

St. Thomas The Apostle Anglican Church

110 Francis Street, Cambridge ON, N1S 2A1

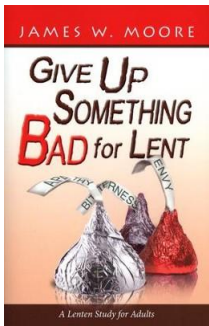
“KEEPING IN TOUCH – March 2024”

Website: <https://www.stthomascambridge.ca/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St.Thomas.the.Apostle.Cambridge>

A FEW DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesdays in Lent (7pm)



Joint Lenten Challenge: During Lent, Christians often give up something as an act of sacrifice and spiritual discipline. This year, Christ Church Ayr, St. Thomas, St. Luke’s and Trinity are issuing a CHALLENGE, along with James Moore, to join us as we consider giving up something we are better off not doing. Imagine giving up envy, jealousy, self-pity, apathy, procrastination, gossip, resentment or negative thinking?! Life would be so much better. 😊

Our first meeting will be at Trinity, but the location may change weekly depending on where participants are coming from. Check our website or contact Pastor Craig or the wardens for location details each week.

Wednesdays (1pm)

Bible Study: Is cancelled for the month of March since many of our attendees would like to participate in the Joint Lenten Study.

Thursdays (1pm)

Midweek Holy Communion Service: Pastor Craig invites you to join him every Thursday afternoon for a smaller, quieter gathering for worship followed by a time of discussion and learning.

Sat April 13 (12-2pm)

English Tea & Bake Sale: The ACW cordially invite everyone to come and enjoy a traditional English Tea, along with one of their popular bake sales. **Tickets are \$12 and must be bought in advance.**

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday:	9 am	at	St. Thomas
Maundy Thursday:	7 pm	at	St. Thomas
Good Friday:	10:30 am	at	St. Luke’s
Joint Easter Vigil Service:**	7 pm	at	St. John’s
Easter Sunday:	9 am	at	St. Thomas



** Note: As usual, the **Holy Saturday Easter Vigil service** will be a joint service for all 5 Anglican churches to celebrate together. This is a wonderful service which everyone should try to attend. If you need a ride, speak to Kathy Brown.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICES *(churches of all denominations):*

Friday March 1 at 2:00 pm - King St. Baptist Church - 361 King St E (Preston)

Friday March 8 at 2:00 pm - Avenue Rd Baptist Church - 465 Avenue Rd (Galt)

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

What did you give up for Lent?

In this liturgical season ten years ago, I took my first "Lenten journey," embarking with great hopes to eliminate a list of pleasurable things from my diet, as a way of drawing nearer to God. I always find myself a bit sluggish after a good meal, & so withholding just enough so that I was not in pain but rather at attention -- that seemed a good way to prepare myself for my second Christian Easter experience. (I had been converted the year before but did not immediately observe Lent.) And while I knew that Lent required a solitary walk with God, I remember asking other faithful people who were keeping Lent, What did you give up for Lent? I quickly sensed that this was not a fruitful question, but only reflection revealed why it was not fruitful. Just as we are not to let the left hand know what the right hand gives, the other things we offer to God are not meant to be displayed or talked about. That, at least, is my own understanding of keeping a Lenten "fast": we are to keep it to ourselves, only speaking about it to God. And so, forgive me if I don't reveal what I have given up for Lent, & don't expect me to ever ask you! Let us rather pray for each other, that God may use our sacrifices to draw us closer to him as we approach the Cross -- & Christ's glorious resurrection.



Pastor Craig+

FUNDRAISER FOR WATERLOO DEANERY REFUGEE COMMITTEE



In the December newsletter and the Vestry Report, I wrote about the struggles of our Deanery Refugee Committee to assist the latest sponsored family with high rents and high dental bills.

How many of you or those you know love Tim's? We are sponsoring a raffle for a **\$50 Tim's gift card**. Tickets are \$2 for one ticket or \$5 for three tickets.

We hope that each parishioner might sell at least a few tickets. See Susan Grenville to buy your own and maybe a few to sell.

ST. TOM'S TAX RECEIPTS ARE READY...

Please check to ensure you received your receipt at church last Sunday (or in your mailbox on Tuesday). Call Susan Grenville at 519-897-8563 if you did not receive your receipt.





THE GRANDMOTHERS' TEA

Why do we look forward to the Grandmother's Tea each month? Tying for first place are the experience, new friendships, laughter, tears, interesting stories, wisdom and locations. Also, there is always a great potluck lunch. ☺

Grandmother's Tea first started back in 2007. It was the brain child of Lois Porter, with the help of Marci Tindal, director of the Five Oaks Education & Retreat Centre in Paris, Ontario. They reached out to the Francis Sandy Theological Centre (FSTC), which is a community-based model of Native ministry leadership preparation for First Nation congregations.

Lois, Mardi and Nancy Edmondson met with Rita Montour, Bessie Laforme (elders from New Credit United Church) and Brenda Simpson, director of FSTC. At the end of the meeting, it was agreed that a "tea" would serve the purpose of sharing experiences and wisdom. It would allow Natives and non-Natives the opportunity to share and increase knowledge of each other.

Invitations were extended to Native and non-Native communities. The host community supplies the beverages and programming.



The rest is history. The teas are still taking place 17 years later. If you'd like to check it out, we meet on the last Wednesday of every month. You don't have to be a grandmother or belong to any religion. If you're interested in trying it out one month, talk to Jean Sherren, Judy Warford or Sarita Fernandes.

ENGLISH TEA & BAKE SALE



Buy your tickets now for an afternoon of sandwiches, scones & desserts served with tea and coffee, by your favourite ACW ladies

**Saturday April 13th
12noon – 2pm**

Tickets are \$12 and must be purchased in advance.

A FEW QUOTES TO THINK ABOUT...

What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.

Jane Goodall

We are each gifted in a unique and important way. It is our privilege and our adventure to discover our own special light.

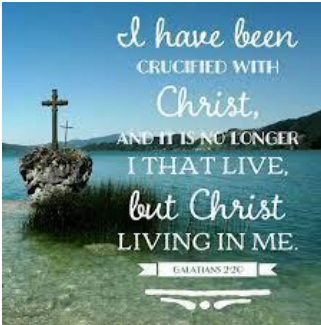
Mary Dunbar

Nothing in life is to be feared: it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more so that we may fear less.

Marie Curie

DYING TO LIVE

(taken from a recent YouVersion bible app reflection)



Dying to ourselves can feel like a bad thing. Most people want to exalt, applaud and promote themselves. But in God’s kingdom, dying to ourselves is essential.

“I have been crucified in Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave his life for me.” Galatians 2:20 NIV

A lump of clay cannot become a work of art unless it’s shaped into something else. A container of paint cannot be used for a masterpiece unless it is first poured out. A carbon deposit must change in order to become a diamond. A caterpillar must give up its old way of life in order to become a magnificent butterfly.

The invitation to die is actually an invitation to live.

When we give our lives to God, we are actually choosing to surrender our plans, our desires and our gifts, and that can be hard. But we also know there is something better – and Someone better – on the other side.

God can realign our plans, reshape our desires and repurpose our gifts for His glory.

The apostle Paul, the author of Galatians, knew firsthand the life-changing power of Christ. Christ’s power radically transformed Paul from someone who persecuted believers into a passionate follower of Jesus. Because of that experience, Paul knew that the only way to live was by surrendering every area of His life to Christ. And that’s why he invites us to do the same.

Jesus couldn’t have been resurrected without first being crucified – and the same is true for us. So what do you need to give to Jesus today? What behaviour, habit or thought do you need to “crucify”? Come as you are to Jesus, and give Him permission to transform and renew your life.





Resurrection Day Word Scramble

How fast can you unscramble the following words, all of which have something to do with the death and resurrection of Christ.

1. Scors _____	11. Ragevin _____
2. Juess _____	12. Woncr fo Shortn _____
3. Osriva _____	13. Stincag Slot _____
4. Eccfirais _____	14. Stal Pesurp _____
5. Roxfinicicu _____	15. Cointenn _____
6. Stipuno Tilape _____	16. Blam _____
7. Rilta _____	17. Degran _____
8. Sabrabba _____	18. Apyr _____
9. Ghhi Stripe _____	19. Gink fo het Sewj _____
10. Mypet Botm _____	20. Senir _____

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This is the fifth of monthly articles to outline one of the ways in which your PWRDF donations are used to help people around the world.



PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief
and Development Fund

The Anglican Church of Canada

Food Security and Climate Change

Many people in developing countries rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. Climate change can disrupt traditional farming practices, leading to reduced crop yields, livestock losses and decreased income, as well as reduced food security. Climate change and food insecurity can lead to ecosystem degradation and loss of biodiversity. Implementing food security and climate change projects in developing countries is crucial as they have implications for both local communities and the global population.

By implementing projects that promote sustainable land use, water management and conservation, communities can protect their natural resources for future generations. Food security and climate change projects can help build resilience and provide alternative livelihood options. They focus on adaptation strategies to help communities cope with changing environmental conditions. This may include introducing climate-resilient crop varieties, implementing water conservation practices, and adopting sustainable land management techniques.

In 2022-2023, 124,364 small-scale farmers (56,134 women, 46,800 men, 12,743 girls and 8,687 boys) and their family members have participated in food security and climate change project activities.

In South Sudan

In South Sudan, people are returning home following years of conflict. A project is supporting returnees as well as members of the host community with agricultural training and farming inputs:

- 200 small-scale farmers (150 women and 50 men) participated in vocational training for livelihood diversification;
- 1,000 returnee households received monthly cash transfers of \$130 for four months to assist them in re-establishing their livelihoods;
-

Vegetable and cereal seeds and tools were distributed to 3,000 households:

- Vegetable seeds: 100 kg of okra, 20 kg of tomato, 20 kg of onion, 20 kg of amaranth, 20 Crop and cereal seeds: 9 metric tonnes of sorghum, 15 MT of maize, 6 MT of beans
- Farming Tools: 3,000 weeding hoes, 3,000 of hand hoes, 30 pedal pumps for irrigation and 2 power tillers
- 430 farmers (190 women, 240 men) participated in training on off-season growing techniques; compost use; integrated pest management; post-harvest methods; seed preservation; conservation agriculture; mulching; and crop rotation techniques.

Tanzania

Along with a project similar to that in South Sudan, 810 farmers (699 female, 111 male) completed training on gender equality, nutrition and dietary diversity, composting, mulching, integrated pest management, seed preservation, marketing and other aspects of year-round vegetable production.

St. Tom's has received a Thank You letter from PWRDF in response to our donation from the 'Buy a Farm' fundraiser. Be proud; we are a small parish with a huge heart.

THE ACW WAS “ON FIRE”!!! 😊

On Thursday, Feb 8th, there was lots of excitement at the church as the ACW welcomed Jessica Buczynski & John Percy (Fire & Life Safety Educators) from the Cambridge Fire Dept, to come and speak to us. Many non-ACW people attended this very interesting session and at the end of the presentation, we had the added surprise of a fire truck and crew arriving at the church and showing us all of their equipment. What a great afternoon!



During the presentation, a question was asked about events for the upcoming anniversary of the “Famous ‘74 Flood”. There are 2 dates to mark on your calendar for this:

- 1) **Thursday, April 25 6:30pm – 8:30pm (free)**
 Old Post Office / Idea Exchange Join Dan Schmalz of the City of Cambridge Archives as he shares resources from the archives and illustrates how the newly amalgamated City of Cambridge came together to recover from the disaster and the flood improvements made since then.

- 2) **Saturday, May 4 10:00 am – 2:00 pm (free)**
 Fire Hall Museum guided walking tours from the museum to the Old Post Office / Idea Exchange, highlighting points of interest along the way
 Civic Square / City Hall displays by various community organizations, including the Cambridge Fire Dept’s Water Rescue Boat
 Corner of Ainslie & Dixon The famous photo of Police Constable Jack Shuttleworth standing waist deep in water will be posted at the corner it happened on, ready for selfies!
 Old Post Office / Idea Exchange Photos of the flood and its aftermath

NOTE: The Cambridge Fire Hall Museum is looking for photos, film footage and stories from all residents who experienced the flood. Click here for details of how to submit your memorabilia: <https://www.firehallmuseum.ca/events.html>

ANSWERS TO THE EASTER WORD SCRAMBLE



- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1) cross | 2) Jesus | 3) Savior ** |
| 4) sacrifice | 5) crucifixion | 6) Pontius Pilate |
| 7) trial | 8) Barabbus | 9) high priest |
| 10) empty tomb | 11) vinegar | 12) crown of thorns |
| 13) casting lots | 14) last supper | 15) innocent |
| 16) lamb | 17) garden | 18) pray |
| 19) King of Jews | 20) risen | |

*** sorry about the American spelling!*