THE ANCHOR

Learning to follow Jesus Christ.

June 30 — July 13, 2023

Anchor Summer Schedule

As we start scheduling vacations and getting ready for summer, the Anchor takes some time to relax and enjoy some time off too. Starting this week, we will be moving to a **biweekly** Anchor schedule.

May 2023 Financial Report

All revenues considered, we are 4.2% short of budget by $22,000. This shortage is in the unrestricted donations account. All other revenue categories are net better than budget by $4,000.

Our expenses in the five months are $1,700 more than the approved budget, which excludes assistance to the Stewardship Committee in their exploration of a possible financial campaign.

Our revenue plan predicted and encouraged a return of pre-Covid participation in the worship experience and it's encouraging to see new and existing members of our community return to St. Clement's. With this increase in participation, we estimated a 10% increase in unrestricted donations in 2023 and we plan to encourage our supporters to meet the 10% increase through the balance of 2023.

During the summer months, incoming cash is often limited as our congregants take vacation with friends and family, and tenants take a break until fall. However our operating expenses continue and we use this downtime to make some necessary repairs to our building. As you plan your time away, please consider continuing your contributions to St. Clement's through the summer months. These ongoing contributions help us to limit the amount we will withdraw from our cash reserves to continue to pay for our ongoing expenses through the next few months.

Don't Forget us Over the Summer

Why I Give to St. Clement's

Summer gives us a chance to pause, rejuvenate and relax! Our staff will be doing some of that and we hope you will be too. But please don't forget us. The day-to-day maintenance and church business doesn't take a break and often summer donations do.

Please remember these easy ways to donate:

- **By Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)** – this is a win, win! – it takes the work out of remembering to donate each month for you and we receive your generous donations each month – **Click here to take 3 minutes to register**.
- **By e-transfer** – finance@stclementsto.ca (also, you are able to set-up automatic withdrawals)
- **By cheque or cash**, which can be delivered to our secured locked mailbox by the St. Clement's entrance

To learn about these and other ways to donate, please click here or go to the donate page of our website – stclementsto.ca/donate.

Click here or scan the QR code to hear about why Nancy Hood and Christopher Lewis give to St. Clement's.

Click here or scan the QR code to watch all the "Why I Give" testimonials.

Welcome Jess!

We are thrilled to welcome Jess Soanes as our Theological Intern this summer. Jess will be coming to us from the UK, and serving full-time at St. Clement's from mid-July to mid-August.

We asked Jess to share a few words of introduction:

Hi, my name is Jess and I am currently training to be a priest in Cambridge, England. I am super excited to be joining St. Clement's for a month this summer which will be my first time in Canada too. I've grown up moving about a lot because my father is in the air force so I love to explore new places and meet new people, let me know all the best spots I should visit whilst I'm with you all.
I first felt God calling me to be a priest when I was 16 so this has been quite a journey with highs and lows over the past few years but I have been so encouraged to see God's goodness and faithfulness to me through the past few years. Before going to train I studied Philosophy, ethics and Religion in Yorkshire and worked for a church (through the pandemic which was brilliant but challenging too). I love going for coffee, on walks, reading and doing crafts. Trying to find little joys in every day is super important to me and I can't wait to worship with you, get to hear your stories and see all God is up to in Toronto.

The Bishop's Company Dinner is Back

For the last three years the pandemic has forced us – like so many others – to pivot in response to the need to social distance. We put our annual dinner on hold and introduced a virtual Cabaret as an opportunity to showcase talented musicians from across the diocese.

The cabaret has proven so successful that we have been able to raise over $100,000 each year. Thank you to our donors, sponsors and volunteers who hung with us during this challenging time.

This year will mark the first time since 2019 that we will gather in person to celebrate the valuable role of clergy, delight in fellowship with one another, and raise funds for a very important cause in our diocese. This won't mark the end of the road for the Cabaret, but we want to return to a sense of normalcy once again.

I invite you and the parishioners of St. Clement to help us sell-out this year's dinner on October 20 at the Marriot Hotel and contribute to the sustaining ministry of our clergy. We have intentionally held costs to pre-pandemic levels to encourage as wide a participation as possible, and we have upgraded the experience with musical performances from two of our past Cabaret performers. Thanks to our generous sponsors, we're also adding four tables to enable young people from across the diocese to attend free of charge.

This year we welcome Blake Goldring, OTD CM as our guest speaker. Mr. Goldring, a parishioner of St. Clement Church, is a great friend of the diocese, generous benefactor, and past Chair of the Bishop's Company. We look forward to his presentation.

The price of a parish table of 10 remains at $1600, while individual tickets are $175. Ticket's go on sale on-line on September 20th. More information on the work of Bishop's Company can be found at www.bishopscompanytoronto.ca.

Interested in attending? Contact Andrew Federle at afederle@stclementsto.ca for more details.

Peter Misiaszek
Director of Stewardship Development
Diocese of Toronto

THE BISHOP'S COMPANY

Muskoka Woods Youth Retreat!

Youth ages 12-18: Save the Date for the Annual Muskoka Woods Re-Charge Retreat!

Last year, we had so much fun at the annual Diocesan Muskoka Woods Youth Retreat, and we are looking forward to more great memories! Please save the date for September 29th-October 1st! Details and registration information to follow closer to the fall.

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MUSKOKAWOODS

Creation Care – Onward!

We've now explored 1) the personal journey of discovery toward a more expansive, generous paradigm of loving all of what God Loves; 2) the wonder of creation and; 3) the interaction between Creation Care and Social Justice. How can we embrace Creation Care as a parish and build momentum toward serving creation?

The short answer lies in the age-old idiom – "go slow to go fast". As Luke Wilson, CEO of A Rocha in Canada (a Christian environmental organization with 40+ years of experience around the world), says "We are in the business of transforming hearts and shaping values". The creation care paradigm shift starts in the heart and the mind before transitioning to the hands.

Accordingly, it requires spiritual leadership and nourishment. We are blessed with a clergy team that have all embraced the possibility. For example, Andrew made a big commitment by using his COVID Sabbatical to deepen his knowledge of ecology through getting certified in permaculture – a nature-based approach to land management and settlement design.

We launched Creation Care with an OMG Tuesdays session. We partnered with A Rocha who brought tremendous perspective and practical examples. Visit https://arocha.ca or scan the QR code. The 50 participants got a good grounding and demonstrated enthusiasm for embarking on a sustained journey.

The worship team has begun the steady drip of adjustments to reflect the Creation Care paradigm in our music, prayers and preaching. For the first time, this fall we will be incorporating the five-week Season of Creation in our liturgical calendar. The Season of Creation is a global ecumenical movement. Click here for a short video on 2023 Season of Creation.

How do we move from our heart to hands? We each have our own path of discovery. There are many possible action areas in how we live, work and advocate. Here are some resources to help initiate your journey:

- Click here or scan the QR code for a short video synopsis of the theology
- https://www.tearfund.org.au/stories/seven-practical-ways-to-care-for-creation

The OMG participants brainstormed many options for collection action - from advocating on environmental issues, stewarding a local ecosystem, making our grounds a haven for biodiversity to greening our building. Claire Bramma established a pollinator garden as parting gift to celebrate her ministry at St. Clements. We have developed a robust network for continuous learning to support our efforts.

- Earth Keepers Monthly meeting of churches across Canada sharing lessons learned on Creation Care programs https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/church-earthkeepers-meet-up-2023-tickets-519019630687
- Net Zero Churches network https://zeroemissionchurches.ca
- Eco Church https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk

Do we need a whole new "department of Creation Care"? Or does the embracing the Creation Care paradigm simply bring an added dimension to everything we do? We believe the latter, so have begun to engage the Parish Council whose members lead the strategic plan and the various areas of responsibility in the church. If we accept that following Jesus means loving and stewarding all of what God loves, what does that mean for Christian Education, Youth Ministry, Outreach and Reaching out and Facilities? If you are enthusiastic about bringing the Creation Care paradigm to one of these ministries, feel free to volunteer for that area. Over time there will be many opportunities to get more involved in this issue.

To be an authentic, distinctive voice and contributor to Creation Care we need to be thoroughly grounded by our beliefs and focused and integrated in our actions – so we can make a sustained and impactful effort. From great challenges come great possibilities. Onward!

Roger Dickhout
Creation Care

Click here *or scan the QR code to read the rest of the Creation Care articles.*

Flemingdon Park Ministry Community Dinner

Flemingdon Park Ministry "is a safe place for all people to come to, and through our various programs, we build community and bridge the gaps that separate people and their access to healthy and affordable food."

FPM offers programs that are focused on bringing people together to address isolation and food insecurity. It is a designated ministry of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto, serving a multilingual community built through being a visible presence in the community, and touching the lives of many living in the Thorncliffe Park and Don Mills Gateway neighbourhood.

For more information on this important ministry, click here or scan the QR code.

St. Clement's Outreach has been able to support our Flemingdon Park neighbours in this community ministry for many years through providing funding and volunteer engagement. Are you, your family or your friends looking for a way to get involved?

Would you like to attend FPM's upcoming Community Dinner on July 20?

Food & Friendship Dinner Event is a shared community meal where residents and families gather to support one another and hear from neighbours sharing their joys and struggles together.

It is being held on **July 20th from 6-8 pm at 10 Gateway Blvd, #100 in Don Mills.**

St. Clement's is sponsoring this important FPM community dinner and they welcome parishioners, including our youth, to help greet and host guests.

This is an opportunity for family or friends to come together to help make this another successful FPM event.

If you're interested in helping at this dinner please contact: **Linda Sparling, (416) 445-7261** or email outreach@stclementsto.ca.

Outreach Committee

Baptism at St. Clement's

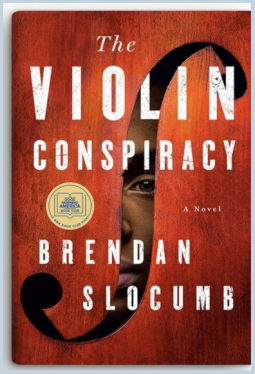
Are you looking to explore baptism for yourself or your child?

Our next Baptism Sunday is September 24th.

We're committed to helping you prepare for baptism with integrity so that it's a meaningful experience in a life-long relationship with Jesus.

Plan to join our weekly worship experience and make an appointment to chat with Associate Priest Pamela Rayment: prayment@stclementsto.ca

Women of Faith



Remember to get a copy of The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb to read over the summer in preparation for Mary Botterell's Book Talk September 29.

For any questions, contact Linda Sparling at **(416) 445-7261** .

July 3rd Office Closure

The church offices will be closed on July 3rd in observance of Canada Day.

St Clement's Church Toronto
70 St Clements Ave, Toronto, Ontario M4R 1H2 416.483.6664
stclementsto.ca info@stclementsto.ca
Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-noon (or by appointment)