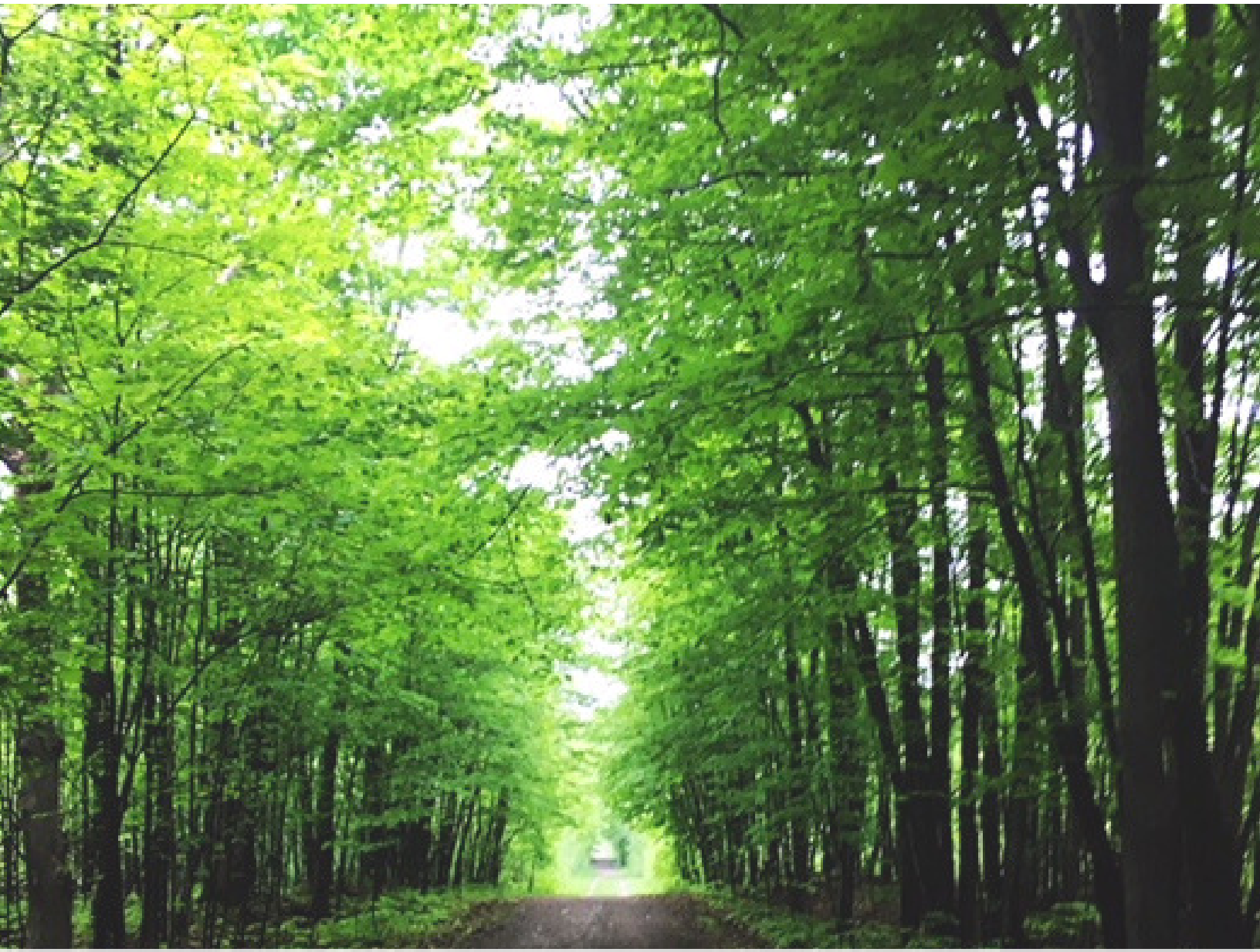
SUMMER 2018 | ISSUE NO. 4
CHRIST CHURCH, ASHTON

the seed



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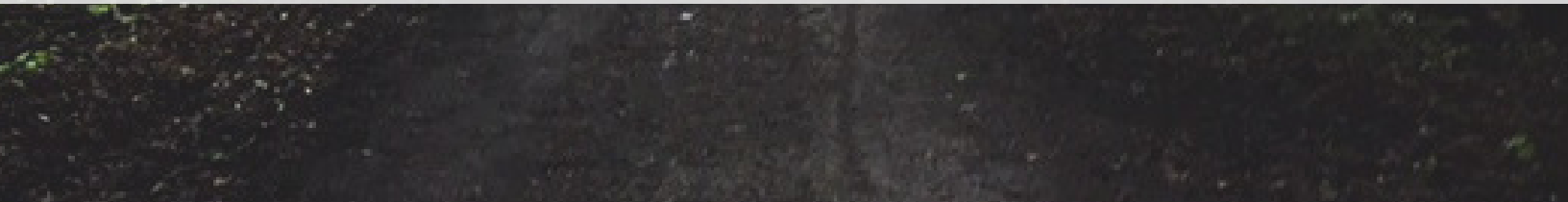


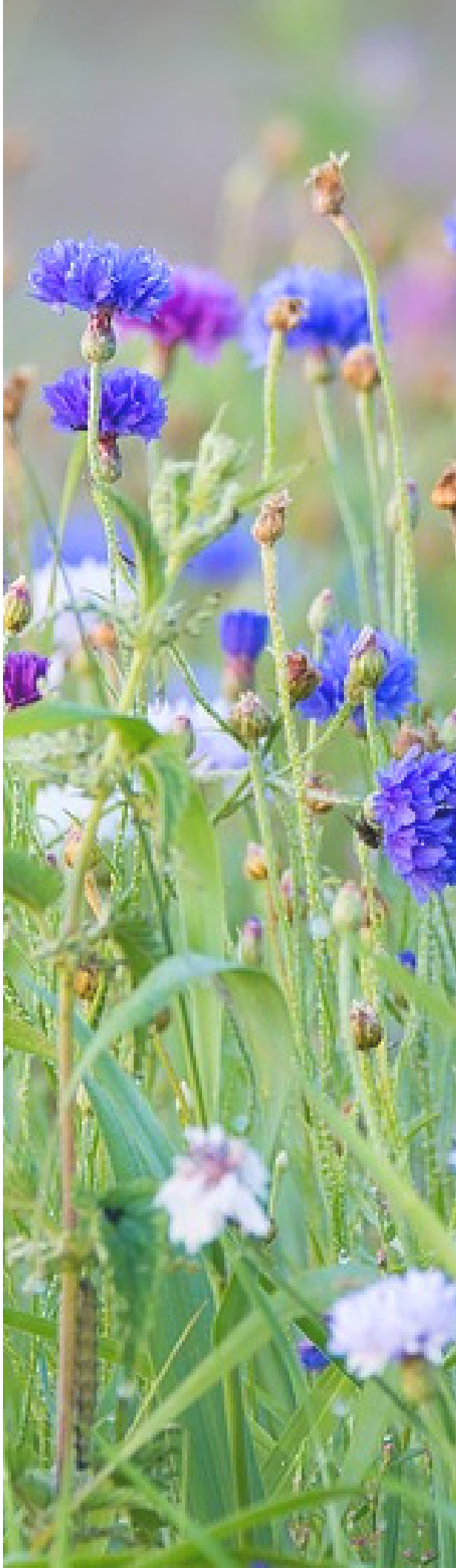
From the Rector

THE REV. KERRI BRENNAN

Often as the days and weeks pass by, we can trick ourselves into believing we haven't been that busy or innovative or connected. But when we're invited to recall what we have been up to the last few months, we realize we have actually created opportunity for all of the above! Such is the case since our Vestry meeting in February.

Whether we've hosted a dinner, held a plant sale, opened the nearly-new shoppe, or welcomed guest speakers, we have been intricately involved in building up this village community. Leading Vacation Bible School reminds us of how we remain invested in the future of this village. And preparing for the upcoming cemetery services forces us to recall those who laid ground work before us.

As we take stalk of our Spring and early summer days amidst the longer days and rising temperatures, I hope you feel justified and ready to breath deeply, appreciate work done well, and to rest.



History relived and retold

LEFT: Earl Sheil, baptized 60 years ago in the Anglican church in Tennyson, visited us on March 18 for the 9:30 a.m. service. Earl was baptized in this font and was very pleased to have found it – he had been looking for it for a while. Earl now lives in Perth and has been back to visit us since March.

RIGHT: The history of Ashton and area in the 1930's and 1940's came to life on April 28th when Craig Hobbs and Bill Simpson, both born and raised in the Ashton area, were guest speakers at a gathering of the community held in our church hall. There were displays, pictures and maps from mid 1800 - 1950 that peaked interest and conversation.

Stories about tough economic times, family struggles, a dance hall across from the Ashton store, the mill, the egg grading station, the CPR train wreck at Ashton station one snowy night that resulted in two deaths, local businesses, farming, schooling, telephones with 18 party lines, and wonderful neighbors were shared. Even though times were tough they remembered Ashton as being the most wonderful place in which to grow up, great friends, great neighbours, lots of freedom and fun.

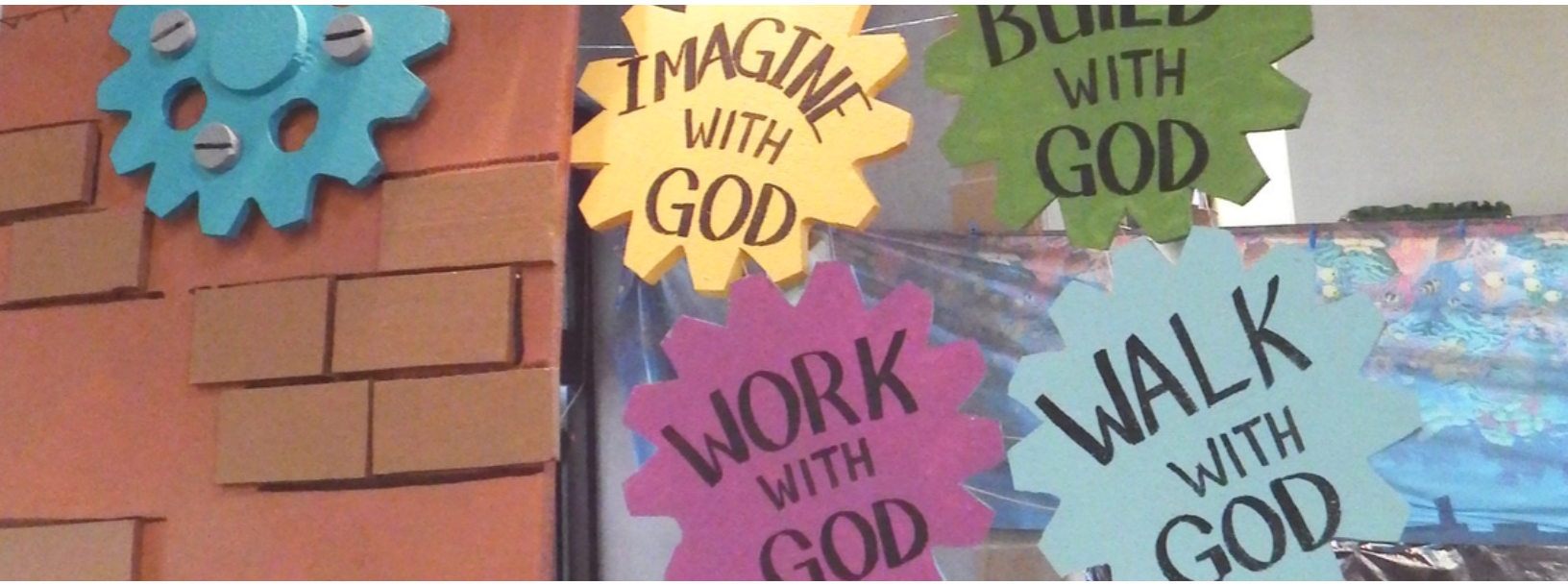
65 people from the community enthusiastically listened. Thank you to Roger O'Connor and his company for the audio equipment, and to the committee members who organized and baked for the gathering: Arn and Janet Snyder, Melody Studholme, Marcia and Jack Taylor, and David and Maggie Thorsell.

Vacation Bible School 2018

BY KAREN WIGGINS

Christ Church, Ashton was the home once again to Vacation Bible School, a community outreach initiative for children between the ages of 4 and 11. 33 children registered and participated in a week long "Maker Fun Factory". Our focus this year was on building – a relationship with God, relationships with others, and knowing ourselves just a little bit better. The program was based on the phrase, "Created by God - Built for a Purpose"! The children built many things (robots, puzzles, bears, rain sticks etc...) that allowed them to experience how they see themselves and God, as well as the many different ways they can celebrate the love of God.

We had an amazing set of 20 volunteers who helped with food, decorating, crafts, admissions, AV, photography, acting, Bible stories, missions, and games. We also had a large number of youth helping to lead children's activities and groups. The church looked amazing and the children were engaged, energetic and a delight to be with all week. On Monday, we had a special guest, Karen Nakamura visit from the Lanark Food Bank.



VBS cont...

She spoke to the kids about thinking of others who are in need close to home and all the things they can do even as kids to help. The VBS kids responded throughout the week by donating just over 132 pounds of food! They also heard about children in Tanzania who didn't have clean drinking water and they graciously donated enough money to support 10 people with clean drinking water. Way to go VBS children, families, and volunteers!

I would like to thank the volunteers for all of their support, preparation, and generous gifts of time and energy during the week of July 9-13 as well as in the weeks leading up to VBS. Thank you to our youth leaders and to everyone in the Parish who helped set up for and take down our "Maker Fun Factory" experience.

It is during these VBS weeks when the church feels renewed, like a breath of fresh air has swept through the building, and God is very present in all we say and do. We cherish these times, and although we are physically tired, we also feel spiritually recharged.

What an awesome week!

Looking ahead: VBS Family Service

One Sunday in October we will hold a VBS Family Service at 9:30 am. During this service, we will be looking back at our Maker Fun Factory summer VBS and sharing our songs, stories and slide show with our congregation and visiting VBS families. We will put some decorations up for this service and would like to invite you and your children to join us for an hour of song and fellowship!

Stay tuned for the date - You won't want to miss it!

Plant Sale & Memorial Dinner

Saturday, May 26 was a busy day for Christ Church. Forest Church launched, with our first walk through Old Quarry Trail in Kanata. Forest Church invites anyone to walk in the woods or along a trail, to commune in God's creation while engaging in conversation or silent reflection. We meet monthly on a Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. Our next Forest Church events are scheduled for: Saturday, August 25 - March Highlands; Saturday, September 29 - Jack Pine; and Saturday, October 27 - Lime Kilne Trails.

At the same time as the group of seven walkers made their way through the misty forest, Jan Hanson was leading a faithful group of volunteers hosting the annual plant sale!

The day was capped off with Marion Jones leading her annual Gertie Jones Memorial Dinner in the church hall. We had a lovely turkey dinner, complete with all the trimmings, and topping off the night with the obligatory pie!

GHGYC

Financial Update

BY LOIS LOHMANN

Our 2nd Anniversary for the shoppe will be celebrated on Saturday, July 28, 2018. If you haven't had a chance to visit us yet, please come out and see what we have done with the Rectory. We are normally open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. but for this Saturday only we will close at noon to serve up a free-will offering light lunch, re-opening the Shoppe at 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Homemade baking also available for purchase, including our famous homemade pies. Hope to see you there.

The Shoppe has brought in a net profit of $2,348.00 to date. We have been able to help such organizations such as Interval House, Re-Integration to employment programs, All That Glam and Shoe Canada as well as other families in need. Come out and help us help others. You will find it gratifying and good for the soul.

Normal Hours Of Operation: January to December 2018 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. the second and last Saturday of each month.

Exceptions: Closed the month of August and the last Saturday in December.

Financial picture for the first half of 2018

Total Revenue To 30-06-18	$39,237.00
Total Expenses To 30-06-18	$38,984.00
NET INCOME:	$253.00

Please note that as of the end of June 2018 we are behind in our Diocesan payments of $8,228.00. for this time of year.

Cemetery Services

Join us as we commemorate those who have lived in, breathed life into, and grown our communities before us with our annual cemetery services:

Aug. 5 St. Augustine's, Prospect @2:00 p.m. - Led by Rev. Kerri

Aug. 19 Christ Church, Ashton following the 9:30 Sunday service - Led by Rev. Kerri

Aug. 19 United Cemeteries Decoration Service @2:30. Rev. Bob Hill, music - George Chenier.

Aug 26 Munster Union @2:30, Munster United Church - led by Rev. Kerri