

## **Coop's Scoops #88, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

We begin today with a few “hats off’s”:

**To John Andison**, who cares for our St. Thomas Cemetery, and who has been very busy there this year. He’s the man who chairs the Cemetery Board and arranges for interments or burials, marking of plots, and access, thus ensuring that everything is always running beautifully. I’ve heard that another of the St. T “angels” **Nancy Cox-Godfrey** is also often found in the cemetery doing helpful things. The Cemetery Board Secretary **Marsha Smart** is keeping all the paper work in order – phew! John recently reminded me that we have a great new Columbarium section ready for applicants for all the “best” niches. Give John a call if you want to purchase a niche....it is a great value, in a beautiful setting, and comes with a strong commitment to perpetual care.

**To Deacon Margaret Morrison**, who prayerfully serves our Lake of Bays communities. Check out the St Thomas Church Facebook Page, the All Saint’s Huntsville web page or the Deanery of Muskoka website, to join in worship as she leads a **Morning Prayer Service from St. James, Port Cunnington on Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Readers/ prayers are Karen Szykolok, Mike Green and Joanne Cunnington. Rev. Judie is preaching and providing some keyboard music.

**To Wardens** Susan Pond, Andrew Stewart, Paul LeMay, Peter May, Joanne Krawczyk and Bill Johnson, Karen Szykolok , Mike Green, and Susan and Gary Magee. There have many extra zoom meetings, local meetings, assistance with services, planning for de-consecrations as well as preparing for re-opening for public worship at the right time... all meaning extra hours of work for them on our behalf. We are grateful

**To Faithful Disciples:** My hat is tipped to **every** single brother or sister of faith that I have encountered during this entire covid period. There is a spirit of gentleness, realism, hope, and compassion pouring out onto others in so many different ways. There are also tears and songs of joy as needed, as given and received. Well done, good and faithful servants!



### **Mark Your Calendars:**

Archdeacon Kelly Baetz will represent Archbishop +Anne Germond in leading a service of the De-Consecration of St. Mary Magdalene Church in Dorset on August 30<sup>th</sup> at 1pm, outside the church building. Please be masked, as there is not much room for social distancing. At this time, we offer thanks to God for the spiritual heritage and history of this wonderful church. We remember the baptisms and weddings and services of Christian Burial and suppers and family events enjoyed by our ancestors, ourselves and our own families and pray that this legacy will continue to bless others even as the doors are closed. If you require any further information please call the wardens Joanne or Bill or Rev. Judie at 705 205 0549.

The De-Consecration of St. John's, Fox Point, will occur on Thanksgiving weekend with more information to follow.

### **Your Laugh for the Day (Sent in by Alva ) ( They're good ones!)**

I found this timely, because today I was in a shoe store that sells only shoes, nothing else. A young girl with a tattoo and green hair walked over to me and asked, "What brings you in today? I looked at her and said, "I'm interested in buying a refrigerator." She didn't quite know how to respond, had that deer in the headlights look.

I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.

When people see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" I just say, "No, it's for company!"

Employment application blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write, "An ambulance."

The older you get the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Have you ever noticed: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL. (ouch!)

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he knows when he's really in trouble.

Did you ever notice that when you put the 2 words "The" and "IRS" together it spells "Theirs?" (double ouch)

**Aging:** Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it. Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me. I want people to know why I look this way.

I've traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up, sags or leaks.

Ah! Being young is beautiful but being old is comfortable. (AHHHH!)

**Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth.**

**May you always have: Love to share, Cash to spare, Tires with air, And friends who care. Amen.**



**"Billy says he doesn't hafta go to church anymore 'cause his phone has an app for that!"**

**Scripture for Today: Jeremiah 29: 11-14**

**1 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.**

**12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.**

**13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.**

**14 I will be found by you,” declares the LORD, “and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the LORD, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.**

These verses from Jeremiah are assuring captives in exile that God has nothing but good planned for their future. Attaining that good will involve seeking after God, God will listen to them, God will let them FIND Him. When that happens, then freedom and peace will result.

Over my ministry, I've had scores of people come to me with the awesome question: "What does God want me to do with my life? How do I know whether I should be a cabinetmaker or a singer, a teacher or a life-long learner?" I am sometimes overwhelmed with my own inadequacy in addressing such heartfelt questions. At other times, I have heard people say things like "I don't think it matters specifically what I do...I think it matters that whatever I do, I do for God and the benefit of people". One time, recently actually, I heard a woman say "I just want to help people, it's all I've ever really wanted to do". She was rejoicing in the ways that she could help.

I'm bowing now to a theologian whom I much admire to shed some light on this for all of us. His name is Frederick Buechner. He writes the following in his book "Listening to Your Life":

**“Vocation”: the word comes from the Latin *vocare*, to call, and means the work a person is called to by God. There are all different kinds of voices calling us to all different kinds of work, and the task is to find out which is the voice of God rather than of Society, or the Superego, or Self-interest.**

By and large, a good rule for finding out is this: The kind of work God usually calls one to is the kind of work (a) that one needs/wants most to do and (b) the kind of work the world most needs to be done. If you really get a kick out of your work, you've presumably met requirement (a), but if your work is writing TV deodorant commercials, the chances are you've missed requirement (b). On the other hand, if your work is being a doctor in a leper colony, you have probably met requirement (b), but if most of the time you are bored or depressed by it, the chances are that you have bypassed requirement (a) altogether, and your patients aren't being helped as much as they could.

Neither a scratchy hair shirt or a soft cushioned berth will do. The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet. ”

### Prayer for Today:

O God, who hast bound us together in the bundle of life, give us grace to understand how our lives depend upon the courage, the industry, the honesty and the integrity of our fellow pilgrims; that we may be mindful of their needs, grateful for their faithfulness, and faithful in our responsibilities to them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen ( Reinhold Niebuhr, 1892-1971)

The blessing of our Lord be upon you always, in all you do, and in all you are!

Rev. Judie+