

**“You invited how many people to dinner? What were you thinking?”** (*Questions on Matthew 14:13-21*)

As a young husband (without proper experiential knowledge of how important communication is for good marriages), I would sometimes invite people home for meals without letting Carolyn know in advance. While I knew she would never refuse a stranger whom I had invited to dinner, I learned gradually *not* to invite people without checking with her first. It wasn't fair either to her or our surprise guest and it wasn't very thoughtful of me not to forewarn her. So it seems a little strange to find Jesus, the only perfect human being that ever lived, surprising his disciples by telling them (without warning) that they should feed over five thousand dinner guests! Whatever was he thinking?...

Over the next week we invite you to sit down (by yourself or even better) with your small group, a friend, family member or soul-mate, and (think about) discuss the following questions:

1. If you were asked to feed five thousand people at a picnic, what would you serve?
2. Why does Jesus withdraw (v. 13)? How does he react to the disruption?
3. Describe how the disciples might have felt in verse 15. In verses 16-17? How about 18-20?
4. What new power do the disciples discover in Jesus?
5. What is the lesson here? What insight about Jesus will you remember from this story?
6. How have you seen Jesus stretch your resources beyond what you could imagine?

**Boiler Room Prayer Time - Sundays**

 If anyone would like to join us for prayer and quiet meditation before the service from 10:15-10:45 am you may join us in the library. All are welcome to attend.

**Volunteers and Safe Church**

As Safe Church is now implemented, all volunteers working directly with the public will have to be in twos and have the Safe Church training and a police record check. The Parish Administrator, Pam Stuart, has all the necessary paperwork and can help with the details. A Safe Church training session will be held at Stone Church in September. For any further details please email Marje Harrison, Safe Church Officer, [corgi2@rogers.com](mailto:corgi2@rogers.com) or call 832-3033. We realise this may seem a little daunting, but we can help you through it. This is to safeguard the volunteers and the public and to guarantee that Stone Church is an open, welcoming, friendly and safe place to be.



**THIS WEEK IN THE UPTOWN**

*(the week of August 6-12, 2017)*

<b>Mon.</b>	9:00 am 10:00 am	Stone Wash - Laundry Room Street Hope Bible Study - Library
<b>Tue.</b>	9:00 am 10:00 am 8:00 pm	Stone Wash - Laundry Room Street Hope Bible Study - Library Al-Anon - Library
<b>Wed.</b>	9:00 am 10:00 am	Stone Wash - Laundry Room Street Hope Bible Study
<b>Thu.</b>	9:00 am 1:00 pm 4:00 pm	Stone Wash - Laundry Room Stone Vestry - Church Community Drop-in - 2nd Floor, Trinity Church
<b>Fri.</b>	9:00 am 7:00 pm	Stone Wash - Laundry Room Street Hope Drop-in - Stone Church

**Our Envelope Offerings - July 9**

	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Missions</b>
Budgeted	\$3,052.00	\$787.00
Actual	<u>2,920.00</u>	<u>819.00</u>
<b>Shortfall/Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 132.00</b>	<b>\$ 32.00</b>



**Thank You From Safe Harbour House**

John Sharpe from Partners For Youth sends along his sincere thank you to all our churches in the Saint John area for their help in supplying Safe Harbour House with the toiletries and cleaning supplies they needed back in the spring. The house is very appreciative of its Anglican connection.

**Stone Vision Statement**

*The heart of Christ in the heart of Saint John*