

Offertory Invitation

Offering

Offertory Chorus:

537

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help You everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share. Because we love You and Your work, our offering now we make: be pleased to use it as Your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

Offertory Prayer: (together) These gifts, O God, are given with our hearts, our hands, our spirits. Accept them as Christ accepted all who came, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Musical Offering: *Berceuse by L. Vierne*

Scripture: James 1: 17-27

Meditation

Hymn: *It Only Takes a Spark* 289

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: *One More Step Along the World I Go* 639

Blessing and Sending Forth:

One: Go now with the guidance and grace of God. Let your life portray God's word in human form.

All: We will show by touch and word, devotion to God, to the earth, and to all creation.

Benediction followed by Musical Postlude

St. James United Church Life and Work, September 2, 2018

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations:

***to the Cemetery Fund** in loving memory of husband Gilbert Hiscock from wife Ruby and family;

***to the General Fund** from Barbara Taylor, and in loving memory of Rita Hann from Lillian & Gilbert Thomas;

***to the Memorial Fund** in loving memory of Ross Pilgrim from Catherine & Baxter Rose and Gus & Winona Kelsey;

***to the Painting Fund** from Howard & Alice Forsey.

Financial Update:

To meet our budget, we need average weekly givings of \$4,115.
Giving's for: August 12: \$2,508
August 19: \$2,611
August 26: \$2,511

The church office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, September 3.

Tickets for our Diamond Anniversary Celebrations are available for purchase or reservation from our Church Office. This milestone event will take place on Saturday, November 17 at 6 for 6:30pm in the Auditorium. Cost is \$25 per ticket.

***Please remember to park in the line nearest Elizabeth Avenue**, reserved for Church Parking, when coming to St. James during the week, day or afternoon. Anywhere else in the parking lot is liable for a ticket.

***Telephone Extensions:** When you need to call after hours or leave a message for the ministers or office, please use the following extensions:
Church Office, 200; Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald, 203; Susan Sheppard, 204; Property Office, 205; Choir Room, 206 and Kitchen, 207. Please note that the Property Office, the Choir Room and the Kitchen do not have mailboxes for messages.

Next Sunday, September 9, sees the annual start-up of:

- *9:30 Contemporary Service;
- *Sunday School during the 11am Worship Service;
- *Youth Group for all youth in grades 5-12, 5:30-8pm.

Looking ahead in September:

- *Thursday, September 13: *Not a Bible Study* resumes;
- *Saturday, September 15: Back to School BBQ 12:30-3:30 at St. James;
- *Saturday, September 15: Burry Heights Day; see posters! Purchase tickets for the dinner theatre at 754-8824;
- *Sunday, September 16: Terry Fox walk with our youth group. You are all invited to walk along with them! If you are interested in joining or sponsoring the team, or just making a donation, please talk with Katelyn Mayo, Hannah Sheppard, or any members of the youth group!
- *Monday, September 17: *Weekly Sewing Studio* opens: 3-5pm.
- *Sunday, September 23: The second annual Diversity Fair will take place after the service, from 12-2! St. James is a diverse community that welcomes all and promotes inclusion. Building off our commitment as part of Affirm United, our diversity committee works to promote inclusion of all persons in our community as an acknowledgement that every individual is equal and important to our mission. Every fall we organize a Diversity Fair, which this year is scheduled for September 23. As with anything, many hands make light work, so we are asking for assistance in making our event a success. If you are willing to lend your time and talent for this event, please let SuAn know and we'll be in touch.

Mercy Centre for Ecology and Justice is sponsoring:

- *Inter-denominational Bon Fire on Middle Cove Beach, September 21 at 7pm;
- *Reflection on Water event scheduled for Bowring Park, September 30 at 2pm.

You are invited to take time during the Season of Creation (September 1 – October 4) to become more aware of the beauty and importance of the natural world in our lives as well as for the obligation we have to preserve it.

Minutes for Mission: Our gifts for M&S support Indigenous ministries in downtown Toronto, where the urban Aboriginal population has increased dramatically. Toronto Urban Native Ministry (TUNM) has a heart for Indigenous people living on the margins of city life, reaching out to those in precarious life situations: on the streets, in prison, shelters, hostels and hospitals. An Ecumenical organization that integrates Christian and Aboriginal spirituality, TUNM provides counselling and spiritual care as well as referral to community services. It offers everything from spiritual mentorship to sharing circles for those Indigenous people who were taken from their families and place with predominately white foster homes from 1960-1980. Services on Sunday morning offer an opportunity for Aboriginal Christians worship. This is a time of story-telling, sharing of a meal, or activity led by an Indigenous Anglican priest or UCC minister. The services are diverse and responsive rather than liturgically sequential. Sacred gatherings like these offer connection and healing while honouring the Creator in all of creation. For urban Indigenous people living off reserve, they fill a vital need for spiritual and cultural community. Loving our neighbour is the heart of our M&S.

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