

City of God: St. Augustine's - Parkland

NEWSLETTER

December 15, 2020

Christ's peace be with you,

As many of you know, the Rt. Rev. Jane Alexander has ordered our churches closed until January 6, 2021 in the fight against the Covid virus. Only essential services, the wardens and ministry team for recording services may enter the building at this time. I continue to be available by phone, email, and zoom meetings for pastoral care.

In other news, we continue our midweek Advent series, "Unwrapping the Gifts" at St. Timothy's Anglican Church. We hope that everyone can make it to these as they set the tone for the incarnation of Christ with prayer, beautiful music and preaching.

Brenda and Jennifer have sent out Messy Church packages in the mail to our Messy Church family. They have been working hard to find an online Messy Church Series to help our families continue to celebrate our church and continue to teach about the life of Jesus. In addition, in the New Year, I will be holding an online Zoom for families once a month to connect.

In other news, I want to send a "shout out" to the ACW who have tirelessly worked hard putting another online auction with great success. But as they can tell you, the logistics themselves was no easy feat. Well done to them and to all who participated making this a successful fundraiser! Please see the attached letter that I lifted from our website.

Concerning our Christmas online services, we will be offering Christmas Eve service online. It will be Christmas Lessons and Carols as a joint collaboration with St. Timothy's Anglican Church. The premier of the video will be available at 7pm. Christmas Day, we will have a simple Messy Church family reading of the birth story of Jesus with Carols. That will debut at 10am on Christmas Day. May you stay safe and find comfort in our Lord's love.

In Christ,

The Reverend William Isenor, OSF+



ACW NEWS

It has been a different sort of year for our group! We were only able to meet in person twice – once in February and once in October. In spite of the challenges we faced this year, we were still creative and able to achieve many great things! We are so grateful to our ACW Executive who has the wisdom and the energy to lead us in these challenging times.

Fundraising

Having a Spring Tea & Plant Sale wasn't allowed in its usual manner this year. But Betty Squance contacted the B & G Greenhouse & made arrangements for parishioners

to go in person out to the greenhouse to purchase plants. The Greenhouse kept a tally of our Church purchases from which they made a donation to the church.

In the summer, Jennifer Cameron presented the idea of an online summer auction & together with donations of ACW crafts, parishioner, and neighbour items it was very successful. The funds raised were given directly to the church. (over \$3000.00)

We decided to have another winter online auction in November. This time we went even bigger and had more than twice as many items. In the end we made more than \$5000.00 including donations. We were very thankful to everyone who donated items, baking, and crafts to the auction. We had a lot of fun watching the bids come in over the week!

Charitable Donations

ACW supports several charities: Dr Graham Homes for our foster child, On Eagle's Wings, Kinsmen & Kinettes (Christmas Hampers), NeighbourLink Parkland, Light up your Life, Parkland Food Bank, and Tender Hearts Foundation. Our group also sent \$100.00 for the Yellowhead Regional Meeting , who this year are supporting PWDRF.

ACW Regional Meeting

Several ladies from our group attended a Zoom Yellowhead Regional Meeting presented by St. Timothy's ACW, facilitated by The Rev Lorne Manweiler. The speaker talked about the PWRDF and the work they are currently doing. Discussion was also held on the future role the ACW will play in the church in the upcoming years. Our two big fundraisers weren't allowed with the COVID restrictions. The ACW of the future, may support & supply volunteers to help with fundraisers put on by the church but not be initiators of such events.

Craft Group

The craft group has been able to have some physically distanced meetings over the last few months. We are grateful that they again donated several items to our online auctions this year.

Upcoming Parish Events

A Midweek Online Advent Series offered by the parishes of St. Augustine's Parkland and St. Timothy's Anglican Church.

Save the dates: Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16, Dec. 23.

This series will be uploaded to our YouTube channel for access anytime after the set date and time.

Bible Study/Faith based on the theme of Resiliency: Faith practices in Tough Times:

November 18	Faith Practices in Tough Times: Others
November 24	Faith Practices in Tough Times: Hope
December 1	Cancelled
December 8	Faith Practices in Tough Times: Hope
December 15	Faith Practices in Tough Times: Finding Meaning and Making a Plan
December 22	Setting Free Our Lament: Lament of COVID-19
Details and times	Online studies every Tuesday at 7pm

To join our Bible Study please access it through Zoom found here:

Topic: Bible Study/Faith Practices online

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91681411019?pwd=S1NnN1FRL2NqVFdpUmxjU3I5ZXVIUT09>

Meeting ID: 916 8141 1019

Passcode: 376949

Dial by your location

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

Meeting ID: 916 8141 1019

Passcode: 376949

The course material can be downloaded here:

[https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Resiliency Faith Practices in Tough Times.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Resiliency_Faith_Practices_in_Tough_Times.pdf)

Compline (simple), Monday evenings 6:30pm can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100008215300398>

If you would like intercessions at this time please contact our office email at

Getting in touch with Rev. Billy

Rev. Billy is available for prayer and pastoral care via phone 780-699-6480 or online via Zoom. Refer to the [Pandemic Page](#) on the church website for more information.

Also check out his YouTube channel where he has been posting various services, devotions, children's talks and so much more

@https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL0-88TkSINLsAEeJgOCT6g?view_as=subscriber

Don't forget to subscribe to his channels to get his latest videos.