

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER



FROM ST. JOHN'S STEVENSVILLE UNITED CHURCH

ISSUE: OCTOBER 2022

**REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS; AGAIN I WILL SAY, REJOICE.
LET YOUR GENTLENESS BE KNOWN TO EVERYONE. THE LORD IS NEAR.
DO NOT WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING,
BUT IN EVERYTHING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION
WITH THANKSGIVING LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN TO GOD.
AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH SURPASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING,
WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS.**

-PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

Dear friends and partners in ministry,

Warm autumn greetings as we enter into this season of Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is not simply a day. Nor is giving thanks something to be reserved for a single day. Thanks giving, expressing gratitude, living gratefully is a life choice, a way of approaching every day, every person, and every experience.

The apostle Paul encouraged the community in Philippi to rejoice in the Lord always and to give thanks at all times. In good times or hard times, times of hope and joy, times of anxiety and fear, times of expectation and even times of disappointment, Paul counsels the Philippians to maintain an attitude of gratitude. As we hear those words from Paul spoken to us today, we are reminded of the importance of that same attitude in our own lives, and the value of giving thanks.

As we prepare to celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving, let us be mindful of the many hands that play a part in the meal we will share: the hands that set the table and prepare the meal; the hands that stocked the shelves of the grocery store or the fruit stand; the hands that raised the animals and grew the produce; the generations of hands that have cared for the land; and the hand of the Creator who blesses us with 'the seed time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.' (VU #520 We Plough the Fields, v.3). In other words, let us celebrate Thanksgiving with thanks giving. As we offer grace before dinner, and share stories around the table, let's remember these connections with gratitude, and hold our ever-widening community in our minds, hearts and prayers.

It has been said that a grateful heart is a joy-filled heart. May you enjoy a happy and blessed Thanksgiving, and may you find opportunities to share your joy and your blessings with those around you. As we do every week, we will gather in the sanctuary at 11:00 on Thanksgiving Sunday to share our gratitude and reflect upon the God in whom we find our home and the ground of our being.

*Blessings of Peace,
Rev. Bill and Rev. Cheryl*

LOVE GOD... LIVE JESUS

Women's Retreat

To transition from our Summer Season of Sabbath to our full and active year of ministry programming, a group of Ladies came together for a weekend retreat. They sang together, and played together, stretched, ate, prayed, and declared themselves to be Amazing Wild Women!

The theme of the retreat was "The Joy of the Lord is our Strength" (taken from Nehemiah 8:10), and they talked about finding joy in this season of their lives. The workshops centred around finding joy in your calling and purpose, while linking what they love to do, and what they are good at, with what is needed in the community. The Women were also encouraged to seek out mentors for their spiritual growth, as well as discerning those who could learn from their own skills and abilities.



Sunday School Return!

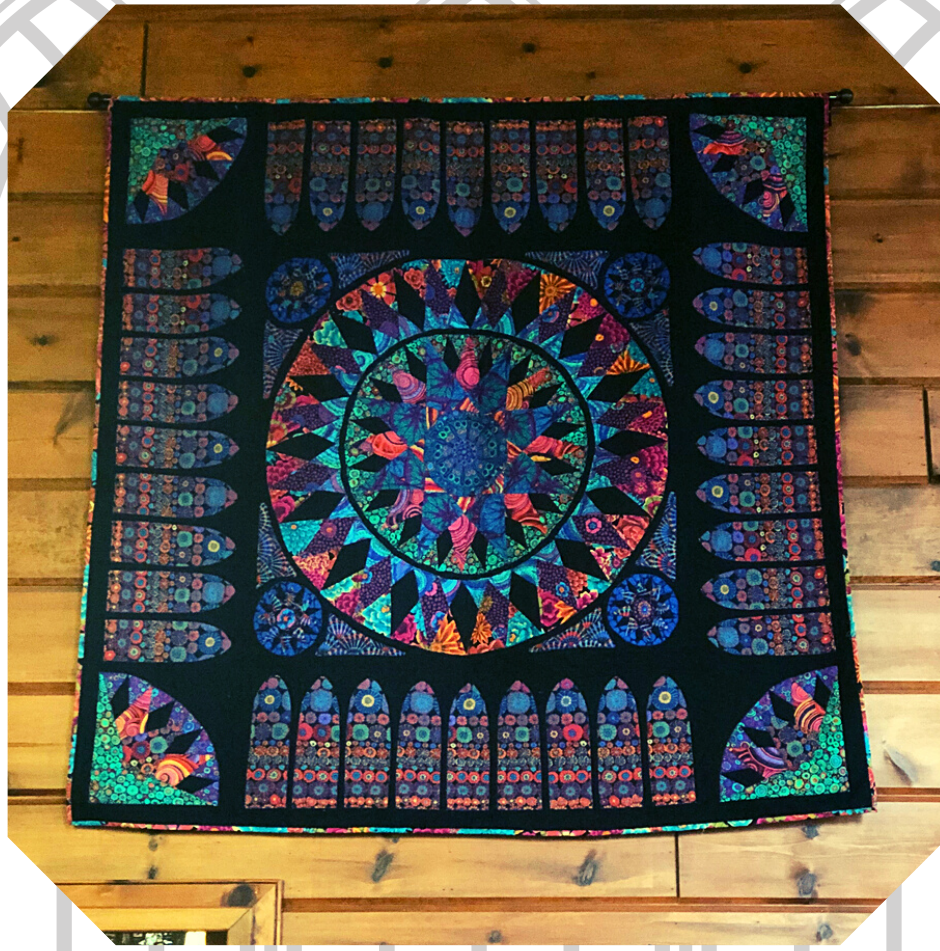
Sunday School is back! The kids got together for an amazing Rally Sunday on Sept. 11, celebrating with lots of fun, games, and even a bouncy castle! A good natured Rev. Bill even participated in a water-balloon-dodgeball game that allowed all of the children to take their shot. Thank you to all who stayed after church and enjoyed a BBQ and some activities with us. Even though it was a little wet out, we were full of joy and praises! For the rest of the year, the children will be learning about the Miracles of Jesus before preparing for their Christmas Pageant on Dec. 11. Keep an eye out for all the cool things that the children create!



UCW Bazaar

After two years of being unable to hold the UCW Fall Bazaar, the event was back this year with gusto! Volunteers have been in and out all week leading up to Oct. 1, baking pies, setting tables, wrapping gift baskets and much more. A soup and sandwich luncheon, a bake table, a craft sale, who could ask for more! Thank you to all who helped prepare for this event, and to all who participated on the day! We look forward to holding the bazaar annually again.

The Rose Window



What a wonderful thing to celebrate 200 years of worship! I have always wanted to be a part of a really old church! Val Spears asked if I felt I could make this glorious quilt for the anniversary so I examined the pattern and thought Yes, I could probably do that. And although it was very difficult, the designer had done a meticulous job of creating a pattern that would really work. I think that is half the battle...

Robin Long of Robin Ruth Designs is an outstanding pattern maker. She designed the quilt the day Notre Dame in Paris was burning. I watched the cathedral on fire on tv and was heartsick. Little did I know I would have the chance to commemorate this event. We have exchanged emails and Robin is eager to see a picture of the quilt hanging in the sanctuary.

The fabrics are designed by Kaffe Fassett who loves colour and uses it profusely. It was perfect for creating the glow of a stained glass window.

The quilt went together as if it was making itself. I finished the top in about three weeks and then quilted it. It was a real thrill to make it for the church. I hope you will enjoy it for many years to come.

~ Fran Inglis

The Quilt Show

The quilts in the gallery are presented by a small group of art quilters. We don't make traditional quilts but experiment with different techniques and ideas to create art. Our quilts hang on the walls, sit on tables and occasionally make lovely gifts. We don't always use fabric either!

The group has been meeting for ten years and we have always stayed small in number. We have lost members whose lives we celebrate together and whom we miss very much. However the group carries on supporting each other and trying new things. I know the group is happy to be back together again after such a long time with the pandemic.

The quilts you can see have been made by Roberta Masecar, Irma Bull, Donna Pree and Fran Inglis.

You can note the use of different threads, the lack of tradition quilt square patterns and the use of imaginative techniques (Roberta's hole-y quilt is a good example.) It even surprises us in what we can come up with making quilts!



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

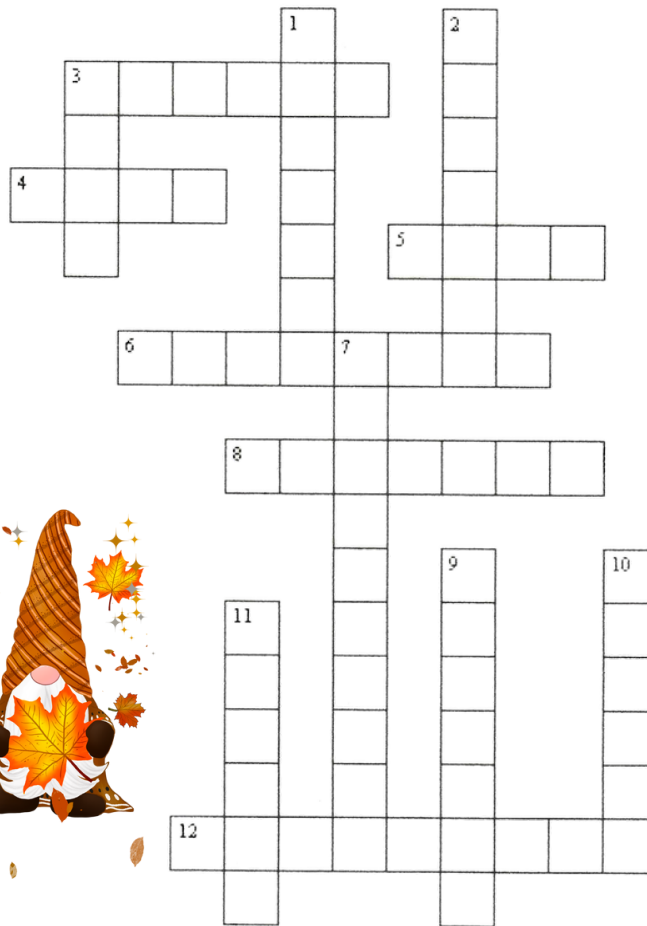
APPLE PIE
BEANS
BREAD
CORN
CRANBERRY SAUCE
GRAVY
HAM
MASHED POTATOES
MILK
PUMPKIN PIE
ROLLS
SQUASH
STUFFING
SWEET POTATOES
TURKEY



Chicken Scratch NY

N	S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	I	R	L	U	N	Y
F	G	K	D	A	E	R	B	V	G	C	A	D	Q	E
A	B	E	A	N	S	I	L	S	O	R	Q	G	S	K
O	G	K	E	I	P	E	L	P	P	A	P	A	E	R
N	R	O	C	M	L	W	U	Q	D	N	G	O	O	U
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K	S	A	B	Y	Q	T	Z	H	W	Y	P	S	P	K
T	G	H	S	A	U	Q	S	O	R	S	J	L	T	A
G	M	A	S	H	E	D	P	O	T	A	T	O	E	S
Z	D	L	U	C	W	F	Z	L	M	U	K	S	E	K
C	A	K	C	G	T	H	T	T	I	C	R	N	W	B
G	J	X	S	G	R	A	V	Y	I	E	Q	I	S	T

Canadian Thanksgiving Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

3. ---- settlers who came over with Samuel de Champlain held huge feasts of thanks.
4. To give thanks for a good harvest, farm workers filled a goat's ---- with fruit and grain.
5. A celebration was held to give thanks for Frobisher's ---- return.
6. ---- are decorated with cornucopias, pumpkin, corn, wheat sheaves, and other harvest bounty.
8. Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks for an abundant ----.
12. ---- brought the customs and practices of the American

DOWN

1. Thanksgiving is on the second Monday in ----.
2. The first Thanksgiving was after the return of Martin Frobisher who was searching for the Northwest ----.
3. French settlers shared ---- with their native neighbours.
7. A "horn of plenty" is called a ----.
9. The Canadian Football League holds a double header known as the "Thanksgiving Day ----".
10. Beautiful colourful ---- can be seen at Thanksgiving.
11. Fall is the ---- when we celebrate Thanksgiving in Canada.

Announcements

Looking to help out? Sign up sheets are available on the bulletin board next to the hall entrance. Sign up as a reader, greeter, hospitality team member and more. Thank you!



Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre: *Passion, Pasta and Pistols!*

Join us on Oct. 22 at 6pm for an interactive murder mystery dinner theatre experience, where you sit at the table with the suspects and solve the murder while you eat. Acting portions are spread throughout the evening to advance the story and everyone gets a chance to cast the guilty vote.

The menu includes chicken parmesan, garden salad, roasted Italian vegetables and dessert. Tickets are \$25 and limited, so get yours now by contacting Victoria or Rev. Cheryl

All proceeds will go towards the hygiene giveaways at the Embrace Centre.

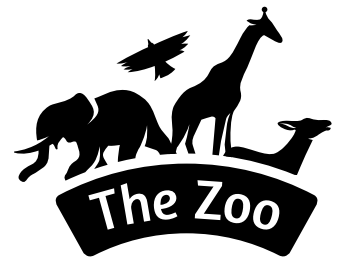
Did You Know...?



On Oct. 31st, 1517, Martin Luthor published his 95 *Theses*, or *The Disputation on the Power of Indulgences* that contradicted many well accepted ideas of the Catholic Church. What followed was a storm of new ideas and challenges to the norm which resulted in the rise of Protestantism.

Protestants, like us here at SJS, believe that each person is able to have a personal relationship with God, and can take responsibility for their own faith by directly referring to the Bible.

Find Rev. Bill at Boo At The Zoo from Oct. 7-10 as he gets out there to share with the community! Stop By and say hi!!



Songs of World War I & II is a sing-along evening with light snacks and refreshments hosted by Tom and Fran Inglis. Come join us as we sing our way through old familiar tunes together! All are welcome, no registration required.
Nov. 11, 2022 @ 7:30pm

Christmas is around the corner! Keep an eye out for the announcements of the Cantata, Christmas Carol Reading, Blue Christmas Service, and more.



Want to get your name on our address list? Just let us know! If you miss a newsletter, we can mail it right to you.



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Check Us Out

Come worship with us Sunday mornings
at 11:00am, in person or online at
www.niagaraonlineworship.com

Embrace Center Drop In - Monday to
Friday, 10am-4pm

Wondering where to find out even more
information about the upcoming events and
ongoing activities;



www.stjohnsstevensvilleunitedchurch.com



St. John's Stevensville United Church



The Embrace Center



www.niagaraonlineworship.com



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