

# **The People's Pulpit**

## **October 2022**



**St Thomas sets its heart toward being a Christian Home which welcomes, encourages, and seeks to inspire people.**

**St. Thomas Anglican Church**  
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Parish Administrator	Carolyn Cheer
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People's Warden	Stephen Willetts
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	Diane Clement (10:30)
	Carolyn Cheer (8:30 & 10:30)
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## THE RECTOR'S WARDEN: DIANE CLEMENT

As I woke up in the early morning hours to watch the funeral of our Dear Queen Elizabeth II, followed by the service from Christ Church Cathedral in Ottawa, it makes one realize again, what an amazing lady our Queen was. Queen Elizabeth II was such an important part of my life. As I look at photos over the last several days, that I had never seen before, and watch her family in mourning among the throngs of people coming to show their respect. What an honour to be part of this in 2022! I was a very little girl at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, but I do remember and did realize how important she and her family have been in my life. One of the proudest things that I hold dear is that she was an Anglican. What a life she led, she will be missed by many.

As our beautiful summer leaves, us for another year, we arrive at fall where the temperatures will dip, but the amazing visual we will get to watch, as the birds migrate and the leaves on the trees change into their amazing colours.

I just want to personally invite those of you that have not come back to services since covid hit 2 1/2 years ago, to please try and return in person. We really do miss you. You are such an important part of our Parish, and we really want to see you, have a chat, and see your smiling face. We as Corporation are going to be doing our Stewardship Campaign in the month of October. You are important to St. Thomas, Stittsville, we want to hear your thoughts and ideas, we want you and your family to be an active part of our church family.





## **PEOPLE'S WARDEN: STEPHEN WILLETTTS**

As we move into fall, I trust that everyone has had a most relaxing and enjoyable summer. Since the last People's Pulpit was published, time has flown by and much in the world has changed.

Although Covid still lurks amongst us we have certainly been able to participate in more "normal" summer activities and we seem to be on an upward trajectory, although, as many of you will be aware, a few of our parishioners and friends have fallen foul to the confounded virus. At St. Thomas, many activities are returning as restrictions have eased, including Coffee Hour, the successful Yard Sale in the Summer, the Corn Roast and now the Autumn Leaves Yard Sale in early October to look forward to. In addition, preparations are in hand for Thanksgiving and planning for the return of the Stittsville Santa Clause Parade, after a 3-year absence.

The repairs to the church, caused by the storm in May have been undertaken and with the help of the Diocese, the roof and spire are whole once again. Thank you to everyone in the congregation who ensured this work has been completed expeditiously.

When I was preparing to write this piece, we sadly learned that Queen Elizabeth II had died, very suddenly. In my article in June, I wrote about her strong Christian faith and her leadership of the Anglican Communion, for over 70 years. At the time, none of us realized that those Jubilee celebrations just three months ago, would be the last time we celebrated her leadership and devotion to duty.

Of course, we now have a new monarch and leader of the Anglican church, with the accession of King Charles III. With a new monarch, will that mean change for us as Anglicans and if so, how will that manifest itself? Unsurprisingly, King Charles has quickly sought to address some of these concerns and has emphasized his belief that his faith, and his commitment to duty are the principal foundations upon which he will underpin his reign. In his first address as King, he stated that the Anglican Church has greatly influenced his faith and helped him learn about the "heart of genuine service to others" and that faith, through the Church, has also inspired a "sense of duty to others". I'm sure we all share and cherish those values.

## Financial Results

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!!!

It's been an exciting summer, with lots of work and goings-on as a result of the spring storm. Church repairs, yard clean-up, and a delayed yard sale have all now officially been completed.

Unfortunately, the results this far are not what we would like to have accomplished.

August ending results:

Total Incomes	109,320
Total Expenses	<u>129,000</u>
YTD defecit	- 19,680

This is about \$3,000 behind budget, but that result is driven primarily by timing variances, meaning we are still on track for the budgeted \$10,000 deficit this year.

This result is obviously not what we hoped for, but was somewhat predictable given the inflationary pressures, disruptions due to the storm, and slower than expected growth in the congregational givings.

While this may not seem like much to be thankful for, we must come to terms with this reality - we have the choice to succeed or not, over the next few years.

That choice is about growing our congregation and continuing to maximize other income streams. That reality is a gift.

As of August I anticipate Rental incomes, and Parish Fundraising will meet or exceed their fairly aggressive income targets for the year - that is a pretty remarkable result.

Moreover, at the same time, donations are up compared to last year, showing the depth of Parish commitments to our community.

The only missing plank in our plan is growth.

We must find ways to add new parishioners, not primarily for monetary reasons, but because it is what we have been called to do.

We must have a plan to engage our parish community, and the wider community in Stittsville, in Ottawa, and throughout the world.

Moving together in faith, with that plan - that is what I would like to be thankful for by this time next year.

God's blessings to the entire community,

Ryan

## FROM THE EDITOR : Mary Anne Reinhard



Where did the summer go? It seems as if it was only a little while ago that we were busy with 4 computing devices trying to secure a camping spot or two in the Ontario Parks System. This is not really a complaint though as we were able to go camping with our trailer, The Snuggery, at several Ontario Parks and made the journey to the East Coast with friends of ours.

We were told by one of the lovely ladies at the New Glasgow, PEI Lobster suppers that although it was only mid-July they had been serving the typically large crowds that show up in August since they reopened their doors to the Public in May! There were certainly many Ontario and Quebec license plates visible on many of the cars that we saw in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Summer wasn't all play though. The College staff came back to campus in the early Spring and the majority of our students have come back to class this September. It has taken me some time to adjust to being amongst so many more people, but it is easier now. While masks are not mandated, we do have some people that are more comfortable wearing them and I will admit that I wear mine when I am in a congested area.

Life is returning to a more "usual mode" this Fall. This edition will come out the week of Autumn Leaves, and more and more activities are beginning to come back in person. Bible study will be coming back, and the Choir is looking for more voices. Thanksgiving and Christmas events will be here soon as well.

As I emerge from my "hibernation" I include in my thanks all those who continue to work the frontlines of Healthcare, Service Industries, Education and Leadership at any government level.

Mostly I am thankful to God for the world he created. It can be the smallest snowdrop flower in the Spring, the breathtaking views along the Cape Breton coastline, a chipmunk playing hide and seek in the rocks on a walking trail in Charleston Lake ON, or the campfire at the end of a busy day that remind me of wonders that He made.

Happy Thanksgiving to all



## Aubrey's 4 ½ Song

One day while playing on her own, Four-and-a-half-year-old Aubrey started to sing making up the words as she went along. Her mother, sitting nearby, wrote the words down and gave them to me as a birthday present.

**The stars are going up up up!**  
**Oh God is good to me.**  
**I see God in the sky.**  
**We love each other.**  
**God is very nice.**  
**You can find Him.**  
**You can do it!**  
**You can do it!**  
**We love each other every day.**  
**We love each other and every one.**  
**We love each other all the time.**  
**God is everywhere and with us and all our friends.**  
**We love every Mommy.**  
**I can love God all through the town!**

**Submitted by Merilee Clarke**  
**Aren't children wonderful!!!**

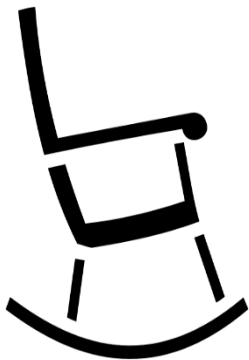
## OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

After a variety of delays, at time of writing, the Art Auction to benefit [www.waterfirst.ngo](http://www.waterfirst.ngo) is live. At time of writing bids total \$925. Hopefully by the time this reaches you, even more money will have been raised. We are so grateful for the fantastic art that was donated to this worthy cause.



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The next project on the horizon for our committee is Rockin' and Walkin' for Refugees. Each year we hold an event and ask for your support to meet our commitment to support The Kanata Stittsville Refugee Support Group. Please watch the weekly church news for event details.

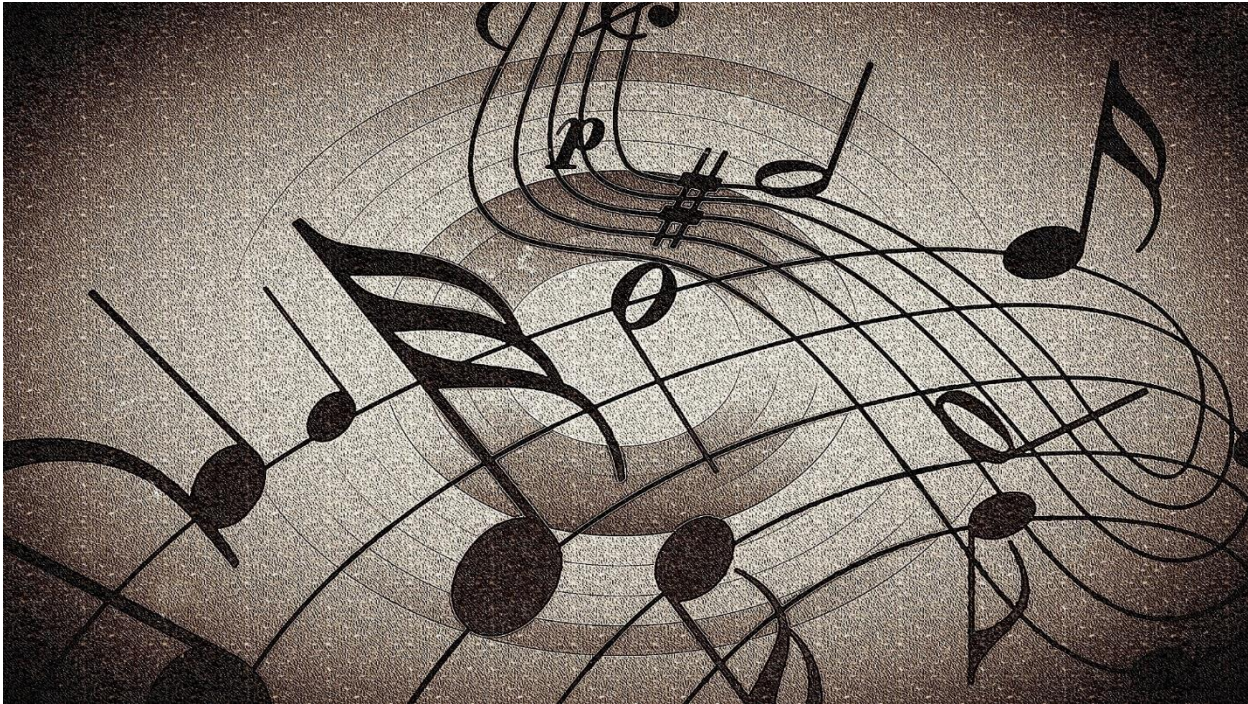


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Finally for this calendar year, we will be collaborating with some local Stittsville people to again provide all the Diocesan ministries with Comfort Bags for all their clients over the Christmas period. More details to come about how you can help.

On behalf of the committee,  
Liz Hall





## Interested in Music?

I am sending out a "plea" for new Choir Members. We are down to 5 ladies - one will be off for family reasons; one will be away over Thanksgiving.

We would love to have some men join us too!

I met with Rev. Lee in early September and we would like to reinstate the sung responses but require the choir to lead us in those.

If you know of anyone who would like to join us please invite them as well. We rehearse every Thursday at 7 PM for 1 hour. I email everyone the list of hymns and anthems for a month or two in advance .

You don't have to be able to read music as I can make you an MP3 recording for you to practice at home.

Please give this some thought and we will start practices on September 15 but I know that you will not see this notice until October so contact me then.

Sincerely  
Bonnie MacDiarmid

## **A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL KEYHOLDERS AT ST. THOMAS**

**I am requesting that everyone that has a key to the church and a code for the alarm system, to please read this announcement, as it is very important.**

If you are the last person in the church and are ready to leave, it is your responsibility to make sure all the doors are locked tightly, all lights are turned off and the alarm code is set.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE THE CHURCH WITHOUT SETTING THE ALARM.**

I believe there was some confusion when the movie company was here for the month filming. They had a security guard and the back door was left open and the alarm off, so the movie crew could use the washrooms and use the hall for their meal. They have been gone now for a few months and periodically alarms are still not being set, by our keyholders.

We cannot assume it is the renters because there are some mornings when there were not renters using our building, the previous night and the alarm was not set.

Back in the day, you were asked to leave the alarm off for the food truck to use the washroom, please DO NOT do this any longer.

This is a major safety feature, and we have to get this under control now.

Thankyou!

Diane Clement – Rector's Warden

## God's Garden



### **It's easy, It's fun, It's free and It's faith building!!**

And we are easy to find for all families with children, or grandchildren who are looking for in person or online activities.

Whether you are coming to church or staying home I can provide all the learning experiences for you to help your children to meet the God who loves them, no matter what.

The Children's story is based on the same Gospel as the adults are learning about.

There are many activities to choose from that suit your family's interests such as games, quizzes, word games, colouring pages, a song and crafts.

There are two crafts each week. One for younger children and another more challenging craft for the older ones.

- 1.) Each week you can find these free of charge on our website or you tube or facebook.
- 2.) Each week I am waiting in God's Garden at church for in-person classes.
- 3.) Sign up for your at home delivery service by sending me your email and home address and all the craft supplies will be delivered to your home to make it easy for you. Follow the directions on –line or by going to our website and printing them off.  
(must be in Stittsville/Kanata area)

### **It's easy, It's fun, It's free and It's faith building!!**

#### **Tell Me the Stories of Jesus**

Tell me the stories of Jesus, I love to hear.

Things I would ask Him to tell me if He were here.

Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea.

Stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

First let me hear how the children stood round His knee.

And I shall fancy His blessing resting on me:

Words full of kindness, deeds full of grace.

Stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

Tell how the sparrow that twitters on yonder tree,

And the sweet meadow-side lily May speak to me:

Give me their message, For I would hear

How Jesus taught us Our Father's Care.

Church School Co-ordinator Merilee Clarke

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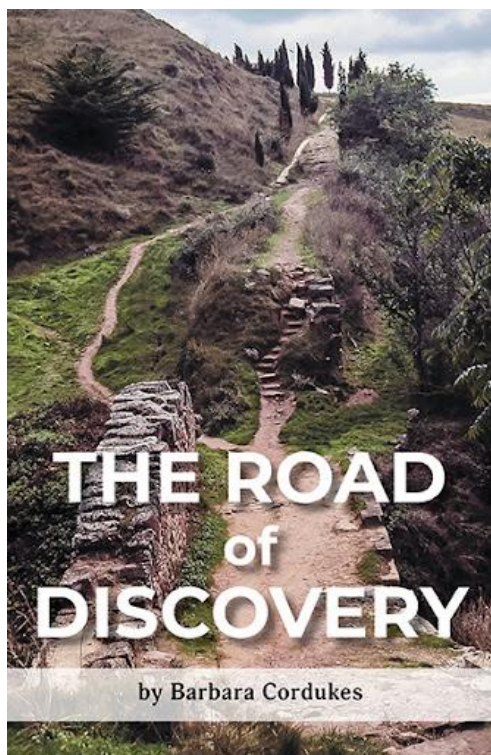


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# THE ROAD OF DISCOVERY

By Barbara Cordukes

*Do you have the courage to seek within yourself?*



This is the story of Seeker, a young man besieged by the pervasive feeling that something important is missing in his life. Setting out to identify what this is, he meets a journeyman who offers to be his guide. When the journeyman suggests that perhaps it is God for whom he is searching, Seeker, a faithful member of the Church, reacts with an immediate and uncompromising denial. His guide then challenges him to explore a different road, one that will bring him beyond the orthodox teachings of Christianity. Seeker accepts the challenge and at the journeyman's request he recounts several Bible stories. After each one the two men enter into a spirited dialogue and soon their radically different views of Christianity are uncovered. Also exposed is Seeker's theological complacency when he makes it clear that he relies on the Church to provide the answers. Indeed, Seeker assumes the Church *is* the answer.

Gradually, with the help of his guide, he becomes aware of the profound psychological truths contained

within the Bible's stories and eventually Seeker's ever-expanding consciousness leads him to the identity of that important something for which he has been searching.

**Barbara Cordukes** has long had a deep interest in religion, having studied world religions in university. An active member of the Anglican Church, she has served in many positions at both the diocesan and parish levels. She was also an elected delegate to the Church's provincial and national synods. *The Road of Discovery* is her first book.

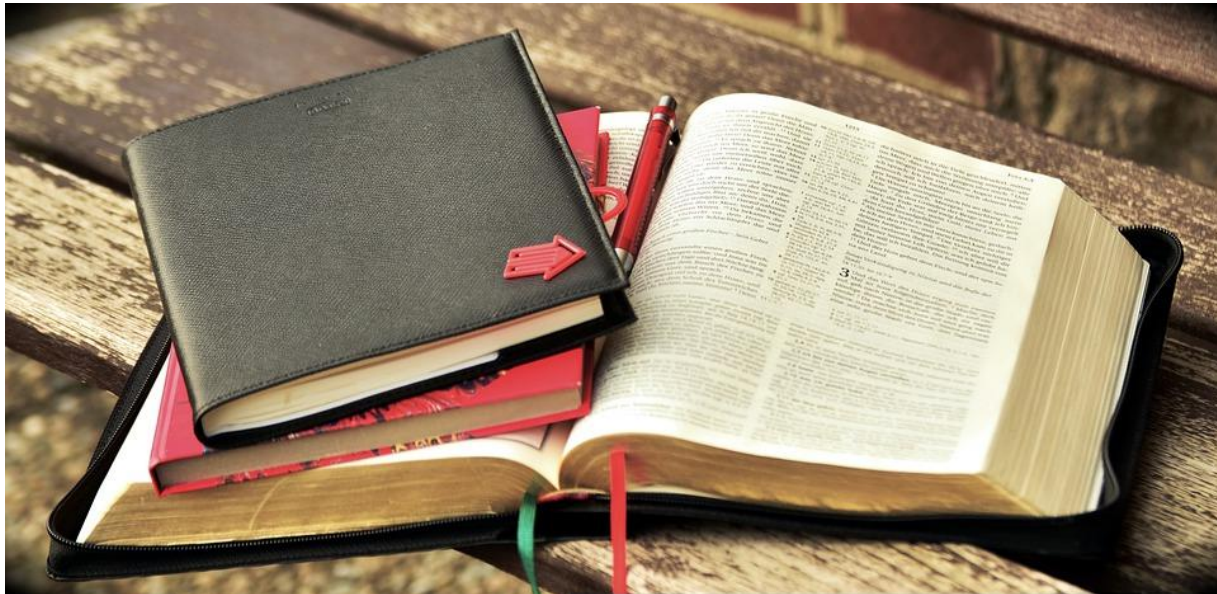
**Available at:**

[Barbaracordukes.com](http://Barbaracordukes.com)

[Friesenpress.com](http://Friesenpress.com), [Amazon.ca](http://Amazon.ca), Kobo



## PARISH BIBLE STUDY



We are planning to resume our Parish bible study in October starting on Wednesday 19 October at 7pm in the Council room. We start with a short Evening Prayer service and continue with the study.

There are 3 studies under consideration:

Incredible Journey	Pray Like This, The Lord's Prayer	The Essential Gospel
Following the journey of the first disciples from their first meeting with Jesus to the aftermath of the Cross.	Exploring some of the major themes of that very familiar prayer of Jesus and how they impact on our lives and those around us.	St. Mark brings us the teaching of the Apostle Peter, and is the earliest of our Gospels. Of the four that we have, this is the one which William Barclay calls 'The essential Gospel'. As such it's worth closer examination!

Please let William Passmore (613-836-2876) or Pat McNally (613-831-0968) know if you are interested or would like more information.



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## **SCHOOLBOX NOW WORKING TO MAKE EDUCATION POSSIBLE FOR FIRST NATIONS IN NORTHERN ONTARIO.**

In 2014 and 2016 St Thomas's sent teams to build schools in Nicaragua. Sadly, due to opposition from the Nicaraguan government, Schoolbox has withdrawn from Nicaragua. The good news is that it is now focussing on building libraries and classrooms for First Nations in Northern Ontario. Below is an extract from their newsletter on progress here in Canada.

Despite the ongoing challenges that 2022 has presented, we are forging ahead with our mission of making education possible for kids and helping to address the Truth & Reconciliation Commission's call to action for equal education for Indigenous children and youth on-reserve in Northern Ontario. We are so thankful to our growing team, dedicated volunteer Board of Directors, volunteers, and monthly supporters for your investments of time, talents, and resources in keeping this little organization that could going!

We are thrilled to have completed the construction of our first major classroom construction project here in Northern Ontario - a 40 x 60' complex - that will house a large new Indigenous library, language & resource supports, and free up space in the Gaagagekiizhik & Bimose school so that a grade 8 class can be added this 2022-2023 school year. We are so grateful for the incredible generosity of each of you that contributed to this project and are really excited to share photos of the students in their new facility this fall!

As we all gear up for back-to-school in the coming weeks, we are grateful to our incredible team of Indigenous women working to re-launch the Wabuaskang lunch program which provided 2,988 lunches in 2021-2022, install 10 new mini libraries into Pelican Falls First Nations High School and open the new Kiizhik library! We would like to introduce Bernice Miel, our new program coordinator who brings a passion for Indigenous literature as the Niisaacehwan Anishinaabe Nation librarian as she is helping more communities in Treaty #3 access.

Please let me know if you would like more information.  
William Passmore

## THE LAST WORD(S)

### How Great Thou Art - Stuart K. Hine

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus:

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

Stuart K. Hine was born in 1899 in Great Britain. In much of Stuart's earlier years he and his wife were missionaries in the Western Ukraine of Russia, where they evangelized as Christian workers and singers. In 1931, Stuart K. Hine and his wife returned to Britain and conducted gospel campaigns throughout Great Britain. During those years, Stuart published many song books and wrote many of his beloved gospel songs. Stuart retired from the active ministry but continued to publish his song books and his music and contributed the majority of his income to various missionary endeavors around the world...Stuart K. Hine's most popular composition is "How Great Thou Art," which is recognized in many polls as the number one Hymn in America. Among his other compositions are "Can There Be One," "O Savior Mine?," "Faith Is The Bridge," and "What Can Cleanse My heart?" Mr. Hine died in 1989.

Retrieved from [Stuart K. Hine | Hymnary.org](http://StuartK.Hine|Hymnary.org)

### Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup> Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

<sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;<sup>[a]</sup>

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

<sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

<sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations

## The People's Directory

	<b>Role</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
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