Westminster Chimes

Easter 2024

O Lord, your work is full of majesty and splendour

St. James Westminster Anglican Church

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St. James Westminster Foundation Invests Locally

The St. James Westminster Foundation has invested $75,000 in a local project to build more affordable housing in London.

As the Foundation board had been exploring how to create local impact, they connected with the London Community Foundation and their Social Impact Fund. The Social Impact Fund invests in both affordable housing and social enterprise projects in the London region. The $20 million Fund has invested in more than a dozen projects since its inception in 2013, supporting the creation of 1,500 affordable housing units.

“The purposes of the Foundation are to provide financial support for the church and, as able, financial support for our brothers and sisters in need through Christian outreach projects,” said Jim Mays, Chair of the SJW Foundation Board. “The current directors sought to support the SOHO project, and impact investment generally, as a way in which the Foundation can support both the church and our brothers and sisters who may need help.”

The St. James Westminster Foundation was established in 1988 and, through member donations and bequests, has grown to over $4 million. Investment income from the foundation’s capital is available each year. In past years, the funds were granted to local organizations such as social service agencies or other diocesan churches. However, in recent years, the investment income has been needed by the church to meet our budget.

So, as an alternative to grants, the Foundation board – with support of the Parish Council – decided to offer a loan to a local project. In early 2024, the Foundation invested $75,000 in the London Community Foundation Social Impact Fund, with the hope of increasing this support after this first loan is successful. The current focus of this fund is the redevelopment of the old Victoria Hospital grounds on South Street.

A collaboration of six nonprofit housing developers is creating 680 new apartments, 55% of which will be affordable. The developers have come together as the "Vision SoHo Alliance" and have purchased the block bordered by Waterloo, South, Colborne, and Hill Streets, plus an additional parcel of land on the east side of Colborne.

They will erect five new buildings, and restore the two former hospital buildings on the site. Indwell, a Christian charity that the church has supported both financially and with donations of food, is creating 138 deeply affordable and supportive apartments in the two heritage buildings.

"The purpose of the Social Impact Fund is to offer investment in the early stages of an affordable housing project to provide the catalyst and support where other traditional financing institutions see the highest risk," said Vijay Venkatesan, VP of Finance and Operations at London Community Foundation. "In other words, the Social Impact Fund helps to kick start the project to get shovels in the ground as quickly as possible."

The Fund takes care of the due diligence on the projects it invests in, guided by Lerners law firm. Lerners helps assess the risk of loans and ensures that the legal agreements are in order. This level of due diligence gave the Foundation board assurance that our funds will be secure. The $75,000 will receive a 4.75% annual return for a 2 year term.

"Our hope is that the Foundation can continue to be the financial support the church needs through these challenging times *and* be a source of financial support and encouragement to projects to assist those of our community in need," added Mays.

To learn more about the Social Impact Fund at LCF, visit lcf.on.ca/social-impact-fund. To learn more about the Vision SoHo project, visit visionsoho.ca.

A drawing of the proposed Vision SoHo development at the site of the old Victoria Hospital Building, which the St. James Foundation is supporting with a loan.

Some St. James folks toured the War Memorial Children's Hospital in December 2023. Picture (l to r): Julie Ryan, Barb Robinson, Steve Mayne, Janice Mayne, Father Michael Bruce.

Something to think about...

Submitted by Karen Henkel

Albert Einstein once said:

"There are two ways to live your life.
One is though nothing is a miracle.
The other is as though everything is a miracle."

Today we celebrate the miracle.

We have a God who re-members us; a God who takes all the parts of our life and makes them into a story. God is the ultimate keeper of our memories. We value and care for those of us who are challenged with memory loss.

Paraphrased from Larry VandeCreek, D.Min

From the desk of your Family Ministry Team

We hope all St. James families are enjoying the early signs of spring. We've enjoyed a busy winter at St. James, spending time with children in Sunday School and in the Prayground during services.

On Shrove Tuesday, more than 20 children joined us during the pancake supper to make heart shaped prayer pillows – they remind us with lovely hugs that we are God's beloved ones. Thank you, Andrea Manias, for preparing the hearts for us. It was wonderful to gather with families from the Old South community and beyond.

Since Christmas, we've enjoyed exploring our new curriculum, Mini Revolutions, by Illustrated Ministries. Story videos with engaging questions, prayers, and activities have been fun to explore. During Lent, the children created symbols to represent the message from each week's story – rainbow promises of hope, star promises of future generations, emojis to show the many emotions of Jesus, circles of God's enduring love, heart promises of God's love, and palms for Palm Sunday. Check out the bulletin board during coffee hour. During the Easter season, we'll explore the gospel of John and the Psalms. We look forward to learning and playing with the children.

We are planning a special activity for Easter Sunday so plan to attend. All children are welcome, including visiting grandchildren, cousins, friends, and more. We look forward to seeing you!

Watch for the Stations of the Cross posters to reappear in the church back yard during Holy Week. They were very popular the last two years, and we look forward to enjoying them again.

Please continue to keep our young people in your prayers.

Laura Manias, Mary DeKay, Judy Jones, & Gerry Adam

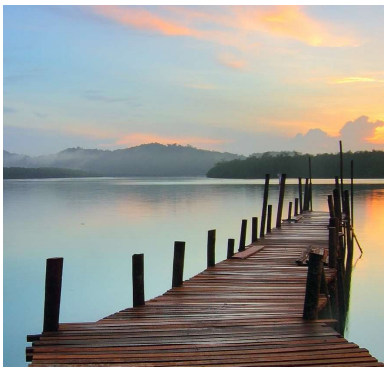
Contact us! 519-630-2363
laurajmanias@gmail.com

Pictures from our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

A Poem of Renewal

by Noel Martin

Near the shores of Nottawasaga, lies a cottage bold and true,
Far from the cities' din and clamour, a perfect nest, life to renew.
See the fir trees, trembling aspens. Hear the stillness, through and through.
Smell the tall pines, matted needles. Taste a tinge of nature's dew.
Tread on rocks and sandy beaches. Touch the sun rays breaking blue.
Feel the water's cooling wavelets. UNKNOT YOUR SOUL…
Cleanse future's view!!!



The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer
is pleased to present
The Bishop of Huron Prayer Conference

Saturday May 4, 2024
10:00 am to 3:00 pm
at Church of St. Jude's
1537 Adelaide St., N. London
Cost: $20.00 (includes lunch)

Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.
Holy Baptism BAS p. 160

How Will We Raise our Children in Faith?

Creating Sacred Practices and Spaces for Prayer with Our Children

Join us for a day with Gerry Adam, deacon, educator, and director of Camp Huron, speaking to us from her many experiences with children of all ages. The day will include presentations, breakout groups and workshop opportunities and is suited for everyone who cares for and about children in our churches, communities, homes, and beyond.

To Register: Please contact Rev. Mary Farmer
maryfarmer@diohuron.org

Last date to order lunch will be
Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Fishing for Food—A big thank you to everyone who "went fishing" and helped stock the food cupboards of Church of the Epiphany and Huron University College!

Upcoming Special Events at St. James

Friday, March 22 at 7:30pm

St. James Chamber Music Series
Featuring Fiona Robson - cello
and Raymond Truong - piano
Admission by donation

Sunday, March 24 – 8:30 and 10:30 a.m

Palm/Passion Sunday

Sunday, March 24, 4 pm

Holden Evening Prayer—A time of reflective prayer and song as we enter Holy Week.

TRIDUUM

Three services on three days marking Jesus' betrayal, death, and resurrection:

March 28, 7 pm

Maundy Thursday—We enter into the story of a holy meal and an act of humble service.

March 29, 11 am

Good Friday**—**We gather at the "foot of the cross" as we remember Christ's crucifixion.

March 31, 8:30 and 10:30 am

Easter Sunday—We come together to joyously celebrate the risen Christ!

Good Friday, March 29 at 7:30pm

London Pro Musica
"The Green Cathedral"
An uplifting Pro Musica Concert including music from a variety of religious traditions.
$30 Tickets available at
https://londonpromusica.ca/

Monday, April 22 at 7:30pm

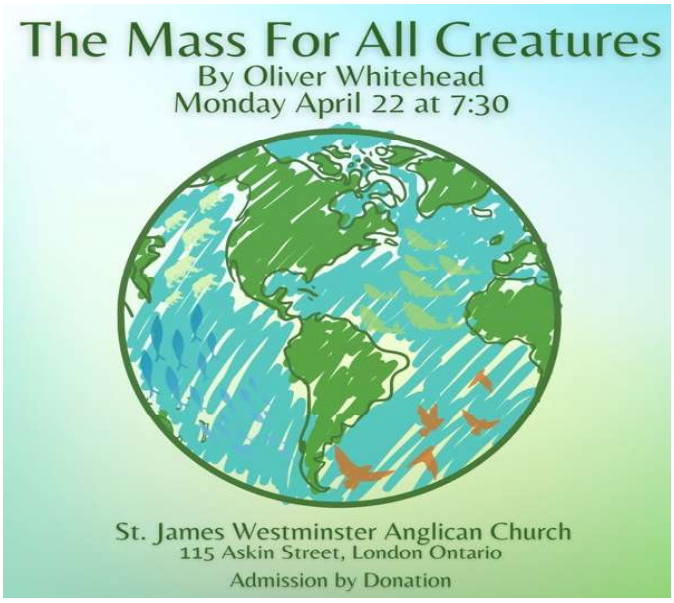
Special Earth Day performance of
Oliver Whitehead's
"Mass for All Creatures"
An evening of music, movement, & readings – an opportunity to consider the relationship between humans, animals, and the natural world. Featuring London Pro Musica, the Choir of St. James Westminster, and The Antler River Project. Admission by Donation - Suggested donation $20 per person

Saturday, June 8 at 7:30 pm

London Pro Musica
"Carmina Burana"
Tickets available at
https://londonpromusica.ca/

Easter Flowers

If you would like to remember or give thanks for a loved one by donating toward the Easter flowers in the Church, please contact the church office Tuesday, April 4. Let us know who the donation is being made by and in whose memory or honour the donation is being made. Cheques/cash should be made out to "St. James Westminster" with "Altar Guild - Easter Flowers" in the memo.



THE MASS FOR ALL CREATURES

A moving, joyful, and thought-provoking evening of music, movement, and readings exploring the relationship between humans, animals, and the natural world.

London Pro Musica will combine with the **choir of St. James Westminster**, conducted by **Paul Grambo**, and supported by members of **The Antler River Project**, including composer **Oliver Whitehead** and St. James music director **Stephen Holowitz**.

Join us for this exciting choral work which is eclectic and contemporary with influences of folk and art music from across the globe.

What is Fundscrip?

FundScrip is an established, Canada-wide fundraising program in which our supporters pay for their shopping (groceries, gas, home & garden, entertainment, restaurants, and much more) with gift cards. Each purchase automatically includes a donation to our cause. Please check out the Fundscrip table at coffee hour after the 10:30 service on Sundays. To see what stores are included or to print an order form, you can go to https://static. fundscrip.com/msm/POF_ON_BIL.pdf

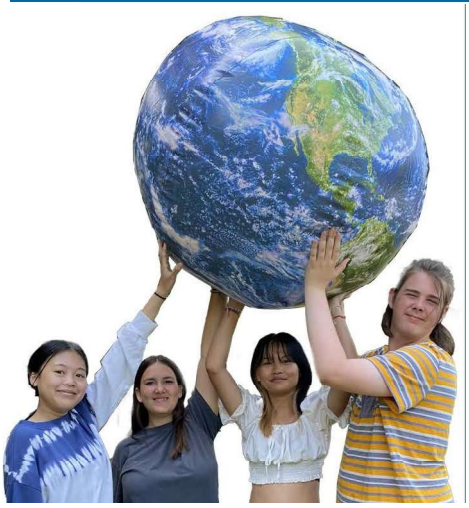
Need help with computer issues?

John Gardi is volunteering his services to help with any computer issues that parishioners may have. Please contact him at johngardi@gmail.com

Camp Huron

Welcome to wonder!

Toll Free 1-800-919-1115 ext 217 | Register Today | contact@camphuron.ca



Registration is open.

Visit https://camphuron.ca/ for more information.