



The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

As the last bit of snow disappears, the warmer temperatures and more daylight brings the promise of springtime. Most of us already anticipate the crocuses, tulips and daffodils brightening our days. If we have a vegetable garden, we are looking at seed catalogues or starting our seedlings now to transplant. Later, we will be sharing the harvest with family and friends. Flower beds will add to the beauty of our neighbourhoods. There is something reassuring to see the first robin of Spring return to our yards, or seeing the osprey and eagles return and fly overhead at Russell Lake. Nature and the seasons teach and offers us hope.

Likewise, the Easter season invites us to look at our world with a renewed sense of hope. On the first

Easter morning, the women approached the tomb with heavy hearts. Jesus, their teacher and friend, had introduced them to a different and inspiring approach to life. It gave them a sense of vitality and living in harmony with God. His arrest, trial and death devastated the women with grief. When they reached the tomb in the early hours of the morning, their world looked bleak and frightening. As Jerusalem woke to the sunrise and carried on with daily life, the women's experience with the risen Christ that Easter morning changed them forever.

Our world today often does not reflect the values which we believe to be important to God. We may feel powerless to affect world events, but we still pray and hope for peace in the many troubled areas. It is very human to

believe we can do little to directly change things. Peace didn't come in its fullness on the first Easter morning. It is not going to miraculously change now. Our calling is to live and share peace where we are and where we can.

We can do that as we contribute a box of cereal to a breakfast program in our local schools. We can spread the word to friends and neighbors about the ongoing need for furniture and household necessities for the Ukrainian Store in our church hall. Our donations to Alongside Hope (PWRDF) working with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank provided food supplies to 13,000 households in Kenya experiencing the worst drought in 40 years, and many more efforts globally. The six emergency vehicles that

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

HOLY WEEK SERVICES	2
LITTLE FREE LIBRARY	2
ALTAR GUILD	3
MOTHERS' UNION	3
ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN / PROJECTS	3
PARISH OUTREACH-DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY	3
4 TH DARTMOUTH SPARKS & EMBERS	3
EASTER FLOWERS	3
GRADUATIONS	4
BETTY PITT'S BIRTHDAY	4
EASTER MEMORIALS	4



UKRAINIAN STORE SUPPORT

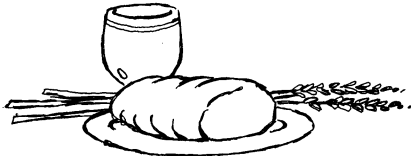
Ukrainians are still arriving in Nova Scotia fleeing the Russian invasion of their homeland. Most arrive in the Halifax-Dartmouth area needing the essentials including mattresses, linens, dishes, etc. Parish Council supports them by lending them our hall to collect donations and distribute the items to the newcomers. The Store is open in our hall to receive donations on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

PARISH PATTERN

were provided to frontline medics in Ukraine have saved hundreds of lives. So many stories of work at home and around the world bear witness to the spreading of God's light. Acts of kindness, compassion and love create peace. St. John tells us, "Everything that was created received its life from him, and his life

gave light to everyone. The light keeps shining in the dark and darkness has never put it out." (St. John 1:3b-5, Contemporary English Version). The invitation is to bear witness to the light that is in each of us.

Thanks be to God,
Edwin



Holy Week Services

Wednesday in Holy Week

April 16

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday

April 17

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday
Holy Eucharist, B.A.S.

Good Friday

April 18

10:00 a.m. Good Friday Liturgy
B.A.S.

1:30 p.m. Ecumenical Service

Holy Saturday

April 19

9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil, B.A.S.

EASTER DAY

April 20

10:00 a.m. Family Eucharist, B.A.S.

SOUTHDALE SPIRIT LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Charter #191044, www.LittleFreeLibraries.org
"Building community. Inspiring readers. Expanding book access for all."



The full article was submitted to The Diocesan Times for May 2024.

On September 8th, 2024, International Literacy Day, this bright blue 3 storey LFL became an addition to our neighborhood on the church property of the Anglican Church of the Holy Spirit. Some may have also seen a post on the Dartmouth Region of the Canadian

Anglican Diocese of NS & PEI Facebook page on March 11th.

We won 2 copies of Count My Lies by Sophie Staval Good Morning America, and their GMA Book Club, partners with Little Free Libraries. We also have won the children's book Storyteller Skye: Teachings from my Ojibway Grandfather from Medicine Wheel Publishing.

Our bookmarks and bookplates reflect the LFL concept. "Take a Book. Share a Book. If you see something you would like to read, take it. When you're finished, share it with a friend, bring it back here, or leave it in another LFL. If you treasure it, you can keep it! It is up to everyone to keep this Library full of good reads, so please bring books to share when you can."

Our Southdale Spirit Little Free Library has a unique logo of a dove with an open book for its wing. It is an inclusive LFL with all genres – mysteries and suspense, romance, cookbooks, Anime, local history and authors, spiritual, etc. The design has a cubby (ABC) at children's height for our visitors to pick out a special book!

Opening a LFL can open possibilities for anywhere, any neighborhood – from book clubs, author readings, special events for families, teddy bear picnics, etc. There are over 200,000 registered Little Free

(Continued on page 4)



Mothers' Union

In February the Mothers' Union along with the Parish Family celebrated Betty Pitt's 100th birthday. We delivered our Mock Baby Shower items to Holy Trinity Emmanuel for their Layette Program and we also sent a monetary donation to Mission to Seafarers. In March we celebrated the Annunciation on Sunday, March 30 with a wonderful Lady Day service. The Eucharist was celebrated by Father Jim and the sermon was given by Betty Pitt. Our members participated by placing various items on a table placed before the congregation and reading portions printed in the service. Carnations were given to all the women in the congregation. In April several members of St. Luke's and Church of St. Andrew's Mothers' Union joined our group for fellowship. Have a blessed Easter Season. Creative Prayer: Look out of a window or go for a walk and take note of three things you see which give you pleasure. Give thanks for the lens of faith and thankfulness through which we can appreciate and enjoy God's gift of abundant life. Amen. Branch Leader, Linda Greene.

TULIPS ARE UP

It is a sure sign of spring when the crocus, daffodils, and tulips break through the soil. Check out the courtyard and you will see some new growth. A member of the congregation donated tulips and Ryan Ferguson planted them for us.

St. Mary of Bethany Altar Guild

The members of the Altar Guild will be meeting on April 19, 2025 at 10 a.m. to prepare for the Easter celebrations of Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. Memorial donations for flowers will be greatly appreciated. Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with the most gracious favour, and further us with thy continued help. That in all our works begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may glorify thy Holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Directress, Linda Greene.

4TH DARTMOUTH SPARKS AND EMBERS

The Sparks and Embers have been having a great Guiding Year! We have increased our membership to 10 youth and we have space for more. Right now Girl Guides of Canada is running a campaign called Try Now Join Later (TNJL). Units with space can welcome TNJL youth free of charge! It is a great opportunity to give Guiding a try. Thanks so much for supporting the unit through cookie sales. Our chocolate and vanilla cookies are available now in the Vestry Room. (Speak to David Spencer.) In the weeks to come, we will be supporting the breakfast program at Dartmouth South Academy, having a sleepover (we hope!), teaching the Sparks and Embers about the importance of self-care, and are heading to camp in June. Lianna, Melissa, and I are excited about what the rest of the Guiding Year will bring. Thank you for allowing us the space to fulfil GGC's mission – to be a catalyst for girls empowering girls. Beth Spencer, Contact Guider 4th Dartmouth Sparks and Embers.



Anglican Church Women & Projects Committee

We have been having "Mini Markets" once a month following the Family Eucharist service on Sundays. Our last sale was of puzzles and paperbacks. We also had some fundraiser eggs. Our proceeds for the church were \$161.50. Our next mini market will be a bake sale on April 27 following Family Eucharist. Donations gratefully accepted. Call Marie 902-463-4769.

DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

In speaking with a staff member at Dartmouth South Academy recently she said that the need for nutritious food is growing. Many children are still not able to have breakfast at home and the staff are very appreciative for the items we provide. Children do better in school when they have had breakfast. No child should go hungry. We are thankful for the members of our congregation who donate cereal, fruit cups, Nutri grain bars or other items including pancake mix for the children's meals. There is a box in the entryway of the church. We have already delivered many large reusable bags of items and will continue to do so when the box is full. The staff was most appreciative of our donations.



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Libraries in 128 countries and counting! Our neighborhood has many apartment buildings in the vicinity. We know after the pandemic, to get outside, go for a walk if you are able, to meet a friend or neighbor breaks the isolation and is good for our mental and physical health. Our committee, with our Parish Council and church members, hopes to expand on this "neighborhood placemaking" project by adding an accessible picnic table this year near the LFL for all to enjoy a cup of coffee with a neighbor, or to read a book side by side with a member of the family or enjoy a picnic lunch while picking out a book. Lake City

Woodworkers is local and makes these unique tables. Our LFL is also accessible for walkers, wheelchairs and strollers. If you wish to donate to the picnic table project, please visit our website www.holyspiritrm.ca. Cheques may be made payable and mailed to Church of the Holy Spirit and note for LFL fund on the cheque please. Receipts will be sent year-end for donations for income tax purposes too.

Monica L. Ebsary, currently reading and enjoying *Along The Way* by Nikki Banas
Southdale Spirit LFL steward



Betty Pitt Celebrating her 100th Birthday with her daughters



Betty Pitt preaching on Mothering Sunday.

Graduations

Will there be a high school, college or university graduation celebrated in your family this spring? If so, and you pass along the name and address to the secretary, Marie George, 463-4769 or call the church 463-6544, we will make sure a card goes out to the graduate.

EASTER MEMORIALS

Donations are now being accepted for "Easter Memorials." Please mark your envelope clearly – EASTER MEMORIALS and include the following form, then put your envelope on the offering plate or in the mail slot. Thank you.

From _____

Envelope No. / PAR _____ Amount _____

In Memory of _____

Donation For _____