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News and events:

Our Happy Birthday wishes to Bruce Phelemann on Tuesday and our congratulations and best wishes for a happy anniversary to Douglas and Vivian Bell next Saturday.

Next Sunday, October 25th, service at 9:30am in St. Paul's Bury (Sunday School available) and at 11:00am in St. Peter's Church hall, Cookshire.

Starting in October: Canon Lynn will have "office hours" every Monday night from 5:30 - 7:30 at the 108 Restaurant in Birchton. Tongue in cheek, we are calling it "Prayer and Poutine". Please feel free to drop by to say hello and have a chat. (Thanksgiving Monday the restaurant is closed, but all other Mondays she will be there.)

Lectio Divina every Tuesday morning from 9:00 - 9:55 am in the Upper Room at St George's, Lennoxville, beginning in October. All are welcome to this gentle service of meditation on the Word. Be prepared for holy silence and an encounter with God. Led by Canon Lynn.

Homiletics for Lay Readers – on October 28th, November 4th, and December 2nd from 9:00 - 11:30am (location tba) **Lynn Dillabough is offering this as a follow-up to "The Courage to Preach" offered in 2011.** All current preachers are invited to hone our skills and to learn more about the art of homiletics. Please sign up by contacting Lynn at lynn@dillabough@gmail.com

Friday, October 23rd Military Whist for St Paul's, Bury This event will be held at the Bury Community Centre (Armoury) from 1:30 - 3:30pm. A delicious lunch will be served and there will be door prizes and lots of fun. Bring a table of four people or come and find partners when you arrive.

Saturday, October 24th "Guess Who's Coming To Dinner?" This is a fundraiser for the sponsorship of Syrian refugees. Please see the flyer in church for more information about how to take part. Contact lynn@dillabough@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Rummage Sale St. George's, Lennoxville - Thursday, October 29, 10a.m. to 5p.m., Friday, Oct. 30, 10 a.m. to 5p.m. and BAG SALE on October 31, from 8:30a.m. to noon.

Sentence: The Son of man came also not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. *Mark 10.45*

Collect: Almighty and everliving God, increase in us your gift of faith, that forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; though Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

This week please pray for:

- We pray for God's people throughout the world; for Dennis, our Bishop, for Lynn, our Priest, and for all who are in leadership, both lay and ordained. Grant them the gifts of wisdom and courage as they lead the church. We pray that God will guide us in our search for a new Shepherd to lead us in the years ahead.

- In our Diocesan Fellowship of prayer, we pray for St. Luke's Magog and Layreader Jeannette Leblanc; we pray for our Companion Dioceses, The Diocese of Moray Ross and Caithness in Scotland and Bishop Mark Strange, and the Diocese of Bujumbura in Burundi and Bishop Eraste Bigirimana.

- In the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, we pray for Bishop Dennis Drainville and the Diocese of Quebec; in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Rt Revd David Parsons and Suffragan Bishop, The Rt Revd Darren McCartney and for the Diocese of the Arctic - (Rupert's Land, Canada)

- In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle we pray for Christian faith communities in India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. We pray for Government stability, rule of law, the strengthening of human rights and the ability of different groups to work with one another, for Afghan refugees who live in Pakistan, internally displaced people, war victims and war widows in Sri Lanka, for Reconciliation and peace between Pakistan and India, denuclearization and a reduction of the arms race between in India and Pakistan, and an end to the threat of nuclear war, for peace and harmony among different ethnic and religious communities in these countries, for those who struggle to overcome grinding poverty, for those affected by flooding, drought, environmental pollution, cyclones, and earthquakes.

- We pray for our families, friends, and communities; we ask blessings for Bruce Phelemann on his birthday and for Douglas and Vivian Bell on their anniversary.

- We ask, O Lord, for your comfort and healing for all who are sick and suffering in any way, and for their families, remembering especially: Joan Dougherty and Robert Coleman.

- We pray for the refugee crisis in Europe; we pray for a world of peace and justice for all. **Amen.**

More News & Events:

There will be a meeting of all the Deanery churches which are members of the team ministry model on **Saturday, November 7th** at St George's Church in Lennoxville from 10:00 to 12:00. This will be an information and discussion meeting with an opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions. Treasurers and wardens are expected to attend, but the meeting is open to all interested members of the Deanery.

Used Book Sale, October 22, 23 and 24 Benefits the Bishop's University/Champlain RC Refugee Student Sponsorship Committee. The sale will take place at The Lennoxville United Church, 6 Church Street on the following days: Thursday, October 22 from 4 – 8 p.m.; Friday, October 23 from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturday, October 24 from 9 a.m. – noon with a \$3 bag sale from noon – 1 p.m. All proceeds go to supporting sponsored refugee students.

A Reading from the Book of Job... Then Job answered the Lord:²“I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.³“Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?” Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.⁴“Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.”⁵I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; ⁶therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.”¹⁰And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.¹¹Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring.¹²The Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys.¹³He also had seven sons and three daughters.¹⁴He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch.¹⁵In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job’s daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers.¹⁶After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children’s children, four generations.¹⁷And Job died, old and full of days. *Job 42:1-6, 10-17*

Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22) page 744

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews...²³Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office;²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.²⁵Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.²⁶For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself.²⁸For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever. *Hebrews 7:23-28*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark...⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside.⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.”⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus.⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.”⁵²Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way. *Mark 10:46-52*

Short reflection on the gospel: “A blind person who sees is better than a seeing person who is blind.” – Iranian Proverb. Last Sunday James and John told Jesus that they wanted him to give them whatever they asked. Their request was not granted. They were blind. Today the direction is reversed. Jesus asks Bartimaeus, the blind beggar, “What do you want me to do for you?” (Mark 10:51) His request to see again was granted. He was never blind where it counts. Blindness is often spoken of in the bible. Also

symbolic blindness is a common topic. No one is as blind as they that refuse to see, to understand. Humans are ignorant more than malicious, blind more than evil. That is why Jesus was so patient with James and John last week. He held out hope for them. We can hold out hope for the world. Jesus tells Bartimaeus that his faith has saved him. Jesus does not say “I heal you.” Rather his faith heals him. How is our faith, not for healing a physical ailment, but for healing our stubborn blindness? Where are we blind? Are we unable to see goodness in the midst of our daily turmoil? Can we see where God is leading in the midst of our confusion? Who are the blind beggars in our lives that we can learn from? In today’s Gospel, at first the crowd tries to make Bartimaeus be silent. Yet he is the one Jesus calls forth, the one who has something to say. Who in our lives do we try to silence? Bartimaeus was marginalized. Who do we set at the margins, out of sight? Even if our inner eyes are blind, we can at least listen to the voices around us. Hearing may help us to see again. Those we judge to be ignorant may just be the wise ones, the seeing ones.

Prayer from India: When everything around seems to be collapsing into injustice and chaos Creator God, teach us to love you and to recognize that you hold the earth gently in your hands. When we do not know just what to do and where to turn, teach us to trust your wisdom, so that we can discern your presence in events around us. When we become unforgiving and vindictive, teach us to grasp your tenderness, and forgive us for all we do wrong. When violence, fear and hatred seem to overtake us, teach us to receive your compassion, and steer our lives in the ways of justice and peace. When we think we can go it alone, teach us to depend on your grace, so that with patience and persistence we can transform the world. But most of all, teach us to appreciate your goodness, for in you we have new life!
(Aruna Gnanadason, India, WCC coordinator for Justice, Peace and Creation)

Chuckles: A fire started in the grasslands close to a farm. The county fire department rushed to the scene, but the fire was more than they could handle. Someone suggested calling the volunteer fire department. Despite some doubt that they would be of any assistance, they were called. The volunteers arrived in a dilapidated old fire truck. They rumbled straight towards the fire, drove right into the middle of the flames and stopped! The firefighters jumped from the truck and frantically started spraying water in all directions. Soon they had snuffed out the centre of the fire and leaving two parts which were easily put out. As the farmer watched all this, he was impressed and grateful that his house and farm had been spared. He quickly got his cheque book and donated \$1000 to the volunteer fire department. A local news reporter asked the volunteer fire captain how they planned to use the funds. The captain replied, "Well, the first thing we're going to do is get the brakes on our fire truck fixed!"

There were two good ol' boys from warmer climes who loved to fish. They wanted to do some ice fishing that they'd heard about in Canada, so they took off to try it. The lake was frozen nicely, so they stopped just before they got to the lake at a little bait shop and got all their bait and tackle. One of them said, "We're going to need an ice pick." After they got their equipment, they took off. In about two hours, one of them was back at the shop and said, "We're going to need another dozen ice picks." He sold him the picks, and the good ol' boy left. In about an hour, he was back at the shop again and said, "We're going to need all the ice picks you've got."

The shop owner couldn't believe it. "By the way," he asked, "how are you fellows doing?"
"Not very well at all," he said. "We don't even have the stupid boat in the water yet."

