

St. Thomas' Anglican Church

Don't forget to....

TURN YOUR CLOCKS
BACK

ONE HOUR

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WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

November 3rd and 4th, 2012

Come and worship with us on:

Thursday—10:00 a.m.—Quiet Communion

Saturday—5:00 p.m.—Contemporary Communion

Sunday—8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion

Sunday—10:30 a.m.—Holy Communion

Weekly Notices

The **Annual Tea & Bazaar** will be this Saturday, November 3rd from 1:00—3:30 p.m. Tickets will be \$4.00, or \$2.00 for children under 12.

(Thank you to Monica Gibson and all who have supported and helped to make our Annual Tea and Bazaar a success)



Basics Concepts of Dementia Care—a Workshop for Thunder Bay Deanery, Saturday, November 24th, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m., St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, 228 Pearl Street, Thunder Bay. The workshop will be presented by Cindy Backen, Psychogeriatric Resource Consultant for Thunder Bay area. The discussion will focus on how to provide care to someone living with progressive dementia. This is a timely topic, as many of us are supporting someone with this type of need. Please call St. John's office @ 345-6898 by November 15th to confirm your attendance and leave your name and phone number. The registration fee is \$5.00 payable at the door. Refreshments will be served.

Mother's Union is collecting **Christmas Mugs** to be filled with treats and given out to each of our food cupboard recipients. If you have any left over mini-chocolate bars from Halloween, we would love to get them. Any donation can be in the Feed the Hungry bins at the back of the church. Also, we welcome any Christmas Mugs that you can donate for this cause. Thank you for your continued support of both Mother's Union and the food cupboard.



Weekly Notices continued...

There will be a **Mothers' Union meeting** on Tuesday, November 6th @ 7:00 p.m. in Haddon Hall; with a presentation from the Alzheimer's Society — 'Heads up for Healthier Brains.' All welcome.

There will be an **ACW Meeting** on Tuesday, November 13th @ 1:30 p.m. in Haddon Hall. Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child will be packed. All Parish Women are invited.



Dona Toohey wishes to extend her 'heart-felt thank you' to everyone for their love, support, prayers, and good wishes during her time of surgery and recuperation.

Thank you to **Ken Koza** for the wonderful job he did renovating the rectory (with a good deal of help from his dad, **Greg Koza**). Everyone is welcome to **tour the rectory** immediately following the services this Sunday morning. Please remove your shoes at the door. The McClures will begin moving in next week. The second rectory on North Edward will soon be rented out.

Next Sunday, November 11th, we will have regular Sunday services at 8:30 and 10:30, acknowledging the sacrifices made for peace and freedom. Pastor Doug will also preside at the Remembrance Service at Isabella Retirement Home on Thursday, November 8th @ 11:15 a.m.

The **2013 Church Calendars** are available from Ellen Zimmerman in the Church Office or during Sunday fellowship time—for only \$5.00. Hurry to get yours as we have a very limited supply!

The **2013 Offering Envelopes** will soon be available. If you wish to begin using Offering Envelopes in the new year, or need to make changes to name/addresses, please advise Ellen Zimmerman in the Church Office.

This Sunday, November 4th is 'Food Sunday.' Please bring your offerings for our food cupboard. Financial contributions are also most welcome. We recently received a generous donation of fresh produce from one of our parishioners. Pictured here are Garry and Janis Barker with the packages of carrots, potatoes, and onions that recipients were so pleased to receive.



Weekly Notices continued...



Work at the rectory is coming to completion.

Some of the ladies from the parish worked hard to clean up and get everything ready for the McClures to move in.

Pictured here are: Janice Barker, Peggy Garriock, Janice Koza, Cathy Omel-janiuk, and Georgine Salmonson. We're told that the 'camera man' - Greg Koza—was also hard at work with the ladies to get everything spic and span.



Dear Friends at St. Thomas Anglican Church,

Thank you so much for your interest and support for the ministry of Nation at Prayer in North-western Ontario. We enjoy our times with the Hour of Prayer group, and we are so encouraged to see you engaged in prayer.

Charlie has been blessed in his participation in Band of Brothers Men's Ministry.

May the Lord richly bless you, with all spiritual blessings, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Love in Christ,

BEING DRAWN CLOSER TO GOD by Janice Koza

In the past few years, I've found myself in a much different place spiritually. This led me to take the new Adult Christian Learning Class being offered Wednesday nights from 7:00—9:00 p.m. Classes are being co-presented by Pastor Doug and Ellen Zimmerman, a parish Lay Reader. Topics include: the Bible, prayer, sacraments, Anglican ways, etc.

I had been confirmed early in life but now wanted to take this class as preparation to reaffirm my baptismal vows. Though I was confirmed as a teenager, I am now in my late 50's and in a much different place in my walk with Jesus. We have had 3 classes so far and I have learned so much and so many questions that I have had have been answered. I am finding I am being drawn closer to God and all that He means to me and how important He is in my life everyday. We have 5 more classes left and I am excited to find out what more I will learn and how I will grow in my faith. I don't think it's possible to ever learn everything that Jesus and the Bible can teach. I am so happy that I decided to take this class and how it will enrich my life. I encourage others interested in learning and growing as a Christian to join us Wednesday nights.

Our dog Maggee has a compromised immune system due to the heavy medications she needs to take. So when she gets a cut or a sore, it often doesn't heal very well. The other day, we discovered a wound on her shoulder. We have no idea how it got there - perhaps she caught it on something outside - but it was a mess and had to be taken care of. After a few days of trying to keep the wound clean and eliminate the possibility of infection, it was becoming quite challenging because I couldn't find a bandage that would stick to her Basset fur. In desperation, I finally took a sterile gauze pad and stuck a piece of duct tape on top of it. And you guessed it - it stuck! And surprisingly, it comes off quite easily when I need to change the bandage. Which just goes to prove that Doug's philosophy in life is correct - when all else fails, use duct tape. The real test of course was to see if it stayed on through the night and sure enough it did. When Doug got up in the morning and saw his silver-taped Basset, he said, "Look at that. We've got Red Green's dog!" Then I think he mumbled some 'Man's Prayer mantra' - "I'm a man, but I can change, I have to, I guess."

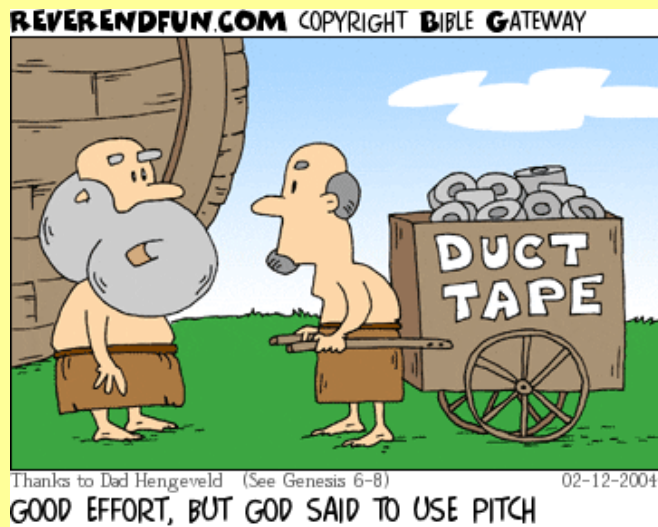
Now here's the thing. Yes, duct tape is a wonderful product and even though it professes to do miraculous things, it can't fix everything. The list is endless, however, in terms of claims as to what it can fix. For example, there are several studies that claim that duct tape is as or more effective in treating the common wart than the standard approach of freezing them off with liquid nitrogen. There are other studies that have failed to corroborate these results but the fact is whether it pans out or not someone had to apply for that first grant. How many times do you think they had to send out applications before someone gave them the funding for that one? So the next time we need to apply for funding for a special project around the church, we should be ever hopeful that it will result in a positive outcome. But I digress.

The point is, that some stuff is really hard to fix and it may take time, persistence, and creativity to work itself out. There are wounds within each of us that just don't seem to want to go away. And EVERYONE of us is wounded in some way. It may be from our childhood or well into adulthood, but somewhere along the way, we've been hurt - we've been wounded. Perhaps it took place in our childhood when we were neglected or abused by our parents; perhaps it happened in school when we were berated by a teacher; perhaps it happened through tragedy by the loss of a loved one; perhaps it happened through an abusive marriage; perhaps it occurred through a battle with cancer or some other disease. Regardless of the circumstance, we are all hurting (physically and/or emotionally) and we need a fix that is going to stick and help us move on to healing and wholeness.

There are numerous ways to deal with woundedness but trying to do it alone is seldom the answer. Just like Maggee needed me to help dress and clean her wound so it wouldn't fester and become something more serious, so too do we need others to help us work through the pain. Talking to someone who has had similar life experiences can be very helpful. They understand our pain because they've 'been there, done that' so to speak. Just recently, I had conversations with two very dear people who completely understood some of my concerns. It was a very healing experience that left me feeling hopeful and encouraged. Ecclesiastes 4: 9-10, 12a says ... "Two people are better off than one for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble ... A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer."

Most importantly, when dealing with past or present hurts we must forgive and let go of the anger. A woman who was deeply wounded by the tragedies in her life in Kenya once said, "I forgave and requested forgiveness from all that I know and all that I do not know...I got a sense of calmness that I did not have before. Forgiveness is first and foremost for the forgiver and not the forgiven; a sense of release and liberation from holding the burden of the pain and anger." ~ Dekha Ibrahim. There are steps we can take to bring about healing in this area. According to Christian Families Today, the first step is to identify the offender and the offence. It is difficult to forgive a person when the offence is not clearly stated. Secondly, acknowledge how the offence made you feel. Allowing yourself to feel the pain clarifies the offence. Thirdly, and most importantly, release the person from the debt. Realize forgiveness is a gift that you CHOOSE to give and not a feeling. Because God has forgiven you, you CAN forgive. Next, accept the offender unconditionally. Believing that you are fully accepted by Christ, allows His love to flow through you to the offender. And finally, be willing to forgive again. To love is to risk! But it's a risk that can change your life.

Lesley Joy McClure



Some possible uses of Duct Tape:



A sun visor for kitty.



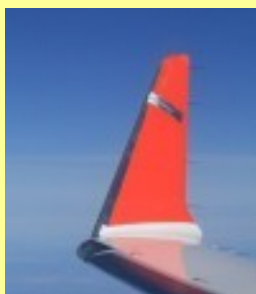
A new sofa
for the rectory



Slippers for those cold
winter nights.



A tie for that big night out.



A broken wing.
Don't use this airline!