



Inside·Out

March/April/May 2011

Worship

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

2nd Sunday in Lent, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: John 3:1-17

Sermon: "Born Again?"

Chapel Communion, 12:15 p.m.

Lunch and Learn, Moira Barclay-Fernie

Handel's MESSIAH, 3:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Lenten Chapel Service, 12:30 p.m.

Rev. Rod Ferguson

Lenten Lunch, 1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

3rd Sunday in Lent, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Exodus 17: 1-7

Sermon: "Camping in the Wilderness"

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Lenten Chapel Service, 12:30 p.m.

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

Lenten Lunch, 1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

4th Sunday in Lent, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Sermon: "An Unpredictable God"

Reception in Kildonan Hall, 12:15 p.m.

Presentation by Barb Summers, P.W.S.&D.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Lenten Chapel Service, 12:30 p.m.

Rev. Rod Ferguson

Lenten Lunch, 1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

5th Sunday in Lent, 11:00 a.m.

Choir Appreciation Sunday

Scripture: John 11:1-45

Sermon: "When Jesus is Late"

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

Lenten Chapel Service, 12:30 p.m.

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

Lenten Lunch, 1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Passion/Palm Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Reception of New Members

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11

Sermon: "Two Parades to Choose From"

Reception in Kildonan Hall, 12:15 p.m.

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Deadline for next edition: May 6

Worship con't

THURSDAY, APRIL 21
Maundy Thursday Tenebrae, 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22
Good Friday, 11:00 a.m.
"The Seven Last Words of Christ"
Choral Service, 8:00 p.m.
The A&P Choir with I Musici de Montréal

SUNDAY, APRIL 24.
Resurrection of the Lord/Easter, 11:00 a.m.
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Scripture: Mark 16:1-8
Sermon: "Go to Galilee"

SUNDAY, MAY 1
2nd Sunday of Easter, 11:00 a.m.
Black Watch Parade
Chapel Communion, 12:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 8
Mothers' Day Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.,
Kildonan Hall
3rd Sunday of Easter, 11:00 a.m.
Scripture: John 20:19-31
Sermon: "First Church, Jerusalem"

SUNDAY, MAY 15
4th Sunday of Easter, 11:00 a.m.
Scripture: Psalm 23
Sermon: "I Shall not Want"

SUNDAY, MAY 22
5th Sunday of Easter, 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Rod Ferguson
Scripture: 1 Peter 2:2-10
Sermon: "Living Stones"

SUNDAY, MAY 29
6th Sunday of Easter, 11:00 a.m.
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Scripture: John 14:15-21
Sermon: "The Peace of Christ"

A Word From the Minister

What Are You Giving Up for Lent?



The season of Lent is almost here again. Lent is the forty-day journey – excluding Sundays, because each Lord's Day is considered to be a mini-Easter – that begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Easter morning.

In many Christian traditions, people are encouraged to give up something pleasurable for Lent. The purpose of this discipline is to draw us closer to Christ, who gave himself over to death for the sake of the world. Although it may seem trite to give up a small pleasure in response to Christ's great sacrifice, nevertheless I think there is great value in this faith-practice. Certainly, Lent means much more than our attempts at self-denial, but it does not mean less than this.

We are part of a culture that often announces the virtues of being self-satisfied and self-indulgent. Thus, Jesus' words to his would-be disciples to "deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Mark 8:34) are not likely to be uttered in any promotional advertisement. "You owe it to yourself," "You deserve it," and "Enjoy yourself" are among the most popular wisdom sayings of our time.

Please do not misunderstand: There is nothing wrong with enjoyment and being happy with yourself. However, for Christians, it is important to remember that Jesus promised that we are never more alive and self-fulfilled than when we are giving ourselves in service for another. This is not the conventional wisdom of the world. On the contrary, the chief claim of our culture is that we are most alive when we live for ourselves.

The following, then, are a few Lenten questions for us to consider this season: What is that thing in my life that is in danger of taking over my life? What do I love too much the wrong way? How can I redirect my life so that I am able to earnestly ponder on what God desires for my life?

Remember, Lent is not about conjuring up guilt. Instead, it is about saying "yes" to the invitation to walk with Jesus to Jerusalem and the cross. It is about contemplating his self-giving love and then asking him, "Lord, how can I mirror your love in my life?"

In shared ministry,
Jeff

Note: No doubt some of you will ask what I'm giving up for Lent. Well, after some prayerful consideration, I've decided not to watch the Maple Leafs in the playoffs this year.



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A Gift of Grace From Montreal

The Ten Ministers Fund Enters Its 63rd Year

"Thank you to this congregation for the wonderful gift that you have freely offered to the servants of the gospel within our church. You have truly taken time to be holy in the best sense of the word. Now persist in holiness in your ministry within and beyond this place."

— The Rev. Stephen Kendall, Principal Clerk,
The Presbyterian Church in Canada,
speaking in celebration of the Ten Ministers Fund
Feb. 13, 2011

It was 1959. The Presbyterian manse in a small village in Eastern Ontario was a noisy, bustling place, full to overflowing with the clergyman's large family. Sadly, the wife's health had become a major issue; she had had to undergo two surgeries and was now confined to a sanatorium. That left the clergyman on his own to look after the children – all seven of them – as well as carry out his heavy load of work on a multi-point charge. The congregations were small and could only afford to pay him what was called "the minimum stipend" – the minimum salary as set by church guidelines. Every penny had to count, the children had to be clothed and fed, and there were medical expenses. It was a time of endless worry.

Just after Easter a letter appeared in the mail, its return address a Presbyterian church in Montreal. Puzzled as to why this church that he had only vaguely heard of would be writing to him, the clergyman opened it. The Montreal church's minister, The Rev. R.J. Berlis, had written:

"During each Lenten season, we hold a series of Vesper Services each Wednesday in the Chapel of our Church. The offerings received go toward a 'Ten Ministers Fund' to provide Easter gifts to ten ministers whose names have been suggested to us by the Secretary of the Board of Missions. We hope that this will serve as a token that the people of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul are concerned for the welfare of our ministers who are working steadfastly and sacrificially for the cause of Christ and His Church."

Along with the letter was a cheque for \$110 – in today's dollars, the equivalent of almost \$850. What an unexpected gift, and what a difference it would make to the

household! How could that church in faraway Montreal possibly have known of his family's worries and need?

In fact the congregation of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul did not know anything about that clergyman, or his family, or his wife's illness. The Ten Ministers Fund, which has been in place at our church since 1948, operates on the principle that the names and situations of the recipients are not known to the people who contribute. The A&P people whose generosity brought such relief and happiness to the manse that day knew only that their gifts of money would be divided among ten church workers across Canada – ministers who were doing good work for God under difficult circumstances, including, but often not limited to, having to get by and support their families on the meager minimum salary.

It is, as one recipient many years after that 1959 gift noted in his own letter of thanks, "a ministry to ministers," a ministry of A&P that is unique in the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It is the people of a large urban church reaching out and supporting their partners in the work of God, sending them the message that their efforts are appreciated by the larger church and Christian community. Encouraging them, in other words.

The Fund was the brainchild and dear project of The Rev. Dr. R.J. (Rod) Berlis, the minister at our church from 1946 to 1973. He began it in 1948, and the Fund quickly became a cherished annual tradition at A&P. "Indeed," Dr. Berlis noted in a 1955 letter, "it is so much a part of our Lenten practice that our people are making inquiries about the 'Ten Ministers' long before Lent actually begins."

This year, the Stewardship Committee is celebrating more than 60 years of this congregation's generosity through the Ten Ministers Fund. Rev. Stephen Kendall of the national church was invited to take part in our worship on February 13, in a service that was built around the theme of the Ten Ministers Fund. In his role as Principal Secretary of the General Assembly, Rev. Kendall for several years has been the person who suggests the names of ministers and other church workers who are in need of encouragement through the Fund. But more than that, he is also a past recipient of a Ten Ministers gift. As he told us that Sunday:

"I was in my second year of ministry, and my wife, Alison, and I were in Calgary ... We had two



The Rev. Dr. Rod Berlis,
who began the fund in 1948.

children under two and I was working morning, noon and night on the exciting but challenging work of building a new church. We were receiving a minimum stipend so we were not hungry by any means, but there was never any money left at the end of the month. Then one day, completely out of the blue, a cheque that was equal to half our monthly income arrived with a note that the people of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul wanted to give this gift as a sign of appreciation for my work and as encouragement to me in ministry. I can't tell you what that meant to us. It was a breath of fresh air and a source of heartfelt genuine support ...

"I feel very privileged to suggest ministers of our church who are doing good work but whose circumstances mean they could benefit from a bit of encouragement. It's not easy being in ministry today. Our ministers are by and large extremely dedicated and working hard in a culture that is increasingly ambivalent toward Christian ministry. The letters that I receive in response to the gifts reveal the joy, the surprise, the delight, and especially the encouragement these gifts have meant. Time and again I hear how it came at just the right time to keep them going. They usually see it as an act of undeserved grace. I believe it is well deserved, but the spirit of giving and receiving is something that is transcendent and, I daresay, a holy event."

We hope you'll be generous in contributing to the 2011 Ten Ministers Fund. Let's send those in need of encouragement a gift of grace from Montreal.

Katherine Sedgwick, on behalf of the Stewardship Committee

Heritage Weekend

Time to Celebrate the Diversity of Our Congregation

A motion adopted by the Presbyterian Church in Canada's General Assembly in 2009 named the third Sunday in February Heritage Sunday "to celebrate the history, traditions and individual and collective faith stories that make us uniquely Presbyterian." Our church took a slightly different approach this year to celebrate our flourishing intercultural congregation that has united Presbyterians from around the world.

Heritage Weekend brought a Saturday evening Taste of the Nations to Kildonan Hall with tasty treats from, among others, Japan, Lebanon, the Caribbean, Mexico, the Netherlands, the southern United States and even tourtières and maple-syrup-glazed ham from exotic corners of Quebec. Jazz saxophonist Justin McIntosh, grandson of the founder of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, got some of the more adventurous diners up and dancing. For those who missed this enchanting occasion, be sure to note it in your agenda for next year and whip up some special recipes to share.

Twenty-eight flags were proudly presented during the service on Heritage Sunday. Director of Music Jonathan Oldengarm provided the perfect signature to a moving occasion and captured the PCC's vision of our worldwide heritage as together we sang the hymn "In Christ there is no East or West."

Keith Randall



Jazz saxophonist Justin McIntosh entertained the crowd at Saturday's Taste of the Nations.



Kiza Joey carried the flag of Burundi.



Mervyn Weekes, who led the organization of the weekend, presents the flag of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



Diane and Diana, left, helped serve some of the tasty treats.

Cabaret by Candlelight

Songs and Melodies Waft Through the Hearts of Audience and Performers Alike

Kildonan Hall was magically transformed. Filling the great room were tables set with red and white checked tablecloths, beautifully decorated by Dorothy Thomas-Edding and Bill Paisley with valentine hearts, flowers and candles. Near the stage, there was a platform with stage lights and mikes – a grand piano nearby. The stage curtain was decorated with hundreds of hearts in shades of pink and red, meticulously cut and attached in a heart-lifting design. One could hear the chatter of voices in the kitchen as platters of hors d'oeuvres were being set out. In the hall, there were last-minute run-throughs and mike checks with stage director Aria Umazawa. At the hall entrance, patrons had started to arrive, looking forward to an evening of fun and good fellowship. The Cabaret was about to begin.

What better way to open a show at A&P than with a parade of performers led in by master bagpiper Bruce Bolton and the audience clapping in rhythm? It was a great start to a marvelous evening. Tracy Cantin opened the first act with "Let's Do It" by Cole Porter. This was followed by three solo songs reminiscent of the

German cabaret scene and sung with deep sensitivity by Mark Briand ("Nun Will Die Sonn So Hell Auf Gehn" by Mahler), Nicola Kill ("Youkali" by Weill), and Loic Paulin ("Lonely House" also by Weill). Then Edmund Milly performed with energy and expressivity two of his own compositions: "Linger With Me Now, Thou Beauty" and "The Frivolous Cake."

"A Choired Taste" jazzed up the evening with three a capella selections: "Java Jive," "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square," and "Travelin' Shoes." Singers Elizabeth Ekholm, Jana Miller, Lance Keizer and Clayton Kennedy wowed the group with scattin' sounds and amazing ensemble. Ending the first set of acts, Jonathan Oldengarm donned his ragtime hat and dazzled the audience with "Ragtime Nightingale" by Joseph Elam.

During the two intermissions, servers wearing red and pink and carrying plates of hors d'oeuvres and bottles of wine moved among the

tables. Meanwhile, Jim Coward was busy in the kitchen preparing the culinary delights. In his usual generous and loving style, Jim had drawn up the menu, shopped for the event and then prepared the food on site. Thank you, Jim. We are so grateful.

As people ate, drank and mingled, David Christiani, the master of ceremonies for the show, regaled the group with jokes and announced the door-prize winners. David masterfully pulled the evening together with his marvelous sense of timing, humour, and introduction of the performers. In addition, he was the brilliant conductor for our Swingle Tabernacle Choir. Thanks so much, David!



Tracy Cantin opened the evening with "Let's Do It."



Desmond Byrne studies hard just before taking the stage.

You're a real sweetheart!

The second set of acts definitely had a valentine's theme, with a little comedy thrown in for good measure. Love and humour mixed well in the performances by Wendy Glaubitz ("Embraceable You," "I Got Rhythm"), Jeremy Carver-James and Jana Miller ("My Funny Valentine" and "Baby, It's Cold Outside"). Walking out into the audience on the first number, Wendy sidled up romantically to one patron who just happened to be her husband, Rene. Then Jeremy took over the stage with his rendition of "My Funny Valentine." This started out in a serious manner only to become more outlandishly fun as Jeremy pulled out pictures of his beloved stuffed up his sleeves and in his jacket. This was followed by the "Baby, It's Cold Outside" duet with Jana – part skit, part dance, all delightful!

The Swingle Tabernacle Choir came next with a mock-Baroque theme. They began with

the Handelian "Sing a Song of Sixpence," followed by a jazzed-up Bach "Bourrée." The audience was particularly charmed with their final number by the infamous P.D.Q. Bach – "My Bonnie Lass She Smelleth." Carrying on with the love theme, Garry McLinn gave a moving rendition of "Someone to Fall Back On," followed by Bruce Bolton playing "Something Ethnic" on the bagpipes. Jonathan again closed the set, with the delightful Joplin rag "Elite Syncopations." Jonathan had also accompanied many of the performers during the evening. Where would be without you, dear Jonathan?

Opening the third set, Clayton Kennedy brought dynamic drama and excitement to his performance of Manilow's "Copacabana." Then Desmond Byrne stepped into the spotlight to tell the dark story of "Black Max" by cabaret composer William Bolcom. Changing the pace, Esteli Gomez, accompanied by Jean Willy-Kunz, charmed the audience with a beautiful rendition of "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered" by Rodgers and Hart. And for the final act, Des and Tracy returned to the stage to "meow" their way through Rossini's "Cat Duet" in fine operatic style! What a couple of pussycats!

The evening could not end, however, without an expression of deep gratitude to those responsible for pulling off this event. Kaaren Wallis, Cabaret co-ordinator, was brought up to the front and given red roses in deep appreciation for her contribution. In turn, she pointed out that this was a group effort and that many had come together in loving generosity and service to produce the evening. "It would be impossible to name all the people who helped with this event," she said, "but you know who you are!"

Songs and melodies wafted through the hearts of audience and performers alike as the evening came to a close. Bruce Bolton, on the bagpipes, roused the group to their feet to sing "Auld Lang Syne" and then led the performers out of the hall to the sound of rhythmic applause and "Scotland the Brave." What a great evening!

Wendy Glaubitz
Choir Executive President

Music at A&P

Mozart's *Requiem* and Handel's *Messiah* Highlight an Ambitious Easter Program



The season of Lent is a time for reflecting on the gift of salvation given to us through Christ's supreme sacrifice. This year's musical program at the church accompanies that journey in several ways. The Sunday service music is always selected according to the scripture readings of the day; the music staff and clergy do their utmost to find unity in

preaching and music to the greater glory of God. The major Lenten musical events are seasonally appropriate: on March 20, we present Handel's *Messiah*, the ultimate musical account of the Son of God; and on Palm Sunday afternoon (April 17), organist Jonathan Oldengarm and Radio-Canada host Mario Paquet present Paul Claudel and Marcel Dupré's poetic and musical settings of the Stations of the Cross, an ancient Christian tradition of meditation on the Passion of Christ. And finally, on Good Friday (April 22) we join forces with the noted *I Musici* chamber orchestra in a performance of Mozart's *Requiem*. More on all three events below.

On a very non-liturgical note, a word of thanks is due to Kaaren Wallis, co-ordinator, and Wendy Glaubitz, Choir Executive President, for the outstanding work they and their committee did in organizing the **Cabaret by Candlelight** event on Friday, February 11. Thanks also to the many choristers whose participation made the event a smashing artistic success (and a lot of fun!), and the many members and friends of the congregation who packed Kildonan Hall for the occasion.

On **Sunday, March 20, at 3:00 p.m.**, the Choir and Baroque Orchestra of the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul present George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*, probably the best-loved oratorio ever written. Handel himself knew that he had created something exceptional, reportedly exclaiming, "I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God Himself!" upon completing the *Hallelujah Chorus*. Composed in just over three weeks in 1742, *Messiah* was written for a benefit performance at Dublin's Foundling Hospital. Four hundred pounds were raised, allowing 142 men freedom from debtors prison.

At St. Andrew and St. Paul, we continue the charitable tradition around *Messiah*: proceeds from our service will support an exciting new venture called *Reachout With Music*. *ReachOutWith Music* is a new project of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul that brings music into the lives of less-privileged young Montrealers. The program is led by church member **Françoise Morin Lyons**, a professional violinist and veteran of similar programs from Kahnawake to Colombia. She says: "Children and young people involved in these music programs have managed to avoid the temptations of drugs, alcohol, prostitution, etc. and have a focus in life in spite of the material poverty that surrounds them. We can do the same in Montreal." More on the program can be read elsewhere in this issue. Further details will be announced in the coming months.

The *Messiah* service is on Sunday, March 20, at 3:00 p.m. Doors open at 2:30 p.m., and admission is by \$20 donation, proceeds to support *ReachoutWith Music*. **Jordan de Souza** conducts, and the soloists are drawn from the Choir.

On **Palm Sunday, April 17, at 3:00 p.m.**, we journey along the **Stations of the Cross**. At the start of Holy Week, organist **Jonathan Oldengarm** teams up with Radio-Canada host **Mario Paquet** to present this ancient Christian tradition in music and poetry. Paquet will read French poet Paul Claudel's (1868-1955) powerful, mystical poem cycle *Le Chemin de la Croix* in alternation with Oldengarm's playing of Marcel Dupré's (1886-1971) eponymous cycle of fourteen remarkable improvisations, originally realized in response to Claudel's poetry. (Incidentally, Dupré, one of the world's most famous organists of his generation, played at least twice here at St. Andrew and St. Paul in the 1930s.) Doors open at 2:30, and freewill donations received will benefit *ReachOutWith Music*.

On Good Friday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m., our choir joins forces with Montreal's noted *I Musici* chamber orchestra to present Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Requiem*. **Jordan de Souza** conducts, making his *I Musici* debut. Tickets are available to members and friends of the church at a special price of \$30. They are now on sale in the Narthex following Sunday services.

And on **Easter Sunday, April 24**, we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord at a festive Communion Service, accompanied by the choir, organ and a brass ensemble.

Jonathan Oldengarm,
Director of Music



George Frideric Handel



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



Marcel Dupré

The Church of St. Andrew & St. Paul

Organ and Choral Music List: Lent and Easter 2011



March 20, 2011:
Second Sunday in
Lent

Prelude: Prélude,
Fugue et Variation,
op. 18 (Franck)

Introit: God so loved
the world, from The
Crucifixion (Stainer)

Anthem: Seek the Lord (Wachner)

Postlude: Con moto maestoso, from Sonata
III (Mendelssohn)

March 20, 2011 (3:00 p.m.)

Messiah (George Frideric Handel, 1685-
1759)

The Choir and Baroque Orchestra of The
Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul
Jordan de Souza, Conductor

March 27, 2011: Third Sunday in Lent

Prelude: Vater unser im Himmelreich, BWV
682 & 683 (Bach)

Introit: Like as the hart (Howells)

Anthem: Pater noster (Handl)

Postlude: TBA

April 3, 2011: Fourth Sunday in Lent

Prelude: TBA

Introit: Vine mea electa (Poulenc)

Anthem: Were you there? (arr. Chilcott)

Postlude: TBA

April 10, 2011: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Prelude: Ach wir armen Sünder (Weckmann)

Introit: Tristis est anima (Poulenc)

Anthem: I waited for the Lord

(Mendelssohn)

Postlude: Introduction und Passacaglia d-moll
(Reger)

April 17, 2011: Palm Sunday

Prelude: Selections from Le Chemin de la
Croix, op. 29 (Dupré)

Introit: Hosanna to the Son of David

(Weelkes)

Anthem: Pueri Hebraeorum (Thompson)

Postlude: 1st mvt., Le Chemin de la Croix,
op. 29 (Dupré)

April 17, 2011 (at 3:00 p.m.)

Stations of the Cross

Poetry: Le Chemin de la Croix (Paul
Caudel, 1868-1955)

Music: Le Chemin de la Croix, op. 29
(Marcel Dupré, 1886-1971)

Reader: Mario Paquet

Organist: Jonathan Oldengarm

April 21, 2011: Maundy Thursday

(Tenebrae)

Motets: Hide thou not thy face (Farrant)

O vos omnes (Victoria)

Vinea mea electa (Poulenc)

April 22, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.: Good

Friday Service (no choir)

Prelude: Erbarm dich mein, O Herre Gott
(Scheidemann)

Postlude: Passion, op. 145 no. 4 (Reger)

April 24, 2011: Easter Sunday

(Communion)

Prelude: Canzona septimi toni à 8 (Gabrieli)

Setting: Darke in E

Anthem: Surrexit Christus Hodie (Scheidt)

Motets: This joyful Eastertide (arr. Wood) –
LIB 352; Alleluia (Thompson) – LIB 175

Postlude: Toccata, from Symphonie V
(Widor)

From the Archives

The Great Pew Case

This celebrated case arose in St. Andrew's Church in 1873 when The Rev. Gavin Lang was minister. The plaintiff was Mr. James Johnston, a member and elder of the church, and the defendants were the minister and trustees comprising the corporation of the church. The issue was whether Mr. Johnston was entitled to the renewal of the lease of his pew No. 68 in the year 1873. The matter was decided by three courts: the Superior Court and the Court of Queen's Bench in the Province of Quebec, and the Supreme Court of Canada, the

latter two courts being courts of appeal.

It is extraordinary because not only was the case heard by all three of these courts, but it was also decided by twelve judges, one in the Superior Court, five in the Court of Queen's Bench and six in the Supreme Court, who all gave their own separate reasons for judgment. In the Superior Court and the Court of Queen's Bench, the plaintiff's case was dismissed, but these judgments were reversed in the Supreme Court, which allowed the plaintiff's appeal and condemned the defendants to damages and costs in all three courts. The legal issues were obviously contentious, as witnessed by the fact that in both courts of appeal there were two dissenting judgments. The church even contemplated making a further appeal to their Lordships of the Privy Council in

London, but this was not pursued.

Mr. Johnston was a prominent wholesale dry-goods merchant in Montreal who had come to Canada from Scotland in 1842. His office and warehouse were in St. Helen St. on the site of the original St. Paul's Church. He had been a member and elder of St. Paul's, but he left that church and moved to St. Andrew's Church in 1867 when St. Paul's adopted the new posture of worship of sitting to pray and standing to sing. The previous practice was standing to pray and sitting to sing. Upon joining St. Andrew's, where Dr. Alexander Mathieson was minister, he was also elected an elder. The trouble came in 1872, when The Rev. Gavin Lang, who had succeeded Dr. Mathieson, not only reversed the posture of worship to standing to sing and sitting to pray, but also insisted that the congregation kneel to

(continued on next page)

pray, a unique practice for Presbyterians and believed to have been confined to St. Andrew's Church alone.

Mr. Johnston objected to this new posture, and although he was not the only one to do so, he made himself exceedingly unpopular with the session and congregation by protesting to the Synod that the vote was invalid because the ballots were counted by the minister alone. He also intimidated the same to the congregation by sending them a letter making this point. It would obviously have been more prudent from the minister's point of view if the vote had been counted by more than one person, but Mr. Johnston was in effect telling the congregation that the minister was a liar.

It was accordingly resolved by the congregation at a meeting held on November 4, 1872, that Mr. Johnston be asked to resign the eldership. The trustees, in order to sustain the action of the congregation, also resolved at a meeting held on December 7 not to rent him in 1873 the pew that he and his family had been occupying for the previous four years.

When Mr. Johnston was informed of this resolution, he wrote a friendly letter to them explaining that he wished to continue to rent the said pew, and when the trustees informed him again that they would not rent to him, he made a legal tender upon the church for the sum of \$66.50, being the prescribed rent of the first-class pew, but which the treasurer refused to accept. Furthermore, the trustees caused Mr. Johnston's books to be removed from the pew and a notice to be placed on the pew stating that it was for the use of strangers (visitors). Notwithstanding such refusal, removal and notice, Mr. Johnston and his family continued to occupy the pew in January, February, March and April of 1873. Finally, by reason of Mr. Johnston's persistent occupation of the pew, the trustees caused the books, cushions and hassocks in his pew to be parceled up and delivered to his warehouse by a common carter in an attempt to be finally rid of the man.

This led to the institution of Mr. Johnston's lawsuit in June 1873, in which he complained that in the first four months of 1873, the Trustees persistently and maliciously disturbed and molested him in the enjoyment of his pew to such an extent that he and his family were driven from attendance at divine service in the church. Furthermore, he also complained that the trustees repeatedly and wrongfully removed his property from his pew, illegally seated strangers in his pew without asking his permis-

sion, and greatly wounded his feelings and brought him into contempt and ridicule by their conduct towards him. He claimed the right to continue to occupy his pew in the following year and sought \$10,000 for damages that he had suffered at the hands of the trustees. He based his legal claim for the continuance of the lease of his pew on the grounds that, in his opinion, he had not received sufficient notice of the termination of his lease.

It was proved in evidence before the court of first instance that by custom there was no express letting of the pews each year to those already in occupation of them. Under the bylaws of the church, the annual rent was payable in advance before the end of each year. In practice, most leases were renewed automatically from year to year upon payment of the rent as aforesaid. However, the trustees claimed that the leases were only for one year at a time, and that they retained the discretion to terminate the leases at the end of each year.

The principal question before the court was whether Mr. Johnston's lease was a verbal or a written one. If verbal, it would have been governed by Article 1657 of the Civil Code, or if written, by article 1658. Article 1657 provided at that time that "When the term of a lease is uncertain, or the lease is verbal . . . neither of the parties can terminate it without giving notice to the other, with a delay of three months, if the rent be payable at terms of three or more months . . ." On the other hand, Article 1658 provided that "The lease, if written, terminates of course, and without notice, at the expiration of the term agreed upon."

The opinions of the judges varied enormously, some contending that the plaintiff's lease was written and others that it was verbal. Mr. Johnston produced at the trial the receipt that he had received for the payment of the rent of his pew in 1872. Some of the judges held that this was a written lease or at least evidence of a lease for one year and decided against the plaintiff on the grounds that it was clearly for a fixed term and therefore that he was not owed any notice for the termination of the lease. This of course was incorrect, because the receipt was not a lease at all but merely an acknowledgment of the payment of the rent for one year, and the receipt might have been given to him even if the lease had been for a period of twenty years, provided that the rent was payable annually. In fact, it was proved that the lease was for only one year, but it was a verbal lease, and by law a notice of three months was necessary to terminate it.

Some of the judges were influenced more or less by the plaintiff's manners and the defendants' responses to his challenges. There is no doubt that Mr. Johnston was a most eccentric individual. Some judges thought that he had been exceedingly rude and others that the church's actions in regard to him were mean and vexatious. Still others held that such considerations were quite irrelevant.

The reasons given by all the judges who heard the case were varied and often divergent. They discussed numerous topics, including the constitution and bylaws of the church and the law in several different jurisdictions, as well as the customs and usages in the Presbyterian and other churches. They considered whether the lease of a church pew was in fact a lease, or merely the right of use of a pew for church services, or an easement, although most of these subjects were beside the point.

In this context, it is interesting to note that exactly the same number of judges found for the plaintiff as found for the defendants: six for each side. Those in favour of the defendants were the judge in the Superior Court, the three judges in the majority in the Court of Queen's Bench and the two dissenting judges in the Supreme Court, whereas those in favour of the plaintiff were the two dissenting judges in the Court of Queen's Bench and the four judges in the majority in the Supreme Court. The plaintiff was, however, the overall winner because the Supreme Court of Canada reversed the judgments of the two lower provincial courts. On the question of damages, all the judges who found for the plaintiff and ruled on the point held that he should be granted only minimal damages and the Supreme Court awarded him the paltry sum of \$300.

On the first Sunday after Mr. Johnston had won his case, and before the morning service had begun, he gathered up all his books, cushions and hassocks in his pew and solemnly walked out of St. Andrew's Church in the sight of the assembled congregation, never to return. He was a proud man who thereupon rejoined St. Paul's Church, which very wisely did not elect him to the eldership again.

(I am much obliged to our Minister Emeritus, Dr. James S.S. Armour, for explaining to me certain historical Presbyterian details in this story.)

William Stavert

Unsung Heroes

Unsung Heroes is an occasional series on those who give of their time and talent to our congregation and to our community. If you would like to suggest certain individuals, please send their names to Raymond Brassard at sedgwickbrassard@videotron.ca.



Suzanne Reny and Allan Barbour

If you get a phone call asking you to usher at Sunday service, the voice on the other end of the line may be that of Suzanne Reny, an enthusiastic member of our congregation.

Tradition married to a democratic structure is what Susanne appreciates about A&P and the Presbyterian Church in general. For her and her husband, Allan Barbour, that egalitarian spirit means volunteering their time.

Not long after they started attending in 2003, she knew that sitting in the pews wasn't going to be enough. "I didn't want to just sit here," she said. "I wanted to do something!"

Suzanne serves on the Ushering Committee and the Worship and Music Committee and is also the convenor of the student lunch program, while Allan serves on the Communion Preparation Group. Regardless of these formal distinctions, the two often work in tandem, helping out whatever committee needs attention at any given moment.

For the couple, it's time well worth spending. The A&P, they feel, provides much to members and non-members alike. The student lunches, for example, give "people who are from out of town and don't know many in Montreal a place to find like-minded people and a nice contact group."

As far as members volunteering, Suzanne urges us all to consider serving on a committee or in any capacity, however limited. For one thing, in a congregation as large as ours, through serving, "you'll get a chance to meet everyone in the church eventually." For another, which she sees as one of the greatest benefits of belonging to the A&P, "you'll get a say in the running of our church and an opportunity to exercise your rights as a full member."

Thank you, Suzanne and Allan, for all that you do.



Wylma Cobb

About twelve years ago, after a congregation to which Wylma Cobb belonged dwindled to a scant few, this preschool teacher decided it was time to find a church that wouldn't be closing its doors any time soon. When she looked at the A&P, she worried that our congregation might be a little too "uphill" for this proudly "downhill" Point St. Charles resident. Despite her reservations, however, Wylma already knew a few A&P members, as well as Dr. J.S.S. Armour, through Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre, where she worked as the director of the preschool. She liked what she saw.

After Wylma began attending the A&P on a regular basis, she was uncertain for a while about how she would fit in – that is, until Rev. Richard Topping tapped her to run the bookstall. For over five years now, you've been able to find her there every Sunday, one hour before service and for a half-hour afterward.

For Wylma, this has turned out to be both a reasonable time commitment and a satisfying way to serve. A self-described shy person, Wylma finds that running the bookstall gives her an easy way to meet those who attend service. In her capacity, she also sees a side to the life of our church that may not be evident to some. "You'd be surprised," she says, "by the number of people that come who do not speak English and who want a printed copy of the sermon," which she hands out to help those who wish to read the sermon at their own pace or for those with a hearing impairment.

Wylma urges members to explore the many opportunities available to volunteers. "We are a church that walks the talk," she says. "Everyone has some kind of time and talent, something special to give!"

Thank you, Wylma, for all that you do.

Kena Herod

From the Church Registrar

Baptisms



November 21, 2010

Liza Beaulieu (adult baptism)

Memorials



November 22, 2010

Wendy Ann Dayton

December 4, 2010

Ruth C. Copeland

We Want to Hear From You

Send Us Your Ideas for *InsideOut*

If you have ideas for future issues, please submit them for consideration.

If you have a question about your Church and how it works, or if you have a question or comment about the Christian faith, we want to hear about it. Submit your ideas, articles, photos or comments to minister@standrewstpaul.com or sedgwickbrassard@videotron.ca

Submissions should be no more than 500 words. Digital and scanned photos should be 1400X1000 pixels, or a 980kb jpg file.

Stewards by Design

Survey of Congregation Will Help Build A&P into a Stronger, Healthier Church

Do you feel a new energy at St. Andrew and St. Paul? I know I do. But then, I am a little biased. I was one of the fortunate four that got to go to the STEWARDS BY DESIGN conference in May 2010, put on by the National Church. The other members were Judith Kashul, Bruce Gill and Gerry Peniston. We were also blessed to have alongside us Rev. Dale Woods, our then-Interim Moderator and the worship leader at the conference..

Speaking for myself, I did not feel it to be a blessing at the time. To attend a church conference was not my idea of a good time on the May long weekend. My attitude rapidly changed as we listened to the keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Kennon Callahan, and shared prayer, worship and fellowship with friendly Presbyterians from across the country. The material presented at the conference was based on Dr. Callahan's book *Twelve Keys to an Effective Church: Strong Healthy Congregations Living in the Grace of God*. The concepts presented here are based on this book and are copyrighted; we use them with the permission of the author.

After returning from the conference, the team strategized over the summer months on the best way to share our experience with the rest of the congregation. When our new minister arrived, we were able to put a plan into action.

The first step was to hold an open meeting to share the concepts with the congregation. This was done on Saturday, November 20, when 50 enthusiastic members of the congregation gathered to listen to a presentation by the Stewards by Design team, assisted by our Minister, Jeff Veenstra. The focus of the day was on claiming our strengths and building a stronger and healthier congregation "living in the Grace of God." A copy of the presentation is available on our website.

Here are some of the concepts that were discussed at the meeting: as per Dr. Callahan's book, there are Twelve Keys to an effective church – six relational and six functional.

Relational	Functional
One Mission Outreach	One Major Program
Shepherding Visitation	Open Accessibility
Stirring, Helpful Worship	High Visibility
Significant Relational Groupings	Land and Landscaping
Strong Leadership Team	Adequate Space and Facilities
Solid Decision-Making Process	Generous Giving

A congregation does not need all twelve keys in place. We will be healthy with nine of the 12: five relational and four functional. The focus is to build on our strengths, not to focus on the weaknesses. The plan is to select one or two strengths to expand, and then select one that we would like to build into a strength.

"Strong, healthy congregations build with the strengths with which God blesses them." The first step is to claim our strengths and then to expand on them; to claim in wonder, joy and humility and to rejoice in God's blessings. When we build on our strengths, we do better what we do best and then we can ADD new strengths.

"Strong, healthy congregations share the motivations of community, compassion and hope." While commitment, reason-ability and challenge are important motivators, most people are initially attracted to the A&P because as followers of Christ, we share a sense of compassion, a spirit of community and an abiding presence of hope in Christ.

The next step in the process is to get input from as broad a cross-section of the congregation as possible in order to ascertain what areas are viewed as current strengths. We can then proceed to develop a plan to expand one or two current strengths and to choose an area that we would like to turn into a strength. To obtain that input, we are using a questionnaire developed from material in Dr. Callahan's book and we are making it available via a web-based tool called Survey Monkey. Anyone can access the link

(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/StAndrewandStPaul-SpringSurvey2011>) and complete the survey. For those who prefer a paper-based copy, that will also be available. We will also arrange sessions after the service on Sunday morning to review the survey and help individuals complete it. It is only once we have taken this step that we will have the data necessary to move forward in the next stage of the process, which, of course, is formulating objectives and goals so that we can build on our strengths and add one new strength.

Another concept that was covered by Dr. Callahan was the necessity to "act swiftly." While the process I describe above does not appear to favour quick action, there have been several ideas that have been raised in discussions that have already seen the light of day. One was the recent Celebration Sunday, during which we invited the various charitable agencies we support to a Sunday service to celebrate the contribution they make to the Montreal community. It was a resounding success. Another initiative was the recent visit of Rev. Stephen Kendall to celebrate our 62-year outreach mission through the Ten Ministers Fund. And yet another is the exciting A&P ReachOut with Music project to bring music into the lives of young Montrealers who would not otherwise have access to the educational, psychological and social benefits of making music.

How can you help? Get access to either the web-based or paper copy of the survey and fill it out by March 31. This way you can have input into claiming our strengths and helping build St. Andrew and St. Paul into a stronger and healthier congregation. If anyone would like to borrow Dr. Callahan's book for further reading, contact Chantel Sampson at the Church Office.

Madonna Bailey

Reports From the Stewardship Committee

Intention Forms for 2011

The Stewardship Committee thanks those who returned the Intention Form for givings in 2011. These forms allow the church to anticipate financial givings for the next year, to review how you will give and to provide information on the different ways that you may give: envelopes, pre-authorized remittance (PAR), credit card, cheque, securities and so on. Thank you for taking the time to respond to our stewardship campaign. If you have not already sent in your Intention Form and wish to participate in this stewardship action, you may still do so by contacting the Church Office to receive the form.

Christmas 2010 Envelope

Following a report on the 2010 Christmas Gift to Our Church envelope, the committee was unanimous that we have a 2011 Christmas envelope. For 2010, 113 donors made gifts to A & P, totalling \$10,105, with a median gift of \$50. Thank you for donating to the work of our church in making a Christmas gift that will change the lives and destinies of those we serve.

Special Gifts to A&P

Do you wish to celebrate a special occasion, honour a special event or person, or remember someone with a memorial? You are invited to consider giving special gifts to our church to mark and remember these special events in your life. Please call the Church Office to let us know who or what you are honouring with your special gift. We will be pleased to let the A & P congregation know about your gift through a notice in the bulletin. If you desire, your gift may also be made anonymously.

Judith Kashul

Guild Spring Luncheon

The Guild will hold its annual Spring Luncheon at noon on April 20. Guest speaker will be Laura Vigo, curator of the Terracotta exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts. The cost is \$20 and reservations are required by April 15.

Contact Edna Ralston
514-288-9588.



Reports From Mission & Outreach

A visit from Stewart Folster

A January visitor to Montreal was Rev. Stewart Folster of the Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry. After reading the Lessons during the worship service on January 23, he updated us on the busy activity at the growing mission on 20th Street West, shared the video "Homeless in Saskatoon" and gratefully received a \$3,000 contribution to his Feed My Sheep fund. Interest from the fund, initiated last summer by Moderator Rev. Herb Gale, helps provide soup and sandwiches to the hundreds of urban poor who drop into the growing mission on West 20th Street. The sum has been increased by generous contributions from members of our congregation. He also had the occasion to meet many of the Knitters for Neechewagon, who have provided hundreds of warm caps and mittens over the past few years. Later, Stewart joined members of the Twinning sub-committee for a friendly lunch in a nearby restaurant.

"There are a lot of good places to eat in Montreal!" he recounted in a later report on his visit. "And they love talking about sports and politics!"

One of those sports stories was about having shared in the emotional welcome to former Canadiens captain Saku Koivu at the Bell Centre the previous evening.

The following Monday and Tuesday, Stewart took part in the First Nations Conference at Presbyterian College organized by the college, Montreal Presbytery and McGill Protestant Chaplain Jill Foster. In his report, he summed up the event:

"The Native conference was all about the history of Native peoples in the church and how culture and religion and Jesus Christ fit into that history. There were stories about residential schools and about injustice such as the Oka crisis in 1990. The Mohawks and the family who lost a constable in that crisis were in attendance, and the healing and reconciliation that took place at the conference were very emotional and very moving and powerful. I talked about my life journey and then I talked about Urban Ministry and Native Spirituality and how Christianity and Native Spirituality have helped me on my spiritual and healing journey and ministry."

We look forward to continuing to share the friendship of this remarkable man.

Keith Randall

(continued on next page)

Presbyterian World Service and Development

At the Christmas season, gifts were received at A&P for Presbyterian World Service and Development. Gifts totalling \$2,805 have been sent to the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) is the development and relief agency of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. The gifts are used for the works of PWS&D, which include:

- Responding to emergency situations after disaster and conflict
- Long-term community development with international partners working in agriculture and livestock, education, health, HIV/AIDS, human rights, small business, clean water and sanitation
- Refugee sponsorship by Canadian congregations

Thank you for giving gifts to PWS&D, which furthers God's work in the world.

Upcoming at St. Andrew's Home

Musical Entertainment for Spring
Tuesday, March 29, 2:00 p.m.

The Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, May 17.

St. Andrew's Home is at 3350
Cavendish Blvd., Montreal.
Contact Kirwan Martin
514-937-9277

Reports From Mission & Outreach

ReachOut with Music

A new initiative of the Music and Worship Committee and the Mission and Outreach Committee promises to share the gift of music with young Montrealers. Headed by Françoise Morin-Lyons and Diane Janna, the project's vision is to bring music into the lives of children who lack access to music and its significant educational, psychological and social benefits. Impressed by Françoise's enthusiasm, Dr. Jacqueline McLaran, also a musician and a member of the congregation, immediately joined the ReachOut team.

Françoise, a member of the congregation, is a violinist with the renowned I Musici Chamber Orchestra. She has demonstrated music's potential to change lives with a program in nearby Kahnawake and in far-off Cartagena, Colombia.

"At Kahnawake I experienced first-hand the impact of music on children," she says. "The most amazing part was seeing mentally and physically handicapped children integrate fully into the group and become equal with the other children."

While on tour with I Musici, she saw that the project not only had positive impact on the lives of the young musicians, but little by little turned the poorest slum into a proud community.

"My work in a barrio outside of Cartagena has shown me that the children and young people involved in their music program have managed to avoid the temptations of drugs, alcohol, prostitution, etc. and develop a focus in life in spite of the material poverty that surrounds them."

Françoise and Diane believe the same can be done here in underprivileged areas of Montreal. Diane, a former singer in our choir, is the Outreach Committee member nurturing our relationship with the Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre in Little Burgundy, just a few blocks from the church. Françoise and Diane will start the project with a Mom & Tots workshop and, with Jonathan Oldengarm's help, are planning to propose another in Kanesatake. Indeed, Jonathan directed that the offering from his January 20 organ recital be dedicated to this program. Once established, the vision is to expand the program to other underprivileged communities. As it expands, we will be looking for more volunteers, and we are assured that musical ability is not a requirement! This visionary project involving two key committees is another example of a refreshing synergy bubbling within our church, and we warmly welcome your contributions of time, treasure or talent.

Madonna Bailey



Françoise Morin-Lyons, left, and Diane Janna will bring music to children.

Reports From Mission & Outreach

Food security in Pakistan

Under the guidance of Jeff Veenstra, who serves on the Executive Committee of Presbyterian World Service and Development, the Mission and Outreach Committee has determined that children's education and helping people help themselves should be the focus of a new international mission, and that PWS&D is the most effective channel for our support. At the suggestion of PWS&D's Barb Summers, the focus of our efforts will be a program centred on a Hindu settlement in predominantly Muslim Pakistan, where children's education is compromised by malnutrition.

"Over 77 million people in Pakistan are suffering from a lack of food security and one in four people in Pakistan are considered critically undernourished. Coupled with political instability, families are in a constant state of vulnerability," reads a PWS&D document, *Creating Futures of Hope for Vulnerable*

People in Pakistan. "People in Pakistan are facing a shocking but under-reported food crisis. Severe price increases have made things incredibly difficult for poor families, leaving nothing for health care, basic supplies or education."

As Ms. Summers declares, "You have to feed the people and prevent them from starving before you can teach them."

The congregation will soon be hearing about how we will help and whom we will help, and we will find a way to put a face on the mission so that this effort becomes more than merely mailing a cheque – although financial assistance will be a critical component. The church youth will definitely be involved, reaching out to stricken youth on the other side of the world, so our kids can take what they learn home and to their places of education.

Among the initiatives that PWS&D has undertaken in co-operation with Church World Service are seed distribution to farm-

ers, creating water storage ponds to irrigate farmland, building farming resource centres and tree planting to revitalize the land.

Barb Summers will speak to us after the worship service on Sunday, April 3, to talk about the mission in Pakistan and show the very poignant video she made during her visit there in December.

There is no magic recipe for eliminating poverty, but comprehensive programs that address the root causes of vulnerability and poverty are changing lives in Pakistan. Together with Canadians here at home and our partners overseas, new opportunities for the future are emerging. We can help bring food, clean water and hope to those in need in Pakistan through our support of PWS&D.

Brian Merrett



Eliminating poverty begins with education.



WS&D's Barb Summers will speak April 3.

Church School Update

Enthusiastic Children Made for a Wonderful Christmas Season

Church School participated enthusiastically throughout the Advent Season as well as Christmas in many different activities.

Four of our families helped with the candle-lighting each Advent Sunday and we thank the Luckow, Powell, Dahdah and Malcolm families for their participation.

The annual Christmas Pageant was a resounding success thanks to the wonderful volunteers who gave of their time throughout the Pageant weekend and, of course, the tremendous effort and enthusiasm of our children. The church was a flurry of activity and excitement as they rehearsed and added the final touches to their costumes on Saturday, and as usual, they all came through beautifully at "curtain time" on Sunday. It was fantastic! From the littlest angels and shepherds, angels at the gate, Angel Gabriel, dancing girls, rich ladies, Roman ladies, tax collectors, innkeeper, slave girl, King Herod and Queen Marianna with their entourage, soldiers and wise men to Mary and Joseph – it was magnificent and a wonderful way to begin the Christmas season. More than \$600 was collected in aid of SOS Children's Villages and we thank all of you for your wonderful support and generosity.

After the Pageant, over 200 attended the Family Christmas Dinner and enjoyed an evening of fellowship together. David Christiani once again led us in singing Christmas carols, and then the jolly old man in red made a surprise appearance, to the delight of our younger children.

The Church School children gave of their time over the Christmas season in various ways. They helped gather all the gifts on White Gift Sunday and they visited the residents at Place Kensington to sing Christmas carols. They also presented each resident with

ornaments and cards that they had prepared at Church School. It was a very special afternoon for the residents, as well as for the children and teachers. A special thank you to Betty-Jo Christiani for her hard work and patience not only in preparing the children for singing in the Pageant, but also for taking the time to practice with and accompany them to Place Kensington.

The children also participated in the Christingle Family Service on Christmas Eve. They prepared their Christingles at Church School and shared them with children who were visiting for the service. It was a special time and an opportunity to remind the children of the true significance and meaning of Christmas. They were made to feel an important part of the service, with some of the older children reading and Jeff inviting all the children to join him at the front of the church and to remain there for the entire service. The children were amazingly quiet – this may have been due in part to the fact that many of them were nibbling on the goodies from their Christingles as they sat comfortably on the floor!

Finally, Rhonda McClure and I attended the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators conference in Albuquerque, N.M., from February 1 to 5. Although the weather was not as warm as we had anticipated, we had a wonderful time and enjoyed the lectures we had signed up for. It was a very productive visit; I found some wonderful material for our Senior Class and Youth Group as well as a great summer program. We truly appreciated the opportunity to attend this conference!

Once again, I would like to thank you for your prayers, support and encouragement. I consider it a privilege to work as your Church School Co-ordinator.

Sharon Dworzak

A Special Friendship Is Developing With St. Columba

Our Youth Group consists of very energetic and enthusiastic young people from Grade 6 through high school.

Over the Christmas season we had a wonderful potluck supper with the group, and their parents were invited to join us. It was a fun evening of games and laughter, and we look forward to inviting parents once again to join us in future activities. The parents appreciated getting to know each other better and enjoyed being part of the event.

Our youth retreat held at Villa St. Martin in Pierrefonds for students in Grades 6 through high school was once again a great success. We were particularly delighted to have Jeff and Diana Veenstra join us for the weekend, as well as theology student Grant Visser. It was a wonderful time of learning, sharing and fun, and lots of laughter. Six young people joined us from St. Columba by the Lake Presbyterian Church in Beaconsfield.

Special friendships are developing with the young people at St. Columba. We are planning many more events together – an opportunity for our children to meet with other Christian youth. We have been invited to their sledding event and we in turn invited them to our tubing and tobogganing event on Mount Royal at the end of February.

We will be having a presentation by Concordia University called "Engineers Without Borders" in March, at which our young people will discuss water shortages around the world.

They are also preparing a team for the Canadian Cancer Relay for Life in May 2011.

We welcome all young people from Grades 6 through high school to join us – please contact us at grammy.shani@sympatico.ca or phone 450-689-4379 if you would like to join this energetic group or would like more information.

Sharon and Art Dworzak



Jaidyn is getting ready to enjoy her Christingle.



The Powell family before the Advent Candle. The Luckow, Dahdah and Malcolm families also participated.



The children give a command performance at Place Kensington.

A&P Youth Retreat



Jeff leads the way on a cross-country excursion during Youth Retreat.



What a team! Youth Retreat gang gathers for a "family" photo.



Girl time: Diana, Jessica, Ashlea and Afua are deep in conversation.



Katrina and Emily have fun with games.



Tom and David relax with strings.



Ashlea, Jeff and Jessica in a classic pose for the camera!