



St. Paul's

Herald

March 2023

St. Paul's Almost Back to Normal After Break-in

By John Challinor

Following a horrific break-in at St. Paul's during the early morning hours of Thursday, January 19 that required tens of thousands of dollars worth of physical repairs and some asset replacements, life at the church is almost back to normal.

A quantity of copper piping that was forcefully removed by a lone vandal from the ceiling of the lower level of the Community Building led to flooding. This resulted in damage to some floor tiles, walls that were made of drywall and contained insulation, storage and communications technologies in the electrical room, the elevator shaft and the sump pump apparatus.

One of the original wooden doors at the back of the church was also damaged when the vandal forcibly entered the church.

A laptop personal computer, all of the speakers on the sanctuary dais and about \$800 in gift cards and cash were stolen from the church, as were a quantity of microphones owned by one of its tenants.

A review of the church's security systems by Halton Regional Police Services, the property committee and the church's security systems vendor has resulted in the installation of door, window and plumbing infrastructure alarms as well as a safe to store certain church valuables.

Thanks are owed to the church member who underwrote the entire cost associated with the \$5000 insurance deductible, the church member who underwrote the lion's share of the cost associated with installing the new security system and other individual members, adherents and friends of St. Paul's who have made donations towards the purchase of the safe and other security measures.

Special thanks is owed to Brent Tyrer and the property committee for coordinating the various trades that quickly repaired the church in the days following the break-in and continue to complete a number of tasks associated with making the building more secure and safer for the use and enjoyment of all members and tenants.

St. Paul's United Church Receives \$10 000 Grant from the Ontario Government

(from a press release by John Challinor on January 30, 2023)

St. Paul's United Church announced today that it has received a \$10 000 grant from the Province of Ontario to install a new door system in

support of the many faith-based and cultural organizations who rent space in the Community Building and Sanctuary.



Brent Tyrer, Property Committee Chairman, Rev. Christina Crawford, Andrea Boyke, Rental Coordinator, John Challinor, Church Council Chair, Hon. Parm Gill, MPP, Milton.

The installation of the new door system took place in late December 2022.

"This \$15 million, attestation-based grant program is providing funds to faith-based and cultural organizations across the province of Ontario to improve access measures," said the

Honourable Parm Gill, Member of Provincial Parliament, Milton. "The many local religious and community organizations who regularly rent space at St. Paul's will benefit from this initiative. Through this program, our Government is, once again, taking strong action for Milton."

"On behalf of Church Council, the members of St. Paul's United Church and our many rental clients, I want to thank the Province of Ontario for developing this grant program and supporting our efforts to make visiting the Community Building or the Sanctuary the best possible experience, " said John Challinor II, Chairman, Church Council, St. Paul's United Church. "Provincial staff were great to work with on this initiative and we are already seeing the benefits of the installation of the new door system."

"I also want to thank our faith-based and community tenants for their heart-felt support of this initiative during the grant application process," added Mr. Challinor.

St. Paul's United Church Receives Grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation

(from a press release by John Challinor on January 30, 2023)

St. Paul's United Church announced today that it has received a \$42 300 grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation to install a full-height partition wall in its Community Building, which will enable it to provide more below-market rental space to Milton's many non-profit community groups.

St. Paul's is the largest provider of below-market rental space in the community. The full-height partition wall, which was installed in late December 2022, is permitting additional local not-for-profit organizations to have a place to support Miltonians and others with a wider variety of community services.

"The fact that our government is supporting St. Paul's United Church with a funding of \$42 300 through the Ontario Trillium Foundation is

great news for our community," said the Honourable Parm Gill, Member of Provincial Parliament, Milton. "Through the Ontario Trillium Foundation funding, our government is taking strong action for Milton."

"On behalf of Church Council and the Board of Trustees, I want to thank Ontario Trillium Foundation leadership and OTF staff -- in particular, Erica Russell and Stacey O'Neill, for their assistance through the grant application process, " said John Challinor II, Chairman, Church Council, St. Paul's United Church. "The installation of the full-height partition wall has enhanced the ability of the Community Building to better serve Miltonians, continuing a commitment that has been made to the community by the members of St. Paul's United Church since 1962."

Power of a Praying Kid

Prayer is how we communicate with God, and children and youth should be encouraged to begin having a prayer life early so that they can enjoy a fulfilling relationship with our Creator. Since kids learn by example, they are most likely to learn good prayer habits when they are being modeled at home and at Sunday school. Here are some ideas to get the children in your life to reap the benefits of prayer:

Help children talk to God. There is no correct way to pray. Children can be encouraged to just talk to God as if they were talking to a friend or anyone else. They can tell God about their life, tell him their worries, and express emotions if they want.

There's nothing too big-or too small-for God. God can help with our problems and God is also there to share our celebrations no matter how big or small. Kids can pray about the beautiful butterfly they saw that morning, or they can pray about an upcoming test.

Anything is okay to talk to God about. Kids should be encouraged to share what's relevant to their lives and what is in their hearts.

Make answered prayer visual by creating a prayer journal where kids write or draw about their prayers. If a prayer is answered, they may wish to place a special mark beside the prayer.

God answers prayers in many ways - God may not answer right away, or may even say no. Children should be encouraged to look for the answer to their prayers, and to wait patiently for the answers.

Thank God for each answered prayer. Kids can be thankful that God has heard and answered their prayers, even if it is not the answer they wanted.

Rev. Christina

A Child's Prayer for Morning

Now, before I run to play,
Let me not forget to pray
To God who kept me through the night
And waked me with the morning light.
Help me, Lord, to love you more
Than I ever loved before,
In my work and in my play
Be thou with me through the day.
Amen.

Child's Evening Prayer

I hear no voice, I feel no touch,
I see no glory bright;
But yet I know that God is near,
In darkness as in light.
He watches ever by my side,
And hears my whispered prayer:
The Father for His little child
Both night and day does care.

Easter Services

Palm Sunday, April 2 11 am: Intergenerational service with palm parade and drama! Communion will be celebrated! All are welcome to the table!

Good Friday, April 7 11 am: At this intergenerational service of remembrance we will reflect on the path that Jesus walked through readings, responses, reflection, and prayer designed to help us enter more deeply into the meaning of Good Friday.

Easter Sunday, April 9 9:30 am: "Sunrise" service at The Annex - Hot cross buns will be shared at this all-ages service. The buns capture the essence of the Easter story through both the symbolism of the cross and within the flavors of the bun.

11 am: "He is Risen" -Traditional Easter Sunday Service in the historical sanctuary with the St. Paul's Brass Ensemble.

St. Paul's Hires New Office Administrator

Milton resident Martha Peixoto recently joined St. Paul's United Church as its new office administrator.

Ms. Peixoto, who worked for a major Canadian bank for 20 years, including 10 years as a manager, brings administrative, financial and front-line customer service knowledge and experience



Martha Peixoto with Shelley Doucet, chair of M & P.

to her new responsibilities on behalf of the church.

She is married and is also the mother of two young boys. Her passion is health and wellness.

Ms. Peixoto encourages all members of the church to drop by the office between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., from Monday to Friday, to say hello.

Halton Constables Advise on Recognizing Scams at UCW Meeting

By Helene Ellison



On Wednesday, February 8, the UCW group and guests were given a very interesting and educational talk about scams and fraud by two constables from the Community Mobilization Bureau of the Milton arm of Halton Regional Police.

Constables Krista McMullen and Jovana Minic kept us engaged as they worked their way through the many ways unscrupulous persons employ to steal from us, be it money, valuable items, our identity, cars, and, most of all, our trust. They walked us through how to recognize when a call, email or even a "friendly" personal approach is not legitimate and what we can do to protect ourselves. We were also all given concise handouts to take with us for review,

which should prove helpful when we are faced with the constant barrage of unsolicited calls and emails.

A sheet of essential phone numbers to call when confronted with illegal outreach has been photocopied and tacked on the bulletin boards by the washrooms in case someone needs the information.

The discussion, questions and comments afterwards were informative and animated. It seems that nothing livens things up like a good scam attempt! Our thanks were sent out to Constables Minic and McMullen, who loved meeting everyone and who have offered to return anytime we invite them.

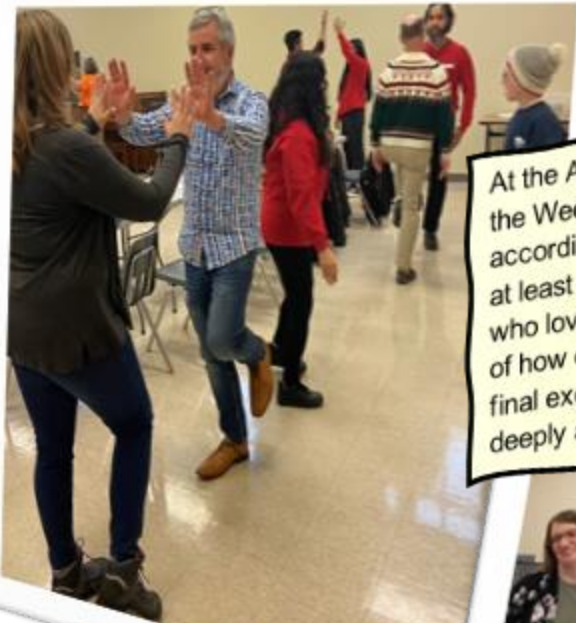
St. Paul's Annual General Meeting April 16

St. Paul's United Church will hold its Annual General Meeting on Sunday, April 16 in the sanctuary immediately following the 11 a.m. service.

The church's auditor will present the 2022 financial statements. The church leadership will review 2022 and look ahead to 2023. Also, members will elect new representatives to Church Council, the Board of Trustees and the various committees.

The church requires members to serve in various capacities on Council, on Trustees and on church committees. Please don't wait to be asked! Rather, reach out this week to:

Theo Wolder at twolder@sympatico.ca or John Challinor II at challinors@bellnet.ca or Jennifer Viveiros at jswainso@hotmail.com or Sue Butson at butson.susan@gmail.com to offer your capabilities where you believe they are most helpful to St. Paul's.



At the Annex on January 22, Rev. Christina led us in activities to commemorate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We moved quickly to form groups according to categories such as "those who play a sport", "those who can sing at least one verse of an Eagles' song", "those who like to wear a toque", "those who love dessert" (one of the largest groups!), thus providing a vivid illustration of how our differences and similarities are a cause for celebration. During the final exercise we created a web with each person saying, "Help us to love deeply and be united in Christ" as the ball of yarn was thrown to them.





Pancake Breakfast a Great Success

St. Paul's Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, February 19 was a great success, introducing many members and others to one another over a wholesome morning meal that would rival anything in town -- and raising \$400 for the church in the process.

Led by members Tim Szumlanski and Erin Esche and an army of volunteer chefs, kitchen helpers, table wait staff, food contributors, special

activities coordinators, musician Elijah Calara and photographer Sandra Shore, there was plenty of great food and fun for all. The pancake flipping contest and the draw for the 4L jug of maple syrup were particularly noteworthy.

Tim, Erin and the team were also supported by some generous local small business sponsors, including iDrinkCoffee, Dutchman's Gold maple syrup and TruLocal bacon and breakfast sausages.

Special thanks to Tim, Erin and their team for a job very well done! The Pancake Breakfast team wishes everyone a reflective season of Lent.





The following people were received into membership at St. Paul's on Sunday, February 12.
 Back Row: L-R
 Jo McDuffe, Vishwas Udayashankar (Transfer of Membership), Norman Flemington (Transfer of Membership), Sue Butson, Reverend Christina Crawford.
 Front Row: L-R
 Kristi Rowe (Affirmation of Faith), Priyanka Singh (Transfer of Membership) and Helen Flemington (Transfer of Membership).
 Missing from picture: Joanna Rowe (Transfer of Membership)
 Cupcakes compliments of Kristi Rowe.



Ian Dickson (baptism) and Kate O'Leary (Reaffirmation of Faith) became members of St. Paul's at the Annex service



Communion was served in the pews on February 19 for the first time since the beginning of COVID.