

CHURCH CHAT

Development Update

God Always Dreams Bigger!

No matter how big our dreams might be for All Saints Waterloo, God dreams bigger.

For those who haven't had the opportunity to see where we will be worshipping later this year, it is impressive – large sanctuary, industrial kitchen, board room, gender neutral bathrooms, choir room, youth room, large “social” room, 2 rooms for Sunday school, storage areas, pastoral offices and an administration area....and then there's the auditorium/community centre to be named the SideWalk Centre! In every way this facility is impressive and sets our congregation up to have a meaningful impact to those in need.

When we started this journey 10+ years ago, there were modest expectations to buyout the Waterloo North Presbyterian congregation, our partners in the Laurel Church Centre. The intent was to then work through a plan to sell a portion of the property to a developer and build a new Church equipped to minister to those in need in the Lakeshore neighbourhood. The size and scope

of the project wasn't defined. That said, the mindset was to work within the means provided by God and the proceeds from the property developer to build a new Church that would chart a new path for All Saints Waterloo.

As time would pass, some wondered if we'd ever fulfill our dream of a new Church. But then


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it happened – we found a path to sell and build a new Church. At first, it looked like we'd have more than enough resources to build the Church and payoff the mortgage we established to complete the buyout of the Laurel Church Centre. We even thought there would be money available to create an endowment to “kickstart” our refocus on ministry. We know now this was not the case as costs have been more than expected – yes, our project could not side step the inflationary environment we live in today. Despite cost challenges, the congregation has persevered and supported a grander vision for the facility. In many ways, the perception of “abundance” after we sold the property was a blessing as it reset the mindset of the congregation to “complete” the build and ensure it made a statement of faith to those worshipping and address the need to finish the facility now to support greater ministry in Waterloo.

All said, the vitality of All Saints Waterloo is assured. We are the only new build in the Anglican Church of Canada in 2023. And word is spreading – Marty is regularly getting inquiries on the availability of our building for use including gym use for health care workers for pick-up basketball games and external choirs looking for a place to practice. In many cases, the use of the facilities will be a revenue source to help meet our financial obligations. And for that, we can give thanks to God. The future is bright because of His inspiration, the vision set many years ago and the commitment and perseverance of leadership to see it through with His help.

As we prepare to move into our new Church, everyone should take time to reflect on what we've accomplished and give thanks to God for his love and inspiration throughout our journey. What we know for sure is God's dream for All Saints Waterloo is bigger than we can ask or imagine. And that is the true blessing of this journey to build a new Church and facility.

Stewardship Moment ~ Pastor Marty

A Caring Community for All: Our Capital Campaign for the new church build and the SideWalk Community Centre.

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to you on behalf of All Saints' Anglican Church and the SideWalk Community Centre to share an exciting and transformative opportunity that will benefit the entire community of Lakeshore North and South. We are launching a capital campaign to finalize the development of our new church and community centre in Lakeshore North.

At All Saints', we firmly believe in the power of community and the importance of providing a space where people can come together, grow, and thrive. We envision a vibrant community centre that will serve as a hub for education, recreation, and support for all ages and backgrounds.

The new church and SideWalk Centre will be a modern, inclusive, and accessible facility that will offer a wide range of programs and services to meet the diverse needs of our neighbourhood. Some of the key features and offerings we plan to provide include:

1. Educational Programs: A dedicated space for after-school tutoring, adult education classes, workshops, and vocational training to empower individuals with knowledge and skills.
2. Recreational Activities: Indoor recreational space to promote physical health and well-being.
3. Community Events: A multi-purpose hall to host cultural events, seminars, conferences, and community celebrations, fostering connections and a sense of belonging.
4. Support Services: Kitchen and additional space for social services, food distribution, and support groups, offering assistance to individuals and families facing various challenges.

This ambitious project requires significant financial resources to become a reality. We currently have a deficit of approximately \$400 000. We are reaching out to you, generous parishioners, who share this vision and believe in the power of investing in the well-being of our community.

We invite you to be a part of this transformative initiative by making a financial contribution to our 3 year capital campaign. Your contribution, no matter the size, will make a meaningful impact and bring us closer to our fundraising goal.

We all have different giving levels available, and we encourage you to consider a gift that is personally significant to you. For example, a gift of \$4 500 spread over 3 years by the over 100 families at All Saints would almost entirely eliminate our deficit. You may also wish to increase your weekly donation amount to spread your contribution to the capital campaign throughout the year rather than making a one time contribution..



To make a contribution, please visit our website at allsaintswaterloo.ca or complete the enclosed pledge card and return it with your gift to All Saints' Waterloo. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Marty at 519-884-6600 or rector@allsaintswaterloo.ca

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support. Together, we can create a community centre that will enrich lives, foster connections, and build a stronger, more vibrant community for generations to come.

May God bless you abundantly for your generosity.

Evangelism Moment ~Steven Barker

Complexity and Simplicity

The task of evangelism can seem daunting and complex. The call of Jesus to preach the gospel and to make disciples can intimidate even the boldest of believers. If the Great Commission is the task, how can believers evangelize in a way that is simple and relevant to the individuals we are seeking to reach? As those who seek to proclaim this gospel message, we can take comfort in the fact that we are not alone in this endeavour. God is the ultimate evangelist and God is at work in the lives of those who don't know Him yet.

In Luke chapter 19 we read that Jesus encountered a man named Zacchaeus, a Jewish tax collector who had sold his soul in the service of Rome. He was an unredeemable person in the eyes of the Jewish religious leaders and many of his fellow Jews. But when he encountered Jesus, Zacchaeus heard from him statements that affirmed his personhood and his worth. From that point, everything in his life changed.

However, God was at work in Zacchaeus's life even before Jesus spoke to him. Zacchaeus had heard of Jesus, and he even climbed a tree in the hope of getting a glimpse of Jesus as he passed by. Jesus then honoured Zacchaeus by eating with him (at his house!) and Zacchaeus responded by promising to make up for the wrongs in his life. Zacchaeus found God and "Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost'" (Luke 19:9–10 NIV). Jesus came to seek and save the lost, and Jesus is good at his job.

God the Evangelist

Scripture highlights the evangelistic heart of God and describes God's methodology when it says, "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9 NIV). The heart of God is that none would perish. The methodology is allowing time. God is giving people time to be impacted through direct intervention and through other people. In Acts chapter 2, the Holy Spirit is poured out, and miraculous things begin to happen. It is the dawn of a new age as God launches into evangelistic mode. God is now at work upon, with, or within, all people. God the Evangelist also partners with believers (like with Peter in this chapter) to bring in the harvest.

The Role of the Evangelist (and Our Role)

The Holy Spirit took an active role in leading the Apostle Paul to Macedonia, to the city of Philippi for the conversion of Lydia. Although Paul initially had different plans, God had in mind an exact time and an exact place for that encounter. Paul's role was to be open, sensitive, attentive, and obedient to the Spirit's direction.

If God's heart is that none would perish, and if God is giving time for people to respond, our role is to be open, sensitive, attentive, and obedient to the work that God is doing. If God is the Evangelist, then our prayer for "daily bread" should include, "Lord, show me where and with whom you are working. Help me to fulfill your Great Commission by recognizing you at work in others." God may well change our plans as the Holy Spirit directs the agenda.

As we encounter others, learning to ask simple questions and offering prayer can be an effective way to engage with them. These questions could include, "Has God ever tried to get your attention?" or "If God was real, what methods would God use to connect with you?" If someone is going through a difficult time or looking for wisdom, we could respond by offering prayer (as opposed to just promising to pray for them). An offer to pray could be as simple as, "I am a believer in Jesus. Would you mind if I prayed with you *right now* for help in your specific circumstance?" Following up, you could then ask them what they felt God did in response to the prayer.

A New Season and a Simple Approach

One of my mentors recently stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has "ripened the harvest." He meant that people are now open to talk about spiritual things. I decided to test his observation. Last summer I spent several days walking through a local park. As I walked, I asked the Lord to show me who needed prayer. I would walk up to various individuals and say, "Hi, my name is Steve, and I am a Christian. Is there anything that I can pray to God for you today?" To my amazement, over 50% of the people invited me to pray for something specific and had short conversations with me. Not one person all summer long was derogatory in their refusal! Those who asked me to pray shared real issues that they had been struggling with. Many had already cried out to God asking for help. Others stated that no one had ever offered to pray for them before. People were looking for God.

About ten years ago, a person phoned me with the news that her brother was in a nearby hospital. The doctors expected him to die very soon. She asked if I would go and share the gospel with him. I accepted and drove to the hospital. On the way, I rehearsed my evangelistic spiel (the Romans Road scriptural approach and the Bridge illustration of the gospel). I prayed as I entered the hospital and the Lord spoke to me very clearly. He said,

"Extend forgiveness to him." In my twenty-minute conversation with him I felt like I was prevented from sharing my gospel pitch. Finally, I shared with him the statement that God had communicated to me. On my drive home, his sister phoned me, and she was angry that I had "failed" to share the gospel. I wondered, "Lord, did I really hear from you or have I failed my mission?" Two days later I received a call from the sister, and she was in tears. Her brother had passed



away, but a day earlier his daughter had come to visit him. He told his daughter that a minister had “extended forgiveness” to him the day before. They found a Gideon Bible in the hospital nightstand, read it, and both accepted Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Needless to say, both the man’s sister and I rejoiced on the phone that God is good at evangelism and that He can work through anyone. Who might God already be speaking to among your friends, family, and neighbours? How might God be asking you to join in His work of drawing people to himself? Let’s be people who are open, sensitive, attentive, and obedient to the work that God is doing.

From the Wycliffe College Institute for Evangelism. institute.wycliffecollege.ca

Book Club ~ Joyce Harry

Since our last report in July, we have met for our August discussion on a book called ‘The Gown’ by Jennifer Robson, this is an historical fiction on the ladies who worked on making Queen Elizabeth II’s wedding gown, made for a great discussion.

The September and October books we will be reading are:

September 27 – ‘The Wedding Dress Sewing Circle’ by Jennifer Ryan

October 25 – ‘The Bloomsbury Girls’ by Natalie Jenner

At the September meeting we will be discussing titles for the remainder of the year. We have had a couple of new members in the past months, it is nice to see some new faces, the more the merrier. Everyone gets a chance to suggest books for future reading, this usually results in various genres and keeps things interesting.

Some books are hits and some are misses, you never know until you get between the pages, just remember you can’t judge a book by its cover. Even if you don’t especially like a book, there is always a good discussion.

Would encourage avid readers to join us, this is a great way to get to know like minded folks.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” Nelson Mandela



A New Chapter in my Life ~ David Millerd

On May 6, 2023, I was fired after working one month as a dishwasher at East Side Mario's. I was a little frustrated from their decision to let me go. I thought I could work there for a while until something new came up. After this happened my parents suggested that I keep positive and know that I would be going back to school in September so things would get better.

After I would read books that piqued my interest, and I would go for at least a 4 kilometre walk every day to keep fit. I read all six books of the Dune chronology by Frank Herbert. Also, I read some books by Tolkien.

I would continue and still do a Bible reading after dinner Monday to Friday with my parents from the book Day by Day. Allowed my faith to get stronger in the Triune God.



I would also go see a movie occasionally to escape the world and get entertained. Also, I went to three Toronto Blue Jays games with my brother to have a mini holiday out of the city.

Near the end of August my family and I rented a cottage in Victoria Harbour, Simcoe County for a week. It was a great experience to be with people that have supported me all these years.

Now I had to get ready to go to do the Social Service Worker program at Conestoga College. I learned on my Zoom orientation with my program coordinator that I needed to take an elective I was little worried about that. Luckily, I found one in Greek Mythology that looks interesting.

I have already one of the books for one of my courses. It's called North Wind Man by Clarence Cachagee and Seth Ratzlaff. I strongly recommend it.

This term is shaping up to be a good term. I have Mondays off to go to appointments, personal things and even continue to go to the church breakfast once a month.

Please pray for me and all students that we stay focused on our studies and not get distracted by little things. Feel free to talk or contact me and ask how things are going for me as I take on this new chapter in my life.

All Saints Filipino Community Church ~ Pastor Rambie

This year's summer break had been a very busy time for most of the All-Saint's Filipino Community. However, we had some activities that did on some of our regular Sunday services.

One of the activities that took over was the victory party for winning the most cooperative team in the league. The presentation video of John Coffey from IT Tender-Manila was also shown to our community, and we were able to encourage one of our members to sponsor a child in his studies in the Philippines.

Thirty-five members of our group also went for three days camping at grand bend in Pinery Provincial Park. It was indeed a very fun and refreshing activity for our group, though for some they had to leave early for family emergency. It was for that reason that we just had a short holy communion service instead of doing the Sunday service by the lake.

It was also unfortunate that some of our new Filipino members who came and helped at church had to go back home for good because they found it hard to adjust and adapt the life in Canada.

On the other hand, we had some visitors who came from the Philippines, who have been a member of the Executive Council in the Episcopal Church in the Philippines. Though their google map directed them where the new church is being build, they still found our temporary location and it was so inspiring to connect with them.



A Filipino priest who arrived few months ago and now base in London Ontario with his family also came and visit us at All Saints wherein we had the opportunity to listen to him as our guest preacher. Indeed, we were blessed this summer to see fellow Filipinos who came to All Saints and joined us in our worship and fellowship.

as Fall starts, we are also starting to plan our activities for Sunday school, altar server and cup bearer trainings as well as activities for thanksgiving and Christmas. It is for this reason that All Saints Filipino Community is so blessed and grateful to All Saints Anglican Church because we are looking forward to realizing this plans in the new church building.

Wool Gatherers ~ Rachel Prichard

On September 10 Pastor Marty blessed 44 hats, 3 headbands, 1 cowl, 9 scarves, and 21 pairs of mittens, all of which have been delivered to Camino's Care and Share House at Erb and Amos. There were also 7 Alzheimer muffs which Jane Gorman has taken to the Alzheimer Society and 68 prayer cloths which will be available in our Narthex for anyone to take to pray with. Thanks to all the Wool Gatherers and also to several outliers who offer their knitted items for our disposal. Huge thanks are also due to the other parishioners who came to help us sew on labels on Aug 26 and September 9th. You are so appreciated by knitters and crocheters, who are not fond of sewing.

We are also knitting blankets to use up the masses of yarn we still have and continue to be given, for the silent auction we are planning next year when we have our bazaar. We are working on #s 20 and 21 at present with several more planned.



God's Eternal Church ~ Elizabeth Pinnell

The following submission is from Our Daily Bread June/July/August 2023 edition.

“Is church over?” asked a young mother arriving at our church with two children in tow just as the Sunday service was ending. But a greeter told her that a church nearby offered two Sunday services and the second would start soon. Would she like a ride there? The young mother said yes and seemed grateful to travel the few blocks to the other church. Reflecting years later, the greeter came to this conclusion: “Is church over? Never. God’s church goes on forever.”

The church isn’t a fragile “building”. It’s the faithful family of God who are “members of His household,” wrote Paul, “built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit” (Ephesians 2:19-22).

Jesus Himself established His church for eternity. He declared that despite challenges or troubles facing his church, “the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18 KJV).

Through his empowering lens, we can see our local churches - all of us - as a part of God’s universal church, being built “in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!” (Ephesians 3:21)

**What about your local church makes you grateful?
How can you help God’s universal church grow?**

As a part of your church, dear Jesus, keep building me in you.

Gifts ~ Pastor Dan

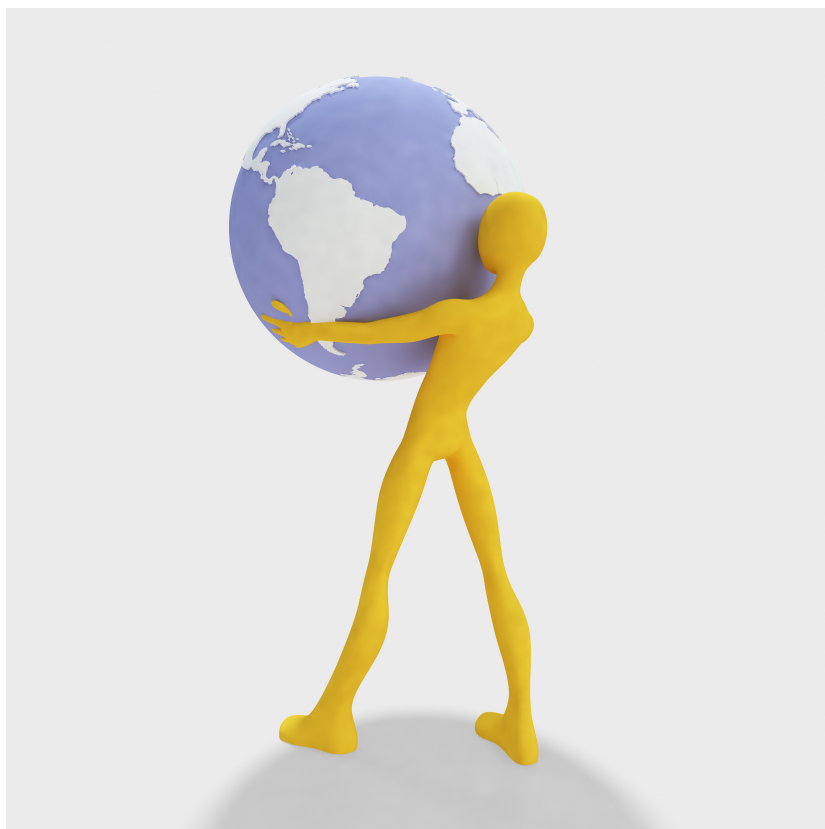
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Dear Friends,

In the spring of 2003 I had just completed my first year of seminary at Huron University College. At the young age of 23, I was sent to ACPO, that is “Advisory Council on Postulants for Ordination”. ACPO is a weekend retreat at which candidates for ordination from across Ontario gather with assessors both lay and ordained to undergo a number of intense interviews where their suitability for ordained ministry is assessed. While things would be very different for me today in my forties, because I was so young at the time, ACPO was a rather intimidating experience for me.

After two intense interviews, my third interview finally came around. I distinctly remember it being

with a long-retired priest from the Diocese of Algoma who at the time was in his mid-seventies. He only asked me two questions, which I can remember verbatim. The first was “So, you want to be a priest?” and the second was “What are your gifts?”. I remember that he followed up the second question by saying “No matter what happens here this weekend, know your gifts, know the things that you are good at”. He went on to share that knowing my gifts wasn’t vain or anything of the sort, but rather that knowing one’s gifts helps to set the course of one’s ministry, as when someone knows their gifts and the things that bring them their greatest joy in ministry, God can work through these gifts to God’s glory.



Even at the young age of 23, I spoke to the ways pastoral care was one of my greatest joys. Yet I never forgot the words of wisdom that the long-retired priest from the Diocese of Algoma shared with me about the importance of knowing the things that I was good at. Over the years I discovered my passion for outreach ministry in addition to pastoral care, and I have marveled at the way God called me to study social work. Learning some of the principles of social work has very much helped me to reflect on and teach the ways in which outreach ministry is centred in our baptismal covenant as Christians.

The thing is, as we well know at All Saints', ministry is not something reserved only for clergy. All of us have gifts for ministry which are rooted in our baptism. As our community now prepares to move back to the Northfield site and into the new church and community centre, it is an opportune time for each and every one of us to reflect on our gifts for ministry, both individually and collectively. As the anchor ministries for the new community centre take shape and commence, we will need volunteers from All Saints' to serve in partnership with representatives from our community partner agencies to actualize and make real the ministries that will take place at the community centre.

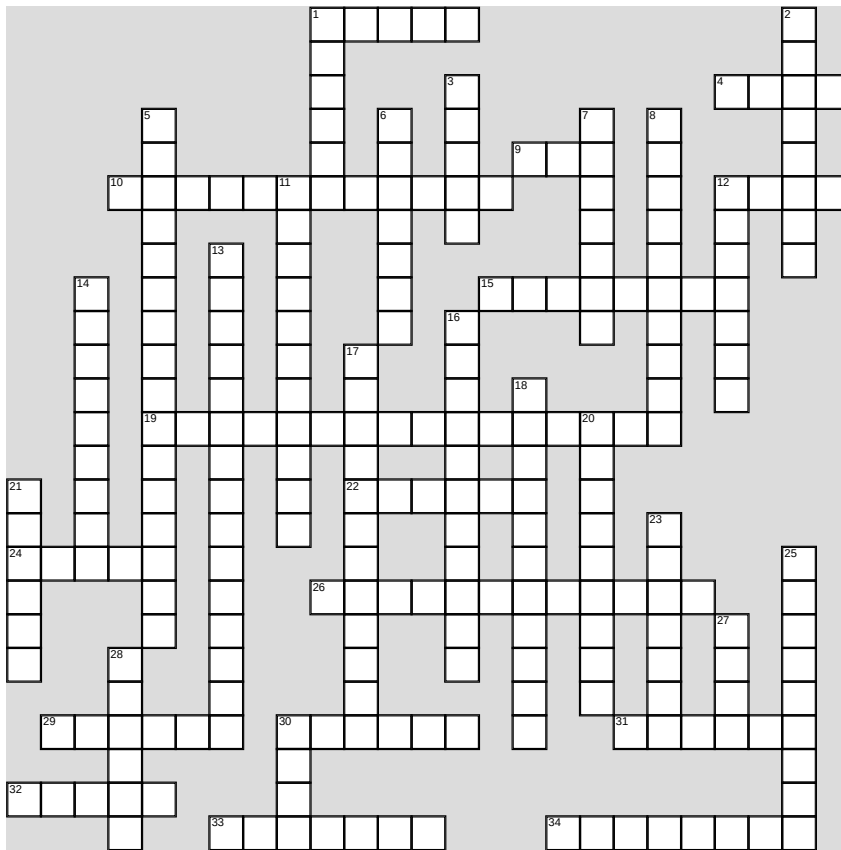
This being the case, it is a good time for all of us to reflect on the things we are good at, the gifts God has given to us for ministry. What brings you great joy in serving others? Maybe you have gifts to share with young people, or new Canadians or people living in our neighbourhood who are in need. Take some time over the coming weeks and months to think about and pray about the gifts that God has given to you for ministry. If you would find it helpful to talk through some of your thoughts on these things, I am always more than happy to connect and chat. Let us reflect on and discern our gifts for ministry, knowing that our loving God will show us the way. For God is good, all the time! And all the time, God is good!

Funnies



Crossword

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE (OLD TESTAMENT)



Down

- 1 SEVENTH BOOK
- 2 TWENTIETH BOOK
- 3 TWENTY-EIGHTH BOOK
- 5 TWENTY-SECOND BOOK
- 6 FOURTH BOOK
- 7 THIRTY-FIRST BOOK
- 8 ELEVENTH BOOK
- 11 FIFTH BOOK
- 12 TWENTY-SIXTH BOOK
- 13 THIRTEENTH BOOK
- 14 THIRTY-SIXTH BOOK
- 16 TWELVETH BOOK
- 17 TWENTY-FIRST BOOK
- 18 NINTH BOOK
- 20 THIRD BOOK
- 21 TWENTY-SEVENTH BOOK
- 23 FIRST BOOK
- 25 THIRTY-EIGHTH BOOK
- 27 EIGHTH BOOK
- 28 TWENTY-THIRD BOOK
- 30 TWENTY-NINTH BOOK

Across

- 1 THIRTY-SECOND BOOK
- 4 THIRTIETH BOOK
- 9 EIGHTEENTH BOOK
- 10 TENTH BOOK
- 12 FIFTEENTH BOOK
- 15 THIRTY-FIFTH BOOK
- 19 FOURTEENTH BOOK
- 22 SECOND BOOK
- 24 THIRTY-FOURTH BOOK
- 26 TWENTY-FIFTH BOOK
- 29 NINETEENTH BOOK
- 30 SIXTH BOOK
- 31 SEVENTEENTH BOOK
- 32 THIRTY-THIRD BOOK
- 33 THIRTY-NINTH BOOK
- 34 TWENTY-FOURTH BOOK

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