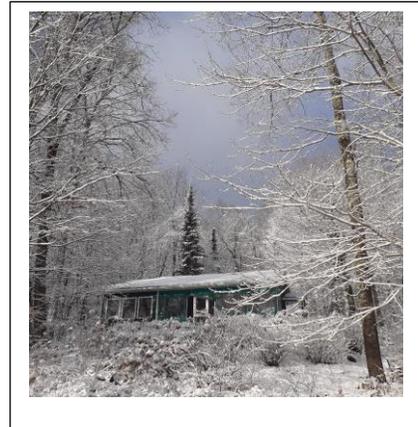


Coop's Scoops # 127, Tuesday November 17th 2020

Well, I guess today the title of my email should be Coop's Shovels, instead of Scoops. The snow has arrived! Whether that elates you or sends you into deep wagon ruts, the coming of snow does remind us that there are some things that NEVER change, even in Pandemics. The seasons come and go. The planet spins around the sun, and we hurtle through the universe just as we always have. And above all, God's purposes are sure, the Rock on which we've built our lives stands firm, Jesus' love compels our hope and trust, and we have one another through all manner of challenges.

I had hoped not to wear these red boots for another couple of weeks.

And doesn't my house look beautiful in its winter robes and laces traced by God's delicate and wondrous finger!



Today's Scoops is quicker than the Energizer Bunny, as my time is really limited today. More tomorrow!

A QUOTATION TO REMEMBER!

A parishioner at St. Thomas recently said something that touched me very deeply. Speaking about what she would respond if someone ever asked her "Why did God send this awful pandemic?" And she would say: "**God didn't sent it, but He did send me today. So how can I help?**" Not that is practical theology. That's the way we can love our neighbours and support each other by sharing our thoughts. Thankyou to our anonymous Light Bearer who wants to stay that way!

Please Pray:

- For our Concurrence Committee... John Mitchell, Peter May, Karen Syzkoluk, Jacquie Howell, Connie Knighton and Steve Newroth. There

prayerful work continues as they seek God's purposes and will for the selection of a new Priest for St. Thomas and Lake of Bays. Please pray also for any possible candidates whose hearts are turning toward this mission.

- For our Archbishop +Anne, Diocesan Archdeacon Jay, our Archdeacon Kelly and all who serve as Priests, Deacons and Wardens....for all who provide guidance and instruction for the well-being our of people during this surge of infections, and as we consider the coming Advent and Christmas season.
- For all in financial need, for those who are homeless, for those who juggle food and heating bills, for those who require practical help, asking God's blessings on the Winter Pantry at St. Ambrose, the outreach of Messy Church, and the usages of the Rector's discretionary and personal income.
- For creative ideas on how to support children and families over the Christmas season, adding God's blessings to the efforts of the Legions, the Salvation Army, other local church Christmas outreach programmes, and every human kindness put into practical help in our communities.
- For the sick in our parish ... there are many who's names I cannot send out who are suffering great distress and pain, some of whom are bravely making their final journeys, those waiting for medical procedures put on "hold", and those enduring depression and anxiety. Ask our Lord to send each of us where we need to "be", to do what needs to be "done" - with love, and in safety for ourselves and for others.
- Please remember that I am available by phone to pray with you at any time, and would consider that to be an honour and a privilege. Deacon Margaret+ too.

News from the Parish:

We have been upgrading our computers and changing our internet service provided which is a colossal undertaking with many a "slip and trip" along the way.....we have not been able to send out emails on our regular merged list and are trying to find a way to make that happen. Meanwhile Scoops may be getting to some people, but not to others. Makes no sense, but hey

it's the virtual world. If you do receive a Scoops today and could just reply with a "yes" or "received" it would help us to identify what still needs attention.

The new office email is 4stthomas@gmail.com. My own email address remains judie_cooper@yahoo.ca

Our Archbishop +Anne has been continually in touch with health experts and the epidemiologist helping the Diocese. She keeps us all in her daily prayers. There may be some changes coming down the line due to the huge surge in covid infections and the possibility of heightened community spread as people come to Muskoka over the Christmas season to shop, dine, and visit with family members. Many families have made the choice NOT to travel this year leaving some empty chairs at our tables. It will be hard. Yet there are still many ways in which we can celebrate and get together through the internet or snailmail or telephone calls. We will have to be careful and vigilant in minimizing our excursions into the community and limiting or prohibiting visitors in our homes. Listen to the best guidance you can, and make your decisions and know that you are loved and cared for and prayed for by your brothers and sisters in faith and all who serve you in leadership.

Shirley Burton has heard from Anne (Sampson) Weeks that her brother Paul Sampson passed into the Kingdom of God last week. The family have been attenders and supporters of St. Ambrose for a very long time, and our hearts go out to them as they grieve for Paul

"Rest eternal grant unto Paul, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon him" . Anne can be contact at weeks@hotmail.com The obituary for Paul Sampson is available at Muskoka Cremation.ca

To cheer our hearts and tickle our funny bones!



We're cleaning up without a budget! And, yes, it is still Fall!

Watch for a full meditation and Scripture tomorrow.....trying to get this out in order to see whether or not people are receiving it!

Meanwhile, the Lord be with you, the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord be gracious unto you and give you peace! - Judie+

