preauthorized payments (PAPs), e-transfers. Sandra issues tax receipts to parishioners; she is very precise and if you find anything wrong with your receipt, please contact her and Dave Hains. A parishioner actually found an error this year - a rare event. Sandra is a regular cook for our Inn of the

Good Shepherd meals on the first Saturday of each month. She is a Server at our church services during non-pandemic times. She is one of our service readers. She and **Brian Bradford** clean the church every 4 to 6 weeks. She fills in for Susan Halliday on the piano some Sundays....and looks forward to once again singing in 4-part harmony once our choir is able to sing in church again post-covid.

Brian Fogg is our Deputy Treasurer; he is our Spreadsheet Wizard. Brian is great at summing up where we spend our funds and in developing interactive spreadsheets to help readily visualize and do "what if's" with financial planning. Brian is a regular at our 8:30 am service; oh my, yes people get up early on Sunday to attend this. Brian has been shoveling the church walkway and co-hosting Zoom early Sunday mornings during



Brian Fogg on a walk past my driveway. We have been watching a house go up beside Bright's Grove School.

Omicron. He and Dave are both very good at understanding tax rules. Brian is also our

capital project leader; he pitches in a lot with Peter, Brent, and others on building maintenance.

Mavis Schmid is in charge of counting of funds (from offerings etc.) and deposits. Mavis has patiently shown me how to open the church safe several times (it is tricky!). Mavis cooks for our Inn meal and reads in some services with that wonderful poetic Irish lilt. Mavis has the title of Cemetery Supervisor for our church in the Diocese of Huron. We have a non-active cemetery, and each year Mavis takes about 30 minutes and fills in a form from the Diocese acknowledging that we have a non-active cemetery. Mavis is also an Altar Guild member and knows a fair amount on the muscle and technology of keeping brass shining. Mavis is a Server at our church and loves experiencing the peace of the sanctuary when she does this, especially at special services such as Christmas Eve.

Getting back to Dave...this started with a question to Dave on what he is doing to stay occupied during Omicron... he also is staying focused as a member of the board of the Lochiel Community Center. Sarnia City owns the downtown community center and the Kiwanis manage and run the operations of it. The community center is home to several not-for-profit organizations which support local people. Three of these organizations include: Boys & Girls Club of Sarnia Lambton, the Organization for Literacy in Lambton, and a program office for St. Clair Child & Youth Services.

Regarding being the Treasurer for St. John in the Wilderness, Dave says, "this is a fun job, and the parishioners make it easy. Thanks".

Blessings and Thanks to Dave and our Treasury Team!

Yours in Faith,

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

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

Postscript:

Order that pizza and come join us at Vestry.

