



Newsletter for  
St. John's Anglican Church  
23 Dover St, Otterville  
December 2018

### Upcoming Events

#### December 2<sup>nd</sup>

White Gift Sunday with Pot Luck  
Christmas Lunch after service

#### December 16<sup>th</sup>

Festival of Lessons and Carols

#### December 24<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Eve Service at 7 pm

#### Vestry Meeting

January 27, 2019 after morning  
service with potluck lunch

## A Wrinkle in Time

Recently, I watched a movie I had meant to see for a while: "A Wrinkle in Time". It is based on the novel by Madelaine L'Engle. Beautifully filmed and acted, with wonderful special effects and great actors, it follows the adventures of three young people as they search for the physicist professor who was father for two of the kids. He has slipped through a wrinkle in time and space and was being held by evil power. At the end, all is restored and Dad and the kids come home.

Sometimes I wish I had the opportunity to slip through time and space. Life often seems better somewhere else or some other time, some place or time remembered by us as better or a future that could be better. I was thinking about this as I struggled to write a Christmasy message for this newsletter. Not feeling especially Christmasy just now, I could just jump ahead to Christmas Eve. Or maybe even back to Bethlehem to be by the manger to experience the excitement and awe of the shepherds. To see angels with them!

We are called by God to live here and now, just where God has placed us. To live with awe and love and excitement today, to see God's hand in what happens today. Not pine over what was or what could yet be, sometime. We are called to attend to angel's around us, the birth again of Christ in our hearts and the justice, power and love of God's kingdom.

O Come let us adore Him!

Blessings,  
*Rev. Larry*



We need YOU this December. Help a patient in need so they can enjoy the holidays with their family and friends. Give back to the community and help us save lives this holiday season.

### How can you help?

- Donate Blood – book an appointment and find out if you're eligible to donate at [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca)
- Organize a group blood drive (friends, family, workplace, team, community group) – Email [kristen.ungar@blood.ca](mailto:kristen.ungar@blood.ca)
- Become a Volunteer – Apply at <https://blood.ca/en/ways-donate/volunteering>
- Share this message with your friends, family and colleagues in the community

### Norwich Mobile Blood Donor Centre @ Norwich Community Centre

Monday, December 17

4:30pm-8:30pm

77 units of blood are needed to meet hospital demand

## REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A  
FOOD BANK.

December 1 - box of cereal  
December 2 - peanut butter  
December 3 - stuffing mix  
December 4 - boxed potatoes  
December 5 - macaroni and cheese  
December 6 - canned fruit  
December 7 - canned tomatoes  
December 8 - canned tuna  
December 9 - dessert mix  
December 10 - jar of applesauce  
December 11 - canned sweet potatoes  
December 12 - cranberry sauce  
December 13 - canned beans  
December 14 - box of crackers  
December 15 - package of rice  
December 16 - package of oatmeal  
December 17 - package pasta  
December 18 - spaghetti sauce  
December 19 - chicken noodle soup  
December 20 - tomato soup  
December 21 - can corn  
December 22 - can mixed vegetables  
December 23 - can carrots  
December 24 - can green beans




**World Vision**®

Meet our World Vision children:

**Waldemar Antoni from El Salvador. His birthday is October 25<sup>th</sup> and he is 9 years old.**

**Jose Luis and he is from the Honduras. His birthday is April 2<sup>nd</sup> and he is 9 years old.**

Meet Waldemar  
Antonio



Jose Luis  
Birthdate: April 2, 2008  
CMI ID: HND 195297-0162

*Reminder:*

Bring in items for  
the food bank  
especially for  
*Those In Need*





I will praise You,  
for I am fearfully and  
wonderfully made;  
Marvelous are Your  
works, And that my soul  
knows very well.



## God's Perfect Plan for our Church Finances

God blessed our church with many resources – people, time and money – and He expects us to be good stewards with what He provides. Members tithe on their income to support the operation of the ministry, making it even more important to be good stewards and manage financial resources responsibly.

So what is the definition of stewardship? According to dictionary.com, Stewardship is, “the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving“. In the church, stewardship is the responsible oversight of church funds, property and equipment. How do we do this?

1. Creating a mission, vision and values statement that articulates the purpose of the church and what it hopes to achieve as an organization. We did this in 2017.
2. Creating a budget and living with it. We do this each year.
3. Wise spending decisions and the council works on this
4. Accountability for Managing Funds. We present each year our Financial statements for Vestry.

Why is it important to think about this NOW? Our church is struggling to meet our financial needs and it is important to do our part in assisting with the stewardship of the church.

Money is needed for most of the things we do. This is true in the church as well as in our personal lives. It is the work of the church to preach the gospel, edify the saved and to help the needy. This work requires money. How can the church get the money to carry out the work God has given it to do? God has given a perfect pattern for the work, worship, and organization of His church. This plan is outlined above and God's way is best! His plan works if it is put into practice! If we will follow God's plan for church finance, His church will have all the money it needs to do all the work God wants it to do! Philippians 4:19. “And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.”



This is Number Four Concert of our  
Fall Series, plan on attending and  
bring a friend.



**Christmas Jazz  
Piano  
Concert**

Featuring Christopher Norton  
December 7th at 7:00 PM

St. John's Anglican Church  
23 Dover St. Otterville  
(free will offering)

# Events

## From this past fall

This has been a busy fall for our church congregation starting with September and Welcome Back to Church Sunday. Our Church Council have met two times this fall to discuss the business of the church and to plan for the coming Christmas season.

We have enjoyed 3 of 4 concerts this fall with average attendance over 50 people for these concerts. With these concerts we hope to reach out to people who may have never come to our church before and we hope that they will come back and worship with us on a Sunday morning. If not, then we hope that they have heard the message about God's love for them through the songs and the ministry of those who presented in each of the concerts.

September 21<sup>st</sup> with the Stiff Family Bluegrass Gospel Concert



October 12<sup>th</sup> Eduard Klassen, Paraguain Folk Harpist



November 16<sup>th</sup> the Lynn Valley Voices



Dusk of Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup> our church bells rang out 100 times. Thank you to Dave VanWyk for ringing the bells for us and to Lance Body for making the arrangements.



Tuesday November 13<sup>th</sup> our church participated in the church tours put on by the South Norwich Historical Society. Thank you to Lance Body for being our host.

