

# 'The Ambassador'

st. paul's  
anglican  
church

**As Ambassadors for Christ, we are called to bring our Lord's grace, love, and peace to everyone.**

~ **Friday September 24, 2021** ~



New friends Sheila and Arnelda enjoy the sharing the beautiful warm day after having lots of fun together in Sunday School.

God Is So Good!  
'Birthday Girl' Margie O'Brien with Jen Snowden and Alicia Sandham, enjoying the glorious sunshine at our Garden Fellowship after church last Sunday.



A "GRACE NOTE" from [thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com](http://thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com)

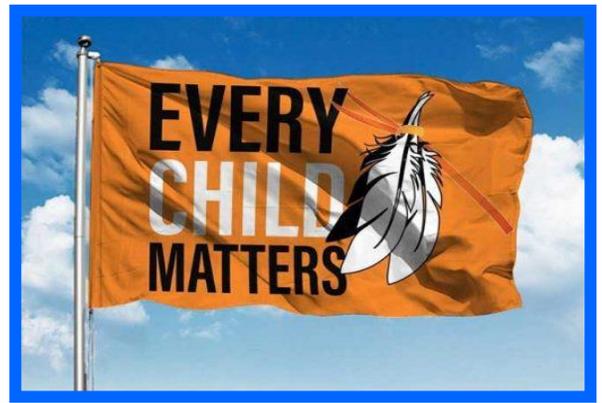
*"Put GOD first and you will never be last."*

visit our website @ [stpaulsanglicanchurch.ca](http://stpaulsanglicanchurch.ca) and find us on facebook

## 1. Rector's Grace Notes ~

### 'ORANGE SHIRT SUNDAY' ~ SEPTEMBER 26, 2021: *EVERY CHILD MATTERS*

This Sunday, September 26, we will be honouring the lost children and the survivors of residential schools, and their families, and communities. We honour the children by wearing orange. . . **IF YOU CAN, PLEASE WEAR ORANGE TO CHURCH.**



September 30, 2021 marks the first '**National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.**' This day is also known as 'Orange Shirt Day.' The colour Orange was chosen as a result of the experiences of residential school survivor Phyllis Webstad. Phyllis was only 6 years old when she was sent to *St. Joseph's Mission* residential school in British Columbia from 1973-1974. Her grandmother had taken her to the store and bought her a brand new shiny orange shirt to wear to school. Phyllis was so excited to wear it to school. However, when Phyllis arrived, she was stripped of her clothing and never saw her orange shirt again.



**Editor's Note:** A graduate of *Thompson Rivers University*, Ms. Webstad received their **2017 Distinguished Alumni Award** for her unprecedented impact on local, provincial, national and international communities through the sharing of her orange shirt story. Read more of her story in Sunday's **Bulletin Insert** . . .

### We Are Back To 4 IN-PERSON SERVICES Each Week!

- † Wednesday at 9:30 am
- † Saturday at 5 pm
- † Sunday morning at 8:30 am and at 10 am

The 10 am service will continue to be live-streamed (*YouTube/St. Paul's Media*).

### Plus, The 9:00 am Friday Morning ZOOM Worship Will Continue!!

I invite you to join me for this 30 min. service. You are then free to leave the call or stay on for a check-in.

Deborah Kraft is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting: **↓ SAME LINK EVERY WEEK ↓**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82208698866>

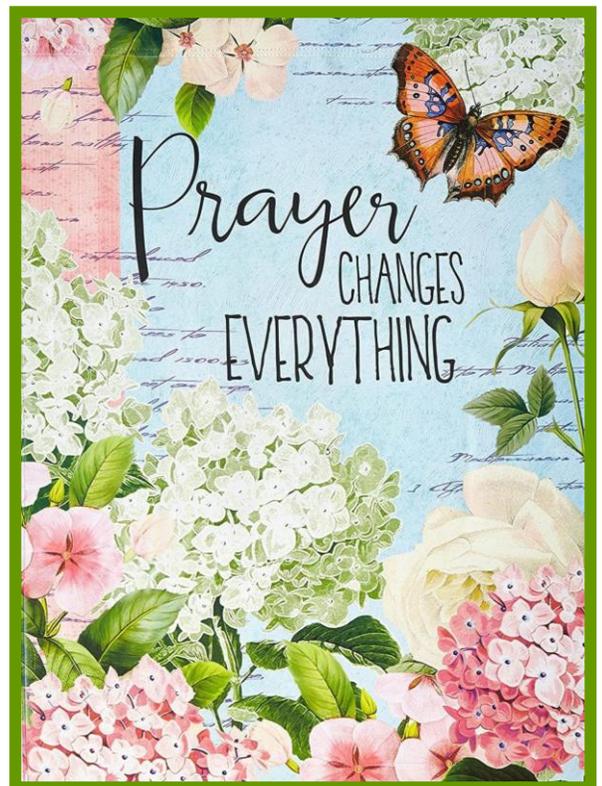
- 📄 Topic: Morning Prayer with the Parish
- 📄 Time: Every Friday Morning at 9 am
- 📄 Meeting ID: 822 0869 8866

OR Dial any one of these numbers ~

☎ 1-[204]-272-7920 ☎ 1-[438]-809-7799 ☎ 1-[587]-328-1099 Meeting ID: 822 0869 8866

### Taking Requests! **Baptisms, Home Communion, Candles, Prayers**

Please let me know if you desire **baptism**; wish to receive **communion your in home**; would like a **candle lit on the altar** Sunday for someone who has died or a significant celebration; or would like us to **pray for someone Sunday morning**. You may call/text me (**807-624-7161**) or email me (**stpauls.rector@shaw.ca**) to request any of the above.



## Healing Prayer AVAILABLE VIA OUR 'PARISH PRAYER CHAIN'

The power of prayer to heal and to comfort is truly a blessing! We encourage you to request a **Healing Prayer** through our **CONFIDENTIAL Prayer Chain ministry**. The dedicated parishioners who undertake this special ministry offer up the names they receive in prayer continually throughout the day. Call/Text **Sandra Rejall at 629-3431** to leave a name; give as little or as much info as you wish. *"Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them."* (James 5: 14)



**6:00 pm.** This free service from Shaw Spotlight is a blessing many of you have been able to enjoy.

## Good News! We're On TV!

Watch our weekly Sunday 10:00 am service on local TV, every Tuesday at 7:00 pm on **Channel 10, "Shaw Spotlight."** This Sunday's Service will be broadcast **Tuesday September 28 1 HOUR EARLY** at



watch live or **ANYTIME**



## Our Sunday Service LIVESTREAMS ARE HERE FOR YOU!

We live-stream our **10:00 am Eucharist Service** every Sunday. If you can't come to church for any of our **4 in-person Services**, worship with us on **YouTube / St. Paul's Media** or watch the service on **Shaw TV Channel 10, Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm.**

## WE'RE OPEN! Our Office Is OPEN 10 am – 4 pm Weekdays ☺

We're open to the public! You'll find either your Rector or Parish Administrator here to assist you weekdays 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

**[Editor's Note: Barring the occasional lunch break, dental appointment or pastoral emergency. ☺ Great to be 'open' again! ]**

The Office door will now be **OPEN** during regular hours, though I am **often on the phone or attending 'ZOOM' meetings**. You are also most welcome to email me ([stpauls.rector@shaw.ca](mailto:stpauls.rector@shaw.ca)) or call me at 622-4945 (office messages) or 624-7161 (Rector's cell).



## Archdeacon Deborah+

### 2. **"Silent Auction" of Church Pews CLOSES SUN OCT 3!**

**ONE WEEK LEFT** to place your in-person bids in our "Silent Auction" of EXTRA Church Pews. **PLEASE COME DOWNSTAIRS** after church to view the pews and place a bid or check to see if your bid has been topped! There are 12 pews set up in our church hall, several pews have multiple bids and a few are still up for grabs, so you still have a good chance to own a piece of history . . .

*Christopher Willie, Property Co-Chair*



### 3. **Synod Delegates' Reports from Sunday September 19, 2021, 'Pentecost 17' ~**

#### **Synod 2021 Report by Carol Knox:**

Synod's theme is Psalm 80: 3 "make your face to shine on us that we may be saved".

Thursday evening synod began with a beautiful service of prayer and reflection at *St. Luke's*

*Cathedral.* Archbishop Anne installed Elder Willard Pine of Garden River as her *Indigenous Spiritual Advisor* and Fran Glover as a *Lay Canon* of the cathedral, in recognition of her decades of work in the diocese.

Friday morning Archbishop Anne opened synod from her Sault Ste. Marie location with delegates ‘zoomed’ in from Thunder Bay to Bracebridge. After a beautiful worship service at which a prayer candle was lit and prayer partners from all 5 deaneries were commissioned, she gave her charge.

The bishop’s charge reflects where we are and sets out her vision for the diocese. Here are some highlights:

The charge begins by telling the story of the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem and Israel’s decades long exile in Babylon. She spoke of their devastation and need to grieve, and then of God’s comfort to them. Our current situation of pandemic was likened to the biblical story. Grief and lament of all our losses and all those who have died is necessary. God was present with them and similarly we can see examples of God’s presence with us at this difficult time.

Archbishop Anne detailed moments of grace and compassion around the diocese when church buildings were closed but worship and ministry continued through telephone, electronic media, drive-by blessings and delivery of many things. Some parishes were able to implement the *Provincial House Of Bishop’s Covid motto “loving our neighbour”* by continuing with different types of food ministries but in altered ways that maintained Covid-19 restrictions.

In looking ahead to the future the Archbishop called us to live more deeply into the diocesan motto *“shaped by a living hope”* and to remember that we are a resurrection people who trust in God’s never-ending faithfulness. She referenced **Walter Bruggeman**, theologian and author of *VIRUS AS A SUMMONS TO FAITH*, who writes of the Church in a post-pandemic world as being counter-cultural, proclaiming abundance in the face of scarcity, courage in the face of fear, generosity in the face of greed, and peaceable-ness in the face of violence.

After pointing out that the pandemic caused a widening gap between those who are doing well and those who are not, she encouraged us as individuals and as parishes to step out of our comfort zones and, like the Jewish practice of ‘**tikum olam**,’ to work to heal the world. She encouraged us with the scripture verse with God’s Holy Spirit working in us we can do more than we can ever *“ask or imagine”*.

Much of her charge drew our attention to specific areas for us to work on over the next two years: renewing our commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, equitable distribution of the Covid-19 vaccine, care for the earth, and *Thornloe University*. Laurie and Daniel will speak more about them and the 7 resolutions that were brought forward by the *“Response to the Bishop’s Charge Committee.”*

Archbishop Anne ended her charge with multiple expressions of gratitude using a rousing Jewish Passover chorus *‘Dayehnu’* ~ *“it would have been enough.”* God has done much for US. It would have been enough, but God does more.

She ended as she began with the motto from Psalm 80:3 ~ *“Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved”* . . . and then her own words *“our faces shine, and so do everyone else’s if we are looking at them properly.”* My face is shining a bit more brightly from having been a delegate to this synod. Thank you so much for electing me.

~ Carol Knox, Synod Delegate

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## **Synod 2021 Report by Daniel Klein:**

Listening to the delegates across the diocese share stories of difficulty and hope was, above all, the most meaningful part of Synod for me. In addition to meeting in smaller ‘break-out’ groups for gospel reflection and other discussions, each deanery put together a five-minute video sharing stories about their response to the pandemic, and seeing the beautiful communities and hearing the voices brought into focus themes of community and congregation.

Before Synod proper, the keynote speaker, **Susan Beaumont**, led workshops on ‘*Leading In Liminal Time.*’ That is, techniques for leading through periods of existential crises during great uncertainty. She presented techniques for effective consensus-building and demonstrated how exploring deeply the formative stories we tell ourselves shapes our faith community, and how re-evaluating them can create a shared identity that helps move communities in healthy directions.

As a response to the Bishop’s Charge, several motions were presented, and in summary here:

1. That our parishes celebrate a day of lament and gratitude on **Friday March 11th, 2022**, the 2nd anniversary of the Declaration of the Pandemic by the *Canadian House of Bishops*.
2. That we are committed to the common good and to **loving our neighbour**, and we urge everyone, who is eligible or able, to be vaccinated against COVID-19.
3. That the synod delegates for 2023 bring cards from their congregations that identify the **community-building ideas** that were tried between Synod 2021 and Synod 2023. The cards will be presented during the Opening Worship at *St. Luke’s Cathedral*.
4. That we honour the **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation** every September 30 through worshipping together . . . either on September 30 or on the Sunday closest to September 30.
5. That this Synod 2021 supports the “**Treebilee**” and encourages every congregation and as many people as possible to plant a tree for the *Queen’s Platinum Jubilee* in 2022.
6. That the Synod members support and build awareness of **Thorneloe University** by speaking about its programs and encouraging people in their congregations to enroll in theological courses.
7. That gratitude be expressed to **Archbishop Anne** for her authentic and trusting leadership during this ‘liminal time’ of the pandemic.

I look forward to the discussions arising out of the *Bishop’s Charge* and resolutions. Thank you to the St. Paul’s family for granting me the opportunity to serve in this role.

~ **Daniel Klein, Synod Delegate**

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### **Synod 2021 Report by Laurie Sandham:**

“*Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.*” Psalm 80:3

This was **Archbishop Anne’s** theme for our 50<sup>th</sup> Synod.

I feel so blessed to have been able to attend Synod of 2021, although it sure looked a lot different than the Synod of 2019. I truly missed the human interaction and fellowship of being able to gather but, let me tell you, there is one specific benefit to ‘zoom’ meetings that I have learned ~ as long as I am wearing a nice button-up shirt, I can wear my fuzzy jammie-bottoms and fluffy slipper-socks and nobody is the wiser.

**Archbishop Anne** asked us to observe “*The 4 Ps*” as a delegate to Synod: **Pray. Prepare. Be fully Present.** Then do a **Presentation** for our congregation. With this in mind, I closely followed the goings-on, making little notes as the days progressed.

What spoke to me while reading and listening to the Archbishop’s Charge, which will be available to read on our website, was Article 4: *Renewing Our Commitment To Reconciliation With Indigenous Peoples*, and I would like to share a brief overview with you.

We will be giving immediate attention to **Calls 71-76** within the **94 Calls to Action** from *Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission*. This includes calling for a *National Residential School*

Registry, an online registry of Residential School Cemeteries and appropriate commemorations, ceremonies and markers and reburial in home communities where requested.

We will be making every effort to respect the oral traditions of Indigenous peoples, listening attentively to their stories about children who went to Residential Schools and who died there.

We will help in searching for graves, and commit to assisting in the preservation of these graves with suitable markers and maintenance in a manner that honours the children whose precious remains lie there. Archbishop Anne has committed the \$78,000 refund from the 2001 *Residential Schools Settlement Agreement* as Algoma's contribution to this work.

We will honour the *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation* every September 30, inviting everyone to wear orange t-shirts and boldly declare that *"Every Child Matters"*.

In a beautiful ceremony during the opening worship, Archbishop Anne named **Elder Willard Pine** as the *Indigenous Spiritual Advisor* to the Archbishop, and she writes *"Already there is a beautiful exchange of story and wisdom taking place and I am looking forward to learning more about the sacred traditions of Indigenous people from Elder Willard."*

We are called to **love**. Not love, as in the noun but love as in the verb. Love as an action word.

**There is love in listening . . .**

**There is love in honouring . . .**

**There is love in remembering . . .**

We will listen to our Indigenous brothers and sisters as they tell their story of abuse, and loss. We will honour them by listening to their truth and acknowledging their history and our part in it. And we will remember the children who never made it home.

I was and continue to be proud to represent St. Paul's because, although I know there is so much more to be done in reconciliation, we at St. Paul's have tried to help our Indigenous brothers and sisters feel welcome and make them a part of each worship. As Anglicans, we are called to walk side-by-side with all of God's children and I believe that following the Archbishop's leadership and continuing to work together is the best way to answer that call.

*"Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved."*

I thank you for this opportunity to serve.

~ Laurie Sandham, Synod Delegate

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#### **4. Scriptures for this Sunday September 24, 2021 ~ "18th Sunday after Pentecost"**

**Rectors' Note:** I encourage you to read these passages. If you don't have a Bible they are all accessible online. The church uses the **NRSV** (New Revised Standard Version) of the Bible.

- **Esther 7:1–6, 9–10, 9:20–22** ~ Esther is a hero who saves the Jewish people.
- **Psalms 124** ~ This is a song of thanksgiving and praise.
- **James 5:13–20** ~ The power of prayer and of faith.
- **Mark 9:39–50** ~ Let us not be stumbling blocks.

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#### **5. Financial Update:**

At the end of September 2021, our total offering for the first 8 months of 2021 was **\$164,000** and our budgeted offering for the first 8 months



was \$173,000. So although we are \$9000 behind our budget, we are doing WELL because our expenses are way down for the year due to the pandemic shutdown from January 2021 until August 1, 2021. We are on track to finish the year in a healthy way!!!

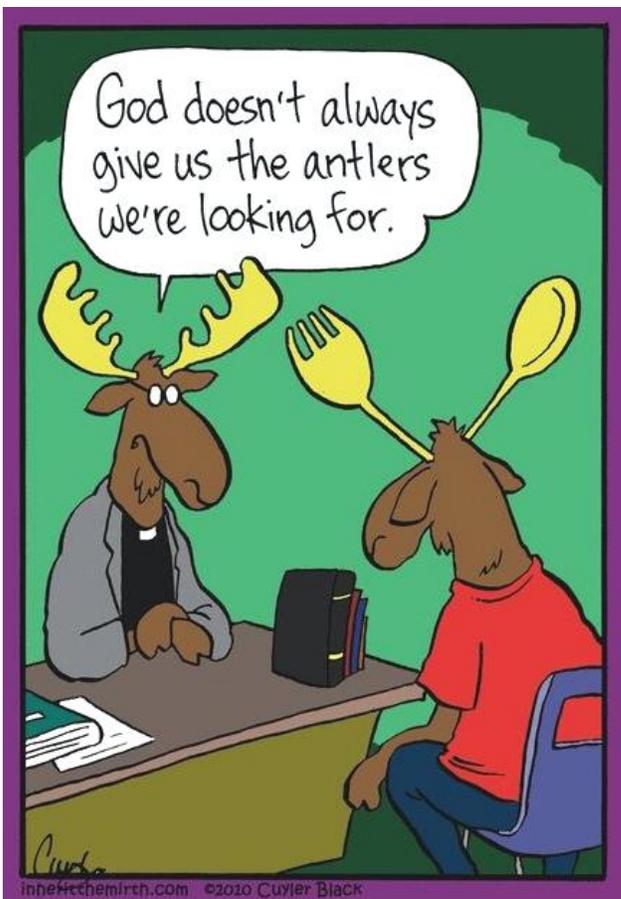
Why are we holding our own? Because of YOU and your generosity to God's church. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

**Here Are 5 Ways To Give:**

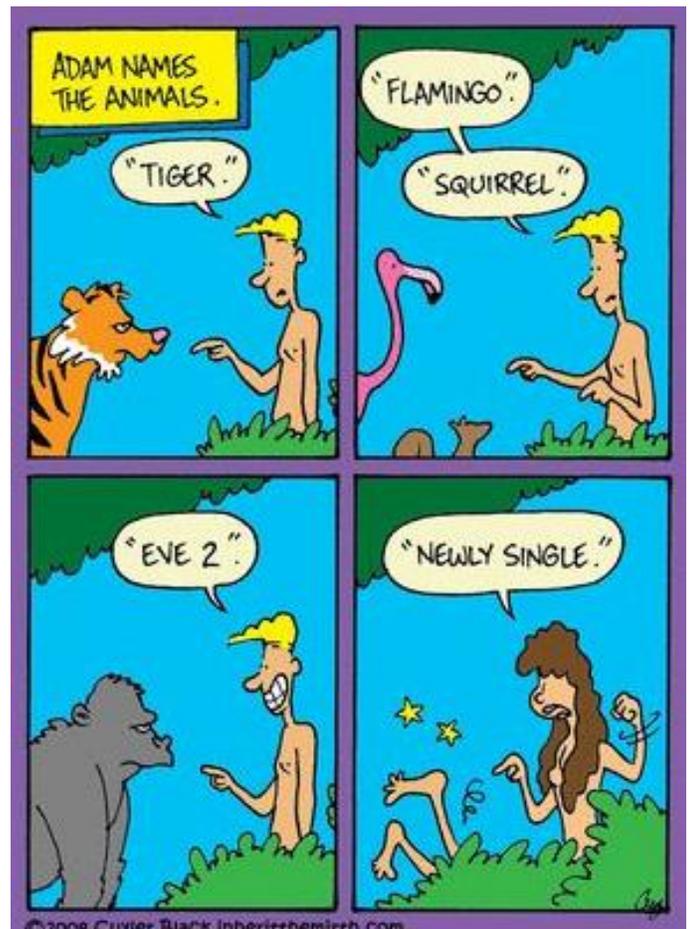
1. e-transfer to [stpaulsthunderbay@outlook.com](mailto:stpaulsthunderbay@outlook.com)
2. visit [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org) and use your credit card
3. mail a cheque (St. Paul's, 808 Ridgeway St., Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 5H5)
4. join the monthly withdrawal program EOP (Call Ernie 807-577-3104)
5. we still accept cash 😊

**6. The Last Laugh ~**

*"A cheerful heart is good medicine."  
[Proverbs 7:22]*



*Love Your Neighbour As Yourself  
[Jesus Don't Make Junk]  
...*



*May we stay united in prayer and in support.*

*Archdeacon Deborah+*  
*"The Happy Rector & Archdeacon"*