St. Thomas The Apostle Anglican Church

110 Francis Street, Cambridge ON, N1S 2A1

"KEEPING IN TOUCH – July 2023"

Website: <u>https://www.stthomascambridge.ca/</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/St.Thomas.the.Apostle.Cambridge</u>

A FEW DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

July Services



While Pastor Craig is on vacation for the month of July, St. Luke's have graciously invited us to attend Morning Prayer with them each week, with their lay reader, Eileen, leading the service and preaching. So, enjoy the extra "sleep in" time and join us at St. Luke's at 10:30 am each Sunday in July. Rides are available for anyone who needs one. Please call Kathy Brown at 519-624-6451 or Rick & Sharon Furnival at 519-620-1272 if you would like a ride.



The new rector at Trinity, Rev. Paul Poolton, has graciously agreed to cover any emergency pastoral care which we might need during July. If you need to speak with him, he can be reached at 519-560-7171, or if you prefer, contact Kathy Brown or Rick Furnival and they will put him in touch with you.

Midweek Holy Communion Service:

NOTE: Thursday services are <u>on hold</u> for July while Pastor Craig is on vacation. They will resume in August.

Tuesdays 1pm (starting in September)

Thursday afternoons (on hold for July)

Bible Study: Pastor Craig is planning to start a joint "St. Luke's / St. Thomas" bible study in the fall. We will start at St. Luke's in September, then switch to St. Thomas in October and continue to alternate monthly. Rides can be provided for those who need one. More info to follow.



** HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR RECENT EVENTS ** We certainly were busy in June!



← Joan Stanley singing with the Cambridge Seniors' Choir at the David Durward Centre

St. Thomas and St. Luke's parishioners enjoying our annual "almost" outdoor service at MacPherson's Campground. As usual, it was a lovely service, even though the weather pushed us inside this year.







Mama turtle was busy starting her family outside while we were inside the barn enjoying the service.



And a few pictures from the ACW's latest Jackie Grainge event: "Celebrating Canada".



← "Joni Mitchell"

and

"Rita McNeil" with the miners' choir. \rightarrow



And another fantastic "joint service & potluck" with all 5 Cambridge Anglican churches:



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Looking ahead to my summer vacation, I take this opportunity to look back on my last six months of ministry, when I first came to the parishes of St. Thomas' & St. Luke's. Despite finding all sorts of ways I could have done better, I am struck by the deep sense of grace I feel serving in these two

Craig+

parishes. All parishes are unique, just like people generally, yet the people of both parishes have welcomed me & my family with open arms. So, once again, I thank God for his grace, knowing well it could be otherwise!

And so, even as I am very eager to have some time to myself & with my family, rest assured that I will be doing so with very happy memories of you, & I will be keeping all of you in my prayers. In turn, I ask that you hold us in your prayers. With these, my hope is to come back in August refreshed & filled with the Spirit, that our ministry in Christ grows abundantly, to God's glory.

Blessings on all of you!



SUMMER

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F	R	I	Е	Ν	D	S	S	Κ	G	Q	D	Ρ	С	С	L	I	G	Ν	Ι	Н	S	Ι	F	poolparty
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hotdogs sandals outside travel museum bikes beach sand pool hot fun

An Update from the Refugee Committee, May 2023

The Refugee Committee welcomed Alganesh, Binyam, and their two children to Canada on a snowy morning in late February.



In the weeks leading up to their arrival, committee members had leased an apartment and supplied it with everything a family would need to get started—including all furniture, kitchen utensils, winter clothing, a stocked pantry, and school supplies. Committee members also secured utilities and made a series of appointments to get the family started with their education, medical care, and other needs.

Then, following their arrival, committee members helped the family restart their lives here in Canada. The committee has also helped the

family explore their new neighborhood, learn about shopping options, and enroll the children in school. The family has learned our public transit system, completed their English language assessments, and started language classes.

Committee members assisted the family with the necessary tasks of opening bank accounts, transferring the lease and utilities into their own name, and other legal paperwork—all done with the assistance of translators from the Multicultural Centre.

The Deanery created the current Refugee committee in response to the Syrian Crisis of 2015. With your support we have now sponsored and settled four families and have assisted two additional families who were initially sponsored by the federal government. In addition to the hands-on work of welcoming families and helping them learn about their new home, the Refugee Committee (with the federal government) is responsible for rent and other routine expenses for the



first year. Our thirteen deanery churches contributed more than \$104,300 to support the full sponsorship of our first four refugee families, or approximately \$25,000 for each family.

We have kept these expenses this low through a combination of careful shopping, many contributions of household items, and funding from grants and similar sources.



Inflation has dramatically increased the costs of rent, utilities, and similar monthly services. We estimate that we will need an additional \$10,400 over the next eight months to support our new family as they transition to their new home.

We humbly request that each parish consider an additional donation to support

our new family. Please contact John Ryrie with any budget questions, (jryrie_04@sympatico.ca) or (519-576-1456).

To learn more about the work of the Refugee committee please speak with **Saint Thomas** parishioner Susan Grenville.