



The KEY FEBRUARY 2025

Lutheran & Anglican Ministries of the Bruce Peninsula
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran, Wiarton & The Anglican Parish of the Bruce Peninsula
P.O. Box 306

Warton, Ontario N0H 2T0
519.534.1604 -- www.laamb.ca

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



At a critical point in the formation of my understanding of self in relation to the world, I read Ayn Rand's book, "Atlas Shrugged". The title includes the reference to Atlas, a Titan in Greek mythology, who is described in the novel as "the giant who holds the world on his shoulders". I did not, and still do not agree with all of Ayn Rand's philosophical and political perspectives. But this complex novel, filled with well-developed characters, uses fiction to articulate philosophy and politics and really helped me to grasp two important realities:

1. I control very little in lives outside of my own – no matter how hard I try.
2. A healthy community requires that responsibility rests on many shoulders, not just the shoulders of a few.

When responsibility rests on just a few shoulders, and those shoulders get exhausted and surrender the work of load-bearing, the whole community collapses. In relation to this, I think a huge part of the communal success of the early movement of Jesus-followers in the book of Acts came from the fact that all resources were pooled, and all gave their gifts into the formation of the new communities, which came to be known as Christians. People were convinced by teachings, healings and outreach that followed Jesus' examples, and people were moved by the Holy Spirit to join together in communities of believers who followed Jesus' examples.

In this way, communities of Christ in the book of Acts were not a matter of tradition, but were instead a matter of deep inner transformation of belief and conviction: that Jesus was the Son of God, come to atone for our human brokenness and live the best possible lives in the midst of this brokenness. These best possible lives were marked by practical expressions of love for God and for neighbours, and not just the neighbours who look and act like us (or worship like us). Their focus was not on building maintenance, stipendiary expenses and meeting a budget, but on loving God and loving each other and their neighbours. During that time, the gospel spread like wildfire.

Perhaps we also have, as individuals, experienced this deep inner transformation of belief and conviction. Perhaps we also, as individuals, are living into our witness of this transformation ... but as "church", as a gathering of believers, the responsibility for us as a collective is currently resting on just a few shoulders. A few shoulders, those we call "staff" are compensated for bearing some of this responsibility. Many of these shoulders though are disciples, volunteers, whose efforts are strictly voluntary. From church council to PPC representation, from wardenship to council chairs, from altar guild volunteers to treasurers, from Licensed Lay Readers to meeting organizers and chairs (many individuals wearing multiple hats) a few shoulders bear the weight of our congregational ministry in all the locations of LAAMB and Christ Church.



Those same shoulders are growing in responsibilities for aging parents and relatives or new grandchildren; they yearn for new opportunities to grow in Spirit, but struggle with how to get to those opportunities whilst bearing their current load, those same shoulders are encountering health concerns and diminishing energies. Much of the loads they carry are more about maintaining the traditions and administrative structures of church than they are about spreading the good news of Jesus. Some of those shoulders are succumbing to ill-health because they are bearing too much load. Like Atlas, they are bearing more than their share of weight.

When Atlas Shrugs, what next??

Add to this question, the fact that needs in our wider community are on the rise, not on the decline; our neighbours are suffering from housing and food insecurity, loneliness, mental and physical health concerns, addictions and disabilities ... and we are called to love these neighbours. How do we hold these facts and the whole Atlas situation of our church in good balance that is faithful to our love of God in Jesus? If we are being Atlas-y, how can we also be good stewards, within the limitations of our human frailties?

Can we simplify administrative processes?

Can we find ways to use our buildings and resources to help love our neighbours better? And in so doing, relieve some of the load on the over-burdened shoulders of the few?

Can you afford to do more or give more to keep this dispensation of church going?

Can you afford to do more or give more to make incremental changes that will keep the load on the over-burdened shoulders of the few? Would this even make sense?

And which answers to which questions serve best to glorify God?

Because Atlas cannot hold up the church indefinitely. And the time of shrugging is casting its shadows on us, while our neighbours need press in on us. And Jesus says “love each other as I have loved you.”

In 2025, whether in vestries, annual meetings, or our regular gatherings, I will challenge us with some of these questions as we try to discern next steps, to live more deeply, faithfully and practically into the love of God in Jesus, a love whose example we are called to follow. Stay closely tuned. Pray on these things. And discuss your responses to some of these challenging questions – with me and with each other.

With love, Pastor Janaki.

Pastor Janaki Bandara
Phone: 519-588-7701



Lutheran & Anglican Ministries on the Bruce (LAAMB) & Christ Church, Lion's Head

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Year C

The Presentation of the Lord, Feb 2, 2025 (W)

MALACHI 3:1-4/PSALM 84

HEBREWS 2:14-18/LUKE 2:22-40

11:00 St. Peter's & Trinity (Janaki/Angela)

Parish Service

Followed by A Pot Luck Lunch

1:00 p.m. Laamb & Anglican Annual Vestry

11:30 Christ Church (Rev'd Mary Farmer)

5th Sunday after the Epiphany Feb. 9, 2025 (G)

ISAIAH 6:1-13/ PSALM 138

1 Corinthians 15:1-11, 15/LUKE 5:1-11

9:30 St. Peter's & Trinity (Charlotte/Shirley M) Word

11:00 Christ Church (Pastor Janaki)

Followed by

Christ Church Vestry

2:30 St. Edmund's (Janaki) time to be confirmed

6th Sunday after the Epiphany Feb. 16, 2025 (G)

JEREMIAH 17:5-10/PSALM 1

1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-20/LUKE 6:17-26

9:30 St. Peter's & Trinity (Pastor Janaki/Angela)

Affirmation of Baptism

Followed by

St. Peter's Annual Meeting

11:30 Christ Church (Rev'd Mary Farmer)

2:00 St. Edmund's (Pastor Janaki)

7th Sunday after Epiphany Feb. 23, 2025 (G)

GENESIS 45:3-11/PSALM 37:1-12, 41-42

1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50/LUKE 6:27-38

9:30 St. Peter's/Trinity (Shirley M) Hymn Sing

11:30 Christ Church (Pastor Janaki)

2:00 St. Edmund's (Supply Needed)

Sponsorship Opportunities

In memory of loved ones or in celebration of a milestone in your life consider in addition to donating flowers other methods to gift our congregations through sponsorship opportunities.

The KEY may be sponsored for \$60.00
An individual congregational bulletin may be sponsored for \$30.00

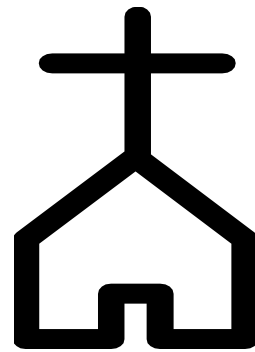
If you wish to make these donations, please speak with Karla in the Parish Office.

LUTHERAN & ANGLICAN MINISTRIES OF THE BRUCE PENINSULA

Together in faith,
loving and serving God
by helping others.

We pledge to:

- be led by Holy Spirit
- embrace differences
- adapt to changing times



*MISSION STATEMENT,
adopted by PPC, November 14, 2018*

St. Andrew's is working on possible plans for a Community Pot Luck in February.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Pastor Janaki will be at the
Bishops Retreat followed by Vacation Leave
February 19th to March 4th

* _ * _ * _ * _ * _ * _ * _ * _ * _ *

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church
Annual General Meeting
Sunday February 16th

Ash Wednesday March 5th
Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes Services
11:00 am St. Edmund's, Tobermory
1:00 pm Christ Church, Lion's Head
3:00 pm St. Peter's & Trinity, Wiarton



Helen Wheeler

Annual AVGEN Report

Once again it is time to say a most sincere **Thank You** to all who support the program, for those who faithfully purchase cards each month for groceries, gift giving, home renovations, etc. etc. to those who remind us orders are due, collect the orders and to Helen Wheeler who comes to Wiarton, drives up the highway collecting balancing and then delivering those orders every month.

Once again, the profits will help each congregation to meet their goals. For Christ Church it is the Women's group supporting community needs for Trinity, St. Peter's and St. Andrew's it is helping their congregation putting the profits towards their January Parish Share when offerings are often a little lower than normal.

A heartfelt thank you to all of our 'volunteers' who help make this program worthwhile.

Profits returned to each church participating in the program for 2024 were:

Christ Church	\$1,117.27
St. Andrew's	\$ 433.76
St. Peter's	\$ 567.08
Trinity	\$ 761.64

It costs nothing for the individual to participate, just a little bit of inconvenience planning ahead and placing your order for cards each month. You don't need to buy cards you never use, but they do make great Christmas gifts especially when you need to mail your gifts even for older grandchildren headed off to College a Pizza, Pizza; or a Subway gift card can be a nice little surprise gift.

For me personally the convenience of having a Tim Horton's card in my pocket when I just want to dash in and out quickly.

The other card(s) I like having are grocery cards for the months shopping. It may sound strange but with the costs of groceries continuing to go up it doesn't quite hurt as much when they are all checked through and I can just pull out a card. But, besides that feeling as I said which sounds strange even I know I have actually paid ahead for my groceries, but it helps me to keep to my budget and that is a very real benefit.

The Avgen program has 76 different gift cards available in various denominations from \$10.00 up to \$500.00 with commission back to the church from a minimum (Amazon) 2% to a maximum of 25% when you purchase a special ESSO card for \$25.00 which gives you 500 litres at 5 cents off a litre. Your church earns \$6.25.

There is a large variety of cards available from grocery stores, drug stores, clothing retailers, restaurants and petrol stations.

A small sample of what is available follows:

Best Buy - also in \$100	25	2.0%
Boston Pizza - also in \$100	25	7.0%
Canadian Tire, Canadian Tire Gas Bar	25	4.0%
	50	4.0%
	100	4.0%
Cara - Bier Market, East Side Mario's, Fionn MacCool's, Harvey's, Kelsey's, The Landing, Montana's, NYF, Pickle Barrel, Swiss Chalet - also in \$100	25	5.0%
Chapter's, Indigo, Coles also in \$10, \$50	50	5.0%
	25	7.0%
Giant Tiger, Tigre Geant, Scott's Discount, Chez Tante Marie - also in \$50	25	3.0%
Home Depot - also in \$500 - up to \$2000	25	3.0%
	100	3.0%
Home Hardware - also in \$500 - up to \$3000	25	3.5%
	100	3.5%

Loblaws, No Frills, Zehrs, Fortinos, Valu-mart, Extra Foods, Independent, Atlantic / Real Canadian Superstore, Maxi, Provigo, Real Canadian Wholesale, National Grocers, SaveEasy, SuperValu - also in \$10, \$25, \$500	50	4.0%
	100	4.0%
	250	4.0%
Longos	50	3.5%
Mark's Work Warehouse, L'Equipeur - akso in \$50	25	7.0%
McDonald's Restaurants - also in \$10	25	3.0%
Metro, Food Basics - also in \$25, \$250	50	4.0%
	100	4.0%
M & M Food Market - also in \$50	25	4.0%

Shoppers Drug Mart / Pharmaprix	25	3.0%
	100	3.0%
SIR CORP - Jack Astor's, Alice Fazooli's, Far Niente, Reds, Canyon Creek, The Loose Moose	25	8.0%
Sobeys, IGA, Foodland, FreshCo, Lawtons Drugs, Thrifty Foods, Safeway, Needs - also in \$250	25	4.0%
	50	4.0%
	100	4.0%
Sport Chek, Atmosphere - also in \$100 up to \$2500	25	3.5%
Staples Business Depot - also in \$100	25	3.5%
Starbucks - also in \$10 and \$50	25	5.0%

Example:

Food Basics: \$400 per month X 12 = \$192.00
income for the church

And again, a sincere thank you to each of our representatives who make it all work.

Nancy Strang Marleen Ransom
Maria Kiernan-Smith Helen Wheeler

**NEXT AVGEN ORDER
IS
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23RD**



Looking For Evidence of God

One person will they say they have never seen any evidence, proof that God even exists. Another will say I just know he exists!

Certainly, I haven't known anyone who has seen God. I doubt my eyes could even comprehend the majesty of what they were seeing, even if I did. But do we realize how many times through research, historical information and archeology we find proof of our biblical stories.

There are millions of things I haven't seen in my lifetime, that doesn't mean they don't exist. I know that I received the grace of God at six years old. I felt that grace, and I know that it saved me!

Proof, whom but God could take Saul a vicious opponent of the early church, transform him into Paul, the greatest most courageous missionary of all time. You cared for and showed respect for women in a time when they had very little rights, were often mere chattels. You used crucifixion, the ultimate defeat and made it a sign of victory over sin and death for all eternity. God's love for humankind is proof.

Our human understanding is so limited while God shows us proof of his existence every day. It may not be what we are expecting, but that doesn't make it any less a demonstration of his love.

We are evidence of God's love and existence in the world today. We just need to love each other as he has loved us.

Charlotte Ewbank

SUNDAY HUMOUR



A CHILD'S VIEW OF RETIREMENT IN A MOBILE HOME PARK

After a Christmas break the teacher asked her small pupils how they spent their holidays. One small boy's reply went like this:

"We always spend Christmas with Grandpa and Grandma. They used to live in a big brick house but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Florida. They live in tin huts. They ride big three-wheel tricycles. They go to a big building called the wrecked hall. But if it is wrecked it is fixed now. They play games there and do exercises, but they don't do them very good.

There is a swimming pool and they go in it and just stand there in the water with their hats on. I guess they don't know how to swim.

My grandma used to bake cookies and stuff, but I guess she forgot how. Nobody cooks there, they all go to feast food restaurants.

As you come into the Park there is a doll house with a man sitting in it. They wear badges with their names on them. I guess they don't know who they are.

My Grandma says Grandpa worked hard all his life and earned his retardment. I wish they would move back home. But I guess the man in the doll house won't let them out.

Submitted by Gail Ermel, St. Peter's

Brainy Quotes

Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start.

Nido Qubein

January Crossword Puzzle Solution - XVI



H	O	R	S	E	S		D	I	P	P	E	D
E	O		X		C	S	H		I			
P	R	A	Y		A	P	O	C	A	L	Y	P
E		A		M		N	I	S		P		
A	T	H	L	A	I		G	R	A	C	I	O
I					N		R		H		C	T
S	C	A	T	T	E	R	E	D		F	I	V
			U				G			A		
	J	O	B	S		C	A	R	P	E	N	T
	E		A		S		T		R			N
P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I		A	D	U	L
	O		C		I		O		I		P	E
D	A	M	A	S	C	E	N	E	S		P	U
	S		I		E		S		E		E	E
	H	O	N	E	S	T		A	D	O	R	E

Remembering

I recently found the paper copy an old article from one of our prolific and beloved writers. Typed on an old typewriter, then it looks like a picture was taken of it, then given to her dear friend Anne James who then Photocopied it and emailed it to me for inclusion in the Key Oct 2015

The Wrong Connection

I awoke very early one morning, paid a visit to the washroom, drank a glass of water, let the cat out, put the bedside radio on and tried to return to sleep. In my semi-conscious state, I listened to a recording of my favourite singers, the Three Anglican Priest Cantors. At the conclusion the announcer gave the phone number for ordering the CD recording. Unfortunately, before departing, the cat had knocked my bedside pencil and notepad under the bed. I staggered down to the sitting room until I found paper and pencil; all the while repeating the number to myself – this being essential as I have always had a mental block with numbers.



Later that day I decided to order the recording, dutifully dialed the number and heard a pleasant “Good Morning” from the other end. I proceeded to explain what I wanted and pointed out that I didn’t have a CD player and wondered if they also had cassettes. After a short pause, the gentleman responded with, “Madam, I haven’t a clue what you are talking about. “Well, I thought, he’s slow at the switch, but then I know this new technical high efficiency isn’t all it’s cracked up to be! So, I carefully repeated my whole request and waited.

This is the dialogue that followed:

He: Are you by any chance calling from Canada?
Me: Of course I am! Aren’t you in Toronto?
He: No.

Me: Oh, then you must be the Anglican book room in London.

He: Madam, this is the White House in Washington.

I was as the saying goes absolutely gob-smacked and after an embarrassing pause I proceeded to apologise and explain the whole episode of trying to remember a number and that it was clearly the cat’s fault for shoving my pencil under the bed and did he like cats?

After a discussion on cats, he asked me where I lived and if it was near North Bay. I said it wasn’t very near but was in the general direction whereupon he proceeded to tell me about his honeymoon in North Bay! What a friendly guy! I once more apologized and he reassured me that it had been a pleasure to talk to Canada.

After I put the phone down I kept thinking how funny the whole episode had been and on recounting it to my neighbour, a retired RCMP Officer, I emphasized how nice the White House Official had been with his long conversation with me. My friend shattered my romantic slant on the whole affair by saying – “Oh Pat, all that time he was talking he was having the call traced and Ottawa contacted to find out if you had a criminal record!

As typical in a small community, word of my escapade travelled fast and soon I was receiving enquiries as the story blossomed to a point where it was believed that the FBI had surrounded my house!

Just as my reputation was fading into the past tense, I was delighted – and apprehensive on hearing the Three Cantors on the radio again. This time I was ready with pad and pencil and dutifully wrote the phone number down. Later, with absolute (or almost) confidence I dialled and an authoritative voice answered – This is the Kremlin Okay, just kidding on this last part!

A True Story (1991)

Submitted by: Pat Horner

BIBLE WORDSEARCH

ISAAC & REBEKAH




BiblePuzzles.org.uk

Abraham
 Bethuel
 Bracelets
 Camels
 Canaanites
 City
 Comforted
 Damsel
 Daughters
 Drink
 Errand
 Golden Earring
 Isaac

Jewels
 Kindred
 Laban
 Lodging
 Love
 Master
 Meditate
 Mesopotamia
 Milcah
 Nahor
 Oath
 Pitcher
 Pray

Raiment
 Rebekah
 Sarah's Tent
 Servant
 Straw
 Trough
 Veil
 Virgin
 Water
 Well
 Wife
 Worshipped

LUTHERAN & ANGLICAN CONGREGATIONS EVENTS CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2025

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>Lutheran & Anglican Ministries of the Bruce Office 519-534-1604 Office Hours: Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</p>			NOTES			1.
2. 11:00 St. Peter's Trinity 12:00 Pot Luck Lunch 1:00 Parish Vestry 11:30 Christ Church	3.	4. 10:00 Wiarton Joint Council	5.	6. 10:00 a.m. <i>Virtual Bible Study</i> 2:00 p.m. PEAT	7.	8. 10:00 am Christ Church Council
9. 9:30 St. Peter's Trinity 11:00 Christ Church Vestry to Follow 2:00 St. Edmund's (time to be confirmed)	10.	11. Golden Dawn 10:30	12.	13. 10:00 a.m. <i>Virtual Bible Study</i> 10:00 am Clericus	14.	15.
16. 9:30 St. Peter's Trinity St. Peter's Annual Meeting to follow 11:30 Christ Church 2:00 St. Edmund's	17.	18.	19. 9:00 Ministries - Zoom 10:00 PPC - Zoom	20. 10:00 a.m. <i>Virtual Bible Study</i>	21.	22.
23 9:30 St. Peter's Trinity 11:30 Christ Church 2:00 St. Edmund's Bishops Retreat	24.	25. 4:00 W.I.G. at St. John's United, Wiarton	26.	27. 10:00 a.m. <i>Virtual Bible Study</i>	28.	



Parish Office Hours are now Wednesday and Thursday