

Spring 2015  
Volume 4, Issue 2

# Saints & Sinners

A newsletter for the family and friends of St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Pastor's Message

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2: 4-5



As we move from the season after Epiphany into the season of lent I find myself getting reflective. I have been thinking quite a bit about this anomaly we call church. She at her best is an instrument of God's grace and at her worst an institution of hypocritical judgment. She can be because of all of us who are her makeup are simultaneously saints and sinners.

Church council is beginning a long (but what I think will be a fruitful) process of answering the question, "Who will we as the church be in ten years time?" The question forces us to focus not only on anticipating what the future might bring but also what the purpose and ministry of the church is and shall be.

Will we be a place of calm and refuge in a busy turbulent world? Will we be a counter cultural voice of truth and justice beyond our walls? Will we find some sort of combination of both? Please share with your 2015 church council members what your vision for St. Marks includes.

*Pastor Steve*

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## Book Club Reading Adventures for the following months:

### February - Gone Girl

by Gillian Flynn

On a warm summer morning in North Carthage, Missouri, it is Nick and Amy Dunne's fifth wedding anniversary. Presents are being wrapped and reservations are being made when Nick's wife disappears from their rented McMansion on the Mississippi River . . .

### March – The Long Way Home

by Louise Penny

A Young Man Lost in the System and the Two Women Who Found Him. Nineteen-year-old Jovan Mosley, a good kid from one of Chicago's very bad neighborhoods, was coerced into confessing to a crime he didn't commit. With one brother dead, another in jail, and most kids his age in gangs, Jovan struggled to be different. Until his arrest, he was . . .

### April – Lullabies for Little Criminal

by Heather O'Neill

A heart-wrenching novel about bruised innocence on the city's feral streets, a story of a young life on the streets—and the strength, wits, and luck necessary for survival. At thirteen, Baby vacillates between childhood comforts and adult temptation: still young enough to drag her dolls around in a vinyl suitcase yet old enough to know more than she should about urban cruelties . . .

### May - Keep'n Me

by Richard Wagamese

Garnet Raven was three years old, he was taken from his home on an Ojibway Indian reserve and placed in a series of foster homes. Having reached his mid-teens, he escapes at the first available opportunity, only to find himself cast adrift on the streets of the big city . . .

### June – This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs the Climate by Naomi Klein

This Changes Everything Klein argues that climate change isn't just another issue, it's an alarm that calls us to fix an economic system that is already failing us in many ways. Klein builds the case for how reducing our greenhouse emissions is our best chance to reduce gaping inequalities, re-imagine our broken democracies, and rebuild our gutted local economies. She exposes the ideological desperation of the climate-change deniers, the messianic . . .

## Kingston Faith and Justice Coalition

Meetings in the Library at St. George's (enter off Wellington St.) on the fourth Monday of each Month from 7–9 p.m.

The Group is part of a much larger international movement that seeks to raise awareness of the many injustices in the world. We do this by studying issues and acting in partnership with other groups.

Our focus is to act as an advocate for justice Locally, Provincially, Nationally and Internationally. We do this by studying articles and books written by concerned people. Our faith mandates that we strive to help society and Governments change unjust laws. We do this by our witness at critical events and writing letters to institutions and people in authority.

By our actions, we hope educate the public and stimulate changes that will create a fair and just society.

Topics and concerns include Founding Peoples, World Food Security, Clean Water, Poverty, Environment, Prison Reform, PWRDF, KAIROS.

If you have any questions about this group or wish to join them please contact Leigh at [info@stgeorgescathedral.ca](mailto:info@stgeorgescathedral.ca)

**Then he turned to his host. “When you put on a luncheon or a banquet,” he said, “don’t invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward.<sup>13</sup> Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup> Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you.” Luke 14:12**

# World Day of Social Justice - February 20

Lutherans in Canada have made a significant public witness on a whole range of issues.

We have played a part in the establishment of universal health care in Canada, freedom for Namibia and the end of apartheid in South Africa.

We have been involved in working for shareholder rights in Canadian corporations, addressing poverty in Canada and a whole host of other important questions. As you read through our Evangelical Declaration, you will see that we consider such matters a very important part of our mission.

<https://elcic.ca/Documents/ThePublicWitnessoftheEvangelicalLutheranChurchinCanada.pdf>

## Ryandale House for the Homeless is

Kingston's only emergency shelter offering 24/7 support to men, women, and families with children, all under the same roof. It is a 15 fifteen bed and 7 bed supportive housing facility.

Collect bin in main foyer: non-perishable food items, toiletry items, and new clothing.

For more information : <http://www.ryandale.org/>

## Student Luncheon

The theme for the next two student luncheons are:

**February 8th**

Eats without Meats

**March 8th**

Banquet Smorgasbord

## Prison Ministry

We lead a communion worship service the 3rd Sunday of every month at 5:30 PM at Joyceville Minimum Prison.

## Nursing Home Ministry

We lead a communion worship service at

The **Waterford Retirement Residence** the 2nd Sunday of every month at 2:00 PM.

In the Court Building of **Trillium Ridge** worship service (no comm) the 3rd Sunday of every month at 2:45 PM.

## The National Youth Project (NYP)

was created so that youth, youth groups, leaders and their congregations from across Canada could focus and direct their energy on a particular issue of concern. It is to be a place where Lutheran youth are united in their ministry but serving in their local communities.

National Youth Project 2012-16

<http://www.elcic.ca/Youth/RightToWater.cfm>

## Partners in Mission Food Bank

Suggested food items to donate

peanut butter	baby food – all types
canned fish	canned soups
canned meat / beans	juices
rice / dry beans	canned stew
puddings / Jell-O	cereal
cake mixes / flour / sugars	
ketchup / mustard / relishes	
snacks - raisins / cereal bars	

More info at:

<http://www.kingstonfoodbank.net/>

## Kingston Interval House

is committed to supporting women, children and youth experiencing violence and working collaboratively with the community to eliminate all forms of violence and oppression.

We accept donations of new and quality used clothing for women, children and youth and small household items.

**For Women:** Bus tickets, slippers, nightgowns, underwear, deodorant

**For Children:** Pajamas, socks and underwear, diapers, baby wipes, boys clothing 8-16

**For the Shelter:** Corelle dishes, tea towels, hot water bottles, heating pads, toothpaste/brushes, birthday gifts for women and children (all ages), craft and quilting supplies.

More info at: <http://www.kingstonintervalhouse.com/>

## Lutheran World Relief

Inspired by God's love for humanity, Canadian Lutheran World Relief challenges the causes and responds to the consequences of human suffering and poverty. Since 1946 CLWR has made humanitarian relief shipments around the world. Go to their website and see how to "get involved".

<http://www.clwr.org/>

Eastern Synod Women's Ministry  
Presents...

# Singspiration!



Making a Joyful Noise

A Weekend Retreat for Women of All Ages

**May 29—31, 2015**

Cambridge Hotel and Conference Center, Cambridge, ON



Eastern Synod Women's Ministry

Registration forms and informational brochure have been mailed out. To get your electronic copy, email Cathy Calvin, Women's Ministry Director at [calvin1980@bell.net](mailto:calvin1980@bell.net).

## Keynote Speaker

**Debbie Lou Ludolph**

Dean of Keffer Chapel, WLS  
Director of Worship  
Ministry, Eastern Synod



The New Seaway Ministry Area Leadership Team is pictured below.

Rev. Bruce Thompson, Shawn Suenaga, Tina Demerling, and Rev. Dean Steve Hoffard



## LENT 2015

We will begin and end Lent together with our sisters and brothers of St. Andrew's Presbyterian, and Chalmers, Sydenham St., and Princess St. United Churches.

### Ash Wednesday Worship

will be held on February 18, 2015 at Princess Street United at 7:00 PM.

### Good Friday Worship

will be held on Friday April 3, 2015 at Sydenham Street United, at 11:00 AM.

A time of fellowship will follow both services.

## St. Mark's 65th Anniversary

Yes, it's time to celebrate 65 years of fellowship and discipleship!

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday April 18th**. **Bishop Michael Pryce** is planning to join us for a **5:30 p.m. potluck**.

Start getting out your costumes and props and let Anya know if you want to participate in a skit or present your own form of entertainment! **April 19th** will be our **celebratory worship service, again with Bishop Michael**.

Our photo directories are about to be printed. And we hope to have all our confirmands' names organized for those anonymous photos hanging in the hall.

Our new church council has just met and I can predict a few exciting announcements this year!

## World Day of Prayer

March 6, 2015

Theme: Jesus Said to Them:  
"Do You Know What I Have Done to You?"

This is a worldwide movement of Christian women that began in the U.S. and Canada in the 19th century, and became worldwide in 1927. The continuing motto for this very special day is "**Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action**".

Each year, on this day, Christians of many cultures, traditions, and races, in over 170 countries around the world unite in prayer.

For more info about World Day of Prayer:  
<http://www.wicc.org/world-day-of-prayer/>

<b>Ash Wednesday</b> February 18	Who Is the Greatest?	<b>Matthew 18:1-9</b> Debate about who is the greatest, become like a child; if your right hand causes sin cut it off ( <i>Psalm 146:7c-10 or 51:1-3</i> )
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> February 22	Forgiveness	<b>Matthew 18:15-35</b> Church discipline, forgiving 70 times 7, parable of unforgiving servant ( <i>Psalm 32:1-2</i> )
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> March 1	Laborers in the Vineyard	<b>Matthew 20:1-16</b> Parable of laborers in vineyard ( <i>Psalm 16:5-8</i> )
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> March 8	Wedding Banquet	<b>Matthew 22:1-14</b> Parable of wedding banquet ( <i>Psalm 45:6-7</i> )
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> March 15	Bridesmaids (or Talents)	<b>Matthew 25:1-13</b> Parable of the bridesmaids and/or Matt 25:14-30, Parable of the talents ( <i>Psalm 43:3-4</i> )
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> March 22	Last Judgment	<b>Matthew 25:31-46</b> Parable of the last judgment ( <i>Psalm 98:7-9</i> )
<b>Palm Sunday</b> March 29	Triumphal Entry	<b>Matthew 21:1-13</b> Triumphal entry, cleansing the temple ( <i>Psalm 118:26-29</i> )
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> April 2	Words of Institution	<b>Matthew 26:17-30</b> Preparing for the Last Supper, mention of betrayal, Words of Institution ( <i>Psalm 116:12-15</i> )
<b>Good Friday</b> April 3	Crucifixion: Matthew	<b>Matthew 27:27-61</b> Crucifixion; "My God, my God why have you forsaken me?" ( <i>Psalm 22:1-2, [14-18]</i> )
<b>Easter</b> April 5	Easter: Matthew	<b>Matthew 28:1-10</b> Resurrection, empty tomb, women encounter the risen Jesus ( <i>Psalm 118:19-24</i> )
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> April 12	Great Commission	<b>Matthew 28:16-20</b> Great commission, Go therefore and make disciples of all nations ( <i>Psalm 40:9-10</i> )
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> April 19	Peter's Vision	<b>Acts 10:1-17, 34-35</b> Peter's vision show how God cleanses people of every nation ( <i>Matt 9:36-37</i> )
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> April 26	Paul's Mission	<b>Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18</b> Beginning of Paul's mission. Healing at Lystra, gospel to the Gentile world ( <i>Matt 10:40-42</i> )
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> May 3	Gospel as Salvation	<b>Romans 1:1-17</b> Gospel as power of God for salvation to all, both Jews and Greeks ( <i>Matt 9:10-13</i> )
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> May 10	God's Love Poured Out	<b>Romans 5:1-11</b> God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit; Christ died for the ungodly ( <i>Matt 11:28-30</i> )
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> May 17	Hope of Resurrection	<b>Romans 6:1-14</b> We were buried with him by baptism into death, so that we might walk in newness of life. Hope of resurrection. ( <i>Matt 6:24</i> )

Then Jesus said to them, "**Do not be afraid**; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." Matthew 28: 10



## ST. MARKS

### JOINS THE NATIONWIDE CALL2RECYCLE PROGRAM TO RECYCLE USED BATTERIES

*St. Marks is helping to protect the environment through participation in North America's most comprehensive battery recycling program*



**St. Marks** has partnered with Call2Recycle® to make convenient battery recycling available to the community of Kingston. The only no-cost battery and cellphone collection program in North America, Call2Recycle helps communities like *St. Marks* operate household battery and cellphone collection programs. Batteries are a long-lasting power source for many electronic devices, including laptop computers, cellphones, cordless phones, cordless power tools, and tablets. Since 1996, over 34 million kilograms of batteries and cellphones have been collected through Call2Recycle.



Call2Recycle is the only no-cost battery and cellphone collection program in North America. Since 1996, Call2Recycle has diverted over 35 million kilograms of batteries and cellphones from the solid waste stream and established a network of 30,000 collection sites throughout the U.S. and Canada. It is the first program of its kind to receive the Responsible Recycling Practices Standard (R2) certification. Founded in 1994, Call2Recycle is a non-profit organization.

Our collection Box is in the front entrance of the church, just drop off your used household batteries and cell phones when you come to church. How easy is that?

#### **Update on our sister church in Goma - From Cathy Cleary and Heather Haines**

##### Greetings

After much thought and discussion, I wanted to let you know that Heather and I decided not to go to Congo in November. Family and friends were very concerned about us travelling there with the Ebola crisis and we felt the need to honour their feelings and not cause stress or anxiety to those who love and support us. I did still travel to Tanzania to lead the medical team to Ukerewe Island – Tanzania being on the very east coast of Africa – and our medical mission was very successful.

We continue to be in contact with Kizungu and he is moving ahead with a number of projects we are sponsoring including the Women's Training Centre purchase, the building of a school and the purchase of agricultural land to grow food to feed the women and children. We did have sad news yesterday that the Sewing Teacher's daughter died and she was heading back to her village. This same teacher had another child die just a few months ago while going to collect water. The lives of the people can be so difficult.

I am sending some money to Kizungu next week to provide a gift to each of the Tchukudu women for Christmas – we have asked them what they would most like and offered a chicken for each along with a small cash gift. I hope in some small way this helps them to know that we are thinking of them and praying for them daily.

Heather and I are making plans to visit in April and will be delighted to take the amazing banner to the children when we are there. We were very sad to not be seeing the women and children of Goma last month however we are looking forward to our visit in April.

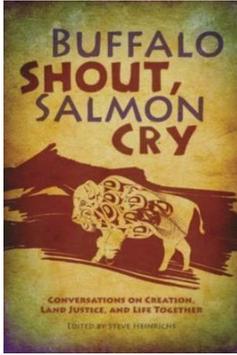
Thanks you all for your support and prayers. Cathy

## LENTEN STUDY

Buffalo Shout, Salmon Cry

Conversations on Creation, Land Justice, and Life Together.

commencing **Wednesday, February 25**, 7 – 9 p.m., St. James' Anglican Church, 10 Union St., W., Kingston, ON. Available books - \$23/copy. Contact Deacon Sharon Dunlop, [sdunlop@ontario.anglican.ca](mailto:sdunlop@ontario.anglican.ca) or Pastor Steve Hoffard [steve.hoffard@gmail.com](mailto:steve.hoffard@gmail.com) to register.



How can North Americans come to terms with the lamentable clash between indigenous and settler cultures, faiths, and attitudes toward creation? Showcasing a variety of voices—both traditional and Christian, native and non-native—Buffalo Shout, Salmon Cry offers up alternative histories, radical theologies, and poetic, life-giving memories that can unsettle our souls and work toward reconciliation.

This book is intended for all who are interested in healing historical wounds of racism, stolen land, and cultural exploitation. Essays on land use, creation, history, and faith appear among poems and reflections by people across ethnic and religious divides. The writers do not always agree—in fact, some are bound to raise readers' defenses. But they represent the hard truths that we must hear before reconciliation can come. Prepare to be “unsettled”.

### The Deacon's Corner

### THE FLIP SIDE LENT 2015

Anyone remember the old 45's? They came between 78's and LP's, back in the days of vinyl. On one side of the 45 there'd be a “hit single” and on the other – well, what WAS on the other side? -- probably not remembered, unless you were a real record buff.

Sometimes I think of Lent as the flip side of Christmas. Christmas being the hit tune, popular and widely recognized. Lent, on the other side, is hardly noted outside a circle of committed followers. Christmas has become a time to eat, drink and be merry. Lent, traditionally, was not. The closest most of us get to fasting and other disciplines is those New Year's resolutions: eat less, exercise more, study harder, get caught up on the bills, and do the taxes on time.

But what might committed followers discover, when we turn the Christmas record over during Lent? What if we try tuning our ears to pick up sounds and voices we haven't listened to before? They have been there all along. We missed them while louder ones grabbed our attention. The very young, the very old, the very near at hand, the very far away. Maybe we gave them gifts at Christmas, and maybe they have thanked us. But have we really taken in, and thought about, all they want to say to us?

Time, it all takes time. What is Lent, if not time? What have we overlooked as we bustle along at our usual speed? Now is a chance to check out not just what's on top, the obvious, but what's underneath the issues and decisions we wrestle with from day to day. We can read, study, pray, and discuss, keeping a few possibilities open. Other sides and other songs are out there. They do turn up from time to time, enriching our lives.

In the weeks to come we will listen once more to stories told over and over. There will be familiar music, heard time and again. We move through travels and trials, through sorrow to joy. Our stories and songs are not flat, one-hit wonders. They have many sides, many people and many voices.

In Lent, may the riches of scripture and tradition be renewed by study, reflection and prayer. May we learn to listen well, and understand more deeply the voices of our communities and the world. May the joyful sound of Easter ring out loud and clear!

Jane

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church invites you to**

**Come and Enjoy Valentine's Day  
February 14, 2015**

**1pm to 4pm**

Admission by good will donation

Music, Laughter, Beauty,  
Sweets for the Sweet

Take time to Sit and  
Listen to some lovely music.  
Sip a cup of tea.

Enjoy the Beauty of Art & Music on this special day set aside for  
Love!

Bring your sweetheart, children, husband, wife and friends.

**Music by:**

John Storms                      Jason and Pam  
Church Choir                      Tina  
Kim Duca and Trio

**Art by:**

Patsy Butchart                      Cathy Clark  
Shirley –Gibson Langelle      Cindy Johnson  
Heather Aldous Brown

Mural by the young people of St. Mark's



**You are invited to celebrate**

**Els Tillberg**  
(Elaine Agarand's mother)

90th Birthday

There will be a drop in open  
house on

Monday, April 6  
2 to 4 at the Emerald Street  
Adult Community Clubhouse.

Best wishes only.  
Everyone is welcome.

Please RVSP with Elaine  
Agarand at 613-536-5750.

Please let us know if you would like to receive a newsletter. Print or Email copies available. Just let us know!

**St Mark's Lutheran Church**

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