



Inside•Out

June/July/August 2011

Worship

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Ascension Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Scripture: Acts 1:6-14; John 17:1-11

Sermon: "An Inside Story"

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

Chapel Communion, 12:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

Day of Pentecost, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

Sermon: "What Does This Mean?"

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Trinity Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Psalm 8; Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon: "And Some Doubted"

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Proper 8, 11:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Scripture: Psalm 89:1-4; Matthew 10:40-42

Sermon: "The Welcomers"

Rev. Rod Ferguson

SUNDAY, JULY 3

Proper 9, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-29, 58-67

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Sermon: "Jesus: A Drunkard and Glutton"

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

SUNDAY, JULY 10

Proper 10, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Genesis 25:19-34;

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Sermon: "A Reckless Farmer"

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

SUNDAY, JULY 17

Proper 11, 11:00 a.m.

Sermon: Rev. Dr. J.S.S. Armour

SUNDAY, JULY 24

Proper 12, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Genesis 29:15-28

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Sermon: "A Great Treasure"

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

(continued on page 2)



A Sunrise in Kenya

A loving God brings Light and Grace to all His peoples. Photo taken by Elizabeth Cuthill. Recently, Elizabeth and Don Walcot visited St. Andrew's Church in Nairobi as a guest of Rose Mureithi and her husband, Joel, members of our congregation who came to us from St. Andrew's. Story and photos are on Page 3.

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Deadline for next edition: August 15

Worship con't

SUNDAY, JULY 31

Proper 13, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Genesis 32:22-31; Matthew 14:13-21

Sermon: "A Church Picnic"

Rev. Jeff Veenstra

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

Proper 14, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33

Sermon: "Walking on Water"

Rev. Rod Ferguson

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

Proper 15, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: 1 Kings 19:9-18; Matthew 14:22-27

Sermon: "The Sound of Silence"

Rev. Rod Ferguson

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Proper 16, 11:00 a.m.

Sermon: Rev. Dr. J.S.S. Armour

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Proper 17, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21

Sermon: "Genuine Love"

Rev. Rod Ferguson

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Proper 18, 11:00 a.m.

Scripture: Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14

Sermon: "Wearing the Faith"

Rev. Rod Ferguson



The Church
of St. Andrew
and St. Paul

A Word From the Minister

Where Is God in What We Do And Why Does It Matter?



Dear friends,

Although my first anniversary at The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul is not until September, the beginning of summer usually marks the end of a church year; thus this letter offers me an opportunity for a brief reflection on the past year. When friends and colleagues ask what my impression of the congregation is, the word that comes to mind is "goodwill;" in my humble opinion, this church

has plenty of it. I am constantly impressed with the generosity of spirit and quality of leadership that I witness here. Everyone seems genuinely motivated to do their part to ensure that the congregation continues to be a living witness to the love of God.

Although some may accuse me of having a Pollyanna outlook, I want to assure you that this is not the case. Certainly we are not perfect and there is plenty of room for growth, but there exists in the church an understanding that our ministry is of great importance in the city. This is reflected in all aspects of our congregational life. To be sure, there are plenty of agencies and organizations in Montreal that strive for justice and compassion, but the church does what it does to make the presence and love of Christ known.

I truly believe that this needs to be the central question we continue to ask ourselves when we plan our worship, our outreach programs, our faith development initiatives, our pastoral care training, our acts of hospitality and fellowship and, of course, our budgeting. Our planning should always have a theological component to it: where is God in what we are doing and why does it matter?

It is a privilege to serve God in The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul. Like many of you, I look forward to the summer months as a time for worship – yes, we continue to meet every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. – and a time of recreation, enjoying God's wonder-filled world (hopefully for me this will happen on the golf course a few times), replenishing our spirits and bodies. However, I'm also looking forward to the new church year and all the possibilities we will have for living the gospel as we continue to share the grace of God with each other and the world around us.

In shared ministry,

Jeff

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. Please make sure your camera is set to the largest file format.

Presbyterian Church in Nairobi Opens Doors to A&P Delegation

Jambo!



Elizabeth and Don join Rose at A&P prior to their departure for Kenya.



Elizabeth and Don are welcomed by the children of Tumaini orphanage.

From the minute Don Walcot and I arrived at Jomo Kenyatta Airport on April 30, we knew we were in for an interesting time in Kenya. Rose Mureithi and her husband, Joel, greeted us with open arms and beaming smiles on their faces. Rose was so excited that her long-time wish to receive visitors from The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul was at last a reality. On our way to Methodist Guest House, where we would be staying for the first few days of our visit, Rose zig-zagged through Nairobi's traffic like a Formula 1 pro. Don't let that sweet smile fool you – she's an aggressive driver! Waiting to welcome us at the guest house were three members of St. Andrew's Church – Samuel, Rose's district elder; his wife, Alice; and Edward Buri, the Youth Pastor. We took refreshments and talked with them for a while before saying goodnight.

On Sunday morning, we attended St. Andrew's Church 9:30-11:30 service, which was run entirely by the Youth Group. It was a most joyful and uplifting occasion. 'Youth,' we were told, meant 35 years and under, and about 30 per cent of elders are in that age bracket. Samuel Mwangi gave a wonderful sermon based on Psalm 23. After the service, the congregation gathered on the huge terrace in front of the church for refreshments (a bit like our Coffee and Conversation, only

under beautiful sunny skies).

The program St. Andrew's Church planned for us was very full. We had several meetings with project directors and elders. Because there is so much to tell, we will save our stories for Ministry's Lunch and Learn Series in the fall. Briefly, our visits included:

- **Tumaini** (Swahili for Hope) orphanage, for 24 children aged 5-14 with HIV/AIDS.
- **Hawa** (Swahili for Wellness), home for 26 rescued street boys aged 3-16, who had been abandoned or abused by their families. Thanks to St. Andrew's Church in partnership with local County Councils, all of the children go to school. Education and teacher training are high priorities for St. Andrew's.
- **Mashuru Mission area and overnight stay:** Churches, schools, clinics.
- **The Presbyterian University of East Africa, and The Church of the Torch** (built by Scottish Missionaries) in Kikuyu.

The tourist-y part of our trip included a drive through tea and coffee plantations north of Nairobi, and to Masai Mara Game Reserve near the Tanzanian border. Rose and Joel accompanied us on these excursions. They were wonderful travel companions and great historians.

For our last two days in Nairobi, we stayed at the centrally located Serena Hotel. On Sunday, we attended both the 8:15 youth service and the 9:30 service. In the afternoon, we had a "district fellowship" meeting and a meal at the Minister's home. Despite our busy schedule, we did have an hour or two for all-important shopping!

All too soon the time came to say, "Kwa heri."

Elizabeth Cuthill

Seven New Members Join Our Family

We Will All Be Enriched by Their Presence

One of the distinct pleasures of my job as Interim Assistant Minister is to organize the New Members Class held twice a year. The first part of this responsibility is to seek out, inform and encourage those considering membership. This gives me an opportunity to meet some great people, as well as being directly involved in growing the church. On April 10, we received seven new members that I would like to introduce to you now.

Clara Maranzano comes to us from Argentina. Clara is a language specialist fluent in Spanish, her mother tongue, and in French and English. She is the wife of a chef and a mother. She was baptized as a Roman Catholic, but never confirmed. Clara became a member upon her first public profession of faith. She has enthusiastically embraced the life and work of St. Andrew and St. Paul. She attends the Thursday morning Bible Study and is now undertaking training to be a Stephen Minister.

Elizabeth McLaughlin is well known at A&P, where she has attended for many years. Beth, as she prefers to be called, with her husband, Patrick, attend the Thursday morning Bible Study. She is also largely responsible for the sermon being available each Sunday in print form. Elizabeth becomes a member by way of a certificate of transfer from the Church of Scotland –incidentally, dated 1963.

Veronica Pemberton Billing has attended St. Andrew and St. Paul for several years with her daughter Violaine, who is already a member. Veronica is a business consultant and travels from time to time in Canada and the U.S. She was received in absentia as she was in Victoria, B.C., where she was unfortunately struck by a car, resulting in a broken arm. She comes on profession of faith, which was heard by members of Session.

Tom Richards is known to a number in the congregation. Tom is an executive with the Royal Bank of Canada and comes to us by transfer from the Anglican church. Tom has been casting about for a while in search of the church that satisfies him. He is very happy with the worship life of A&P. Tom is often away on weekends in the winter at a ski chalet, where he takes his children.

Joe and Frances Torlage came to us very recently from South Africa. Frances is a daughter of the manse, her father being a Presbyterian minister. Joe was a Roman Catholic prior to meeting Frances. Frances is also a long-distance runner and recently participated in a half marathon in Ottawa. Joe, a computer expert, is on a contract with the National Bank. When the contract is finished, Joe and Frances will return to South Africa. This won't happen for a number of years, so we're happy to have them with us for as long as possible.

Gwen Tracy, a lifelong Lutheran, has nonetheless found The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul a compatible and happy place. She is a friend of several people in the congregation and will soon recognize a number more as a resident of 250 Clarke. Gwen has a very responsible position as the Director of Business Development for a firm called Strategia. A musician and organist, Gwen is happy to be in the church where she won't be called upon to play the organ.

These are our new members. Take whatever opportunity you can to welcome them and to make them feel at home. We will all be enriched by their presence.

Rod Ferguson

Youth Group

Enthusiasm of the Group Is Infectious

We have had a great time with this energetic and keen group of young people. They are not only enthusiastic about activities and events, but also caring and thoughtful and always willing to reach out to help others.

They thoroughly enjoyed the 'Engineers Without Borders' presentation given by the McGill Chapter. They have great concerns about water usage and shortages around the world and asked very pertinent questions about how they could help to make changes. The two presenters from McGill were more than impressed with our young people!

The youths had to set up teams and work on a water filter project. It was fascinating watching them as they co-operated and formed coalitions between countries, kept within budgets and finally built water filters

We were pleased that four of our friends from St. Columba by the Lake joined us for this event.

The group is currently working on two very important fundraisers: they are collecting sponsors for their 'Bowl-A-Thon' in aid of the PWS&D/Pakistan Project and they will also be seeking out sponsors for the 'Canadian Cancer Relay for Life.'

Please encourage our young people in these two very worthwhile events.

Among some of our other activities were a 'Sledding and Valentine Dinner' at St. Columba by the Lake, lunches together, a movie and a visit to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts for 'The Warrior Emperor & China's Terracotta Army' exhibit, which they enjoyed immensely!

They keep us pretty busy, but their enthusiasm is infectious and it is a great joy and privilege to be involved with these very special young people.

Sharon & Art Dworzak



Seven new Elders are, left to right (back row), Raymond Brassard, Scott Feltham, Brian Merrett; (front), Sharon Dworzak, Suzanne Reny, Elizabeth Austin and Sheila Jacob.

New Elders Ordained With Laying On of Hands

A Humbling Experience

Sunday, April 17, 2011, was a very important day in the life of our Church as seven new Elders were ordained. In October 2010, the congregation was asked to submit the names of people who they felt were suitable candidates for the Eldership. Over 60 people returned their ballots, which included over 200 names. These names were considered by the Committee to Elect New Elders, which had the difficult task of selecting only seven people from this extensive list. A preliminary list of names was submitted to Session for their comments; then the final list of candidates was approved by Session and elected by the congregation at the Annual General Meeting.

New Elders are ordained by the laying on of hands. This was done on each new Elder by the Minister, the Assistant Minister, the Clerk of Session and the Elder's sponsor. Charles Fensham, theology teacher at Knox College, says that one way to think of the laying on of hands is that those hands are there to help you. The Elder is not alone – leadership is shared in the church and we are all part of something greater than ourselves. In addition, the congregation was asked to stand and affirm its support by responding to several questions from the Minister. Becoming an Elder is a humbling experience, so the support and encouragement of the congregation as evidenced by the laying on of hands and the responses are a true blessing.

The seven new Elders:

Elizabeth Austin is originally from Nova Scotia but has been living in Montreal with her husband, David, for more than 30 years. Her background is in teaching, sales and marketing. She felt immediately at home at our church three years ago and this resulted in her becoming a member. Elizabeth is the editor of our monthly Electronic Newsletter and serves on the Communications Committee.

Raymond Brassard is the Executive Editor of *The Gazette*, where he has worked as an editor for the past 28 years. A former member at Erskine and American United Church, he became a member of our church four and a half years ago. He was recruited almost immediately to edit *InsideOut*, which he has been doing with Jenny

Schumacher since January 2007. He is also a member of the Communications Committee and served on the Search Committee that brought our Minister, Jeff Veenstra, to our church.

Sharon Dworzak has been active in the congregation for a number of years and with her husband, Art, has made significant contributions to our church. As Co-ordinator of our Church School, Sharon is well known and appreciated by many families as she works tirelessly at building and nurturing our future congregation.

Scott Feltham, his wife, Janet, and their two children, Henry and Charlotte, worship with us on a regular basis. Scott came to us from Erskine and American United Church, where he was an Elder. He is a member of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and is well respected by his colleagues there. For the past several years, Scott has actively contributed and is still contributing as a long-standing member of the Worship and Music Committee. He served on the last Search Committee for the Director of our music program.

Sheila Jacob, her husband, Abraham, and their daughters, Elizabeth and Sonia, are one of our Church School families. Sheila is a busy pediatrician. Despite this, she is an active Teacher in the Church School and contributes as a member of the Ministry Committee.

Brian Merrett married his wife, Lucinda, in our church 15 years ago and both have been very active. Brian has been Chairman of the Board of Trustees and has contributed to and is still involved in the Outreach Committee. He participated in bringing Kiza Joey to Montreal and is presently working with PWS&D to assist the needy in Pakistan. He served on the Search Committee that brought our Minister, Jeff Veenstra, to our church. A photographer, he is working with William Stavert on a book that will document our church's stained-glass windows.

Suzanne Reny and her husband, Alan, both enthusiastic volunteers, have been with us since 2003. Suzanne is well known to many of our congregation via the Ushering Committee. She serves on the Worship and Music Committee and also served on the Search Committee that brought our Minister, Jeff Veenstra, to our church. She is also known to provide nurture to many of our students as she is the Convenor of the Student Lunches. With Alan, she is quick to respond to pleas for help, when and where needed.

Judith Mowat

Music at A&P

Proceeds of Intermezzi to Benefit ReachOut Program



Summer has arrived, and with it a new phase in the life of the music program. While we have no Thursday evening rehearsals or choral concerts,

there's plenty else happening. The nature of our work changes dramatically during the summer months but does not stop.

The music department is not dormant. Each Sunday a smaller choral ensemble sings – but since we don't have midweek rehearsals, this is more of a high-wire act than our usual regular-season routine: we have only one 40-minute rehearsal prior to the service to put two anthems, choral amens and a descant or two together. Staffing the choir in the summer is a challenging proposition, since many of our volunteers take June, July and August to bounce back from the grueling September-to-May sprint. Many of our paid singers are university students who take those months to return home, or seek full-time temporary employment elsewhere. However, we always manage to assemble a solid group of singers, and enjoy working on a more intimate scale than is our norm.

The other great highlight of the summer is the noon-hour organ recital series, *Organ Intermezzi*. Once again this year, a stellar cast of local and international organists will put our great Casavant instrument through its paces on Thursdays in July and August (see inset). Here's a brief introduction to the artists we'll hear:

July 7: Suzanne Ozorak, Montreal. Ms. Ozorak is a busy music teacher, recitalist and composer. In addition to her local training with Raymond Daveluy and Bernard Lagacé, she studied in Switzerland and France. She has recorded two CDs, most recently on the historic Stahlhuth organ in Dudelange, Luxembourg.

July 14 and August 25: Jonathan Oldengarm, Montreal. Yours truly will present two unusual programs this year: on July 14, to commemorate the storming of the

Bastille in 1789 (the musical possibilities there are endless!), and the other built around works of Franz Liszt (1811-1886) and Jehan Alain (1911-1940), whose bicentennial and centennial anniversaries fall this year.

July 21: Julie Pinsonneault, Montreal. Ms. Pinsonneault is the first-prize winner of the 2011 Lynnwood Farnam Organ Competition, sponsored by the Montreal Centre of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, Canada's longest organ competition. Ms. Pinsonneault is an undergraduate student of Prof. John Grew at McGill University.

July 28: Kola Owolabi, USA. Kola is a much-loved former Assistant Organist here at St. Andrew and St. Paul. Since leaving A&P, he completed a Master of Music degree at Yale University and a Doctor of Musical Arts at the Eastman School of Music. He is currently professor of organ at Syracuse University in New York State.

August 4: Virgile Monin, France. M. Monin is a young Paris-based organ virtuoso whose playing will bring the best of that rich tradition to our audience.

August 11: Vincent Thévenaz, Switzerland. A youthful professor of organ at the Geneva Conservatory, M. Thévenaz is an accomplished improviser and interpreter whose performances always dazzle. In 2009-2010, he presented the complete organ works of J. S. Bach to critical acclaim. He works in a saxophone-organ duo, and is a frequent soloist with orchestras throughout Europe.

August 18: Kurt-Ludwig Forg, Germany. A fixture in our series, Mr. Forg's programs invariably feature exciting new discoveries.

Proceeds of the series will once again benefit the church's ReachOut With Music program. We look forward to seeing you there in numbers!

*Jonathan Oldengarm,
Director of Music*

Organ Intermezzi 2011

Jonathan Oldengarm
Artistic Director
Thursdays at 12:15
Freewill donation

JULY 7
Suzanne Ozorak, Montreal

JULY 14
Jonathan Oldengarm,
Montreal

JULY 21
Winner, 2011 Lynnwood
Farnam Organ Competition

JULY 28
Kola Owolabi, Canada /
USA

AUGUST 4
Virgile Monin, France

AUGUST 11
Vincent Thévenaz,
Switzerland

AUGUST 18
Kurt-Ludwig Forg, Germany

AUGUST 25
Jonathan Oldengarm,
Montreal



The Church of St. Andrew & St. Paul

Organ and Choral Music List: Summer 2011



June 5, 2011

Prelude: Andante pastorale (Spence)
Introit: Ave verum (Byrd)
Anthem: O for a closer walk with God (Stanford)
Postlude: Concert

Overture in c minor (Fricker)

June 12, 2011

Prelude: Excerpts from Suite *Gothique* (Boëllman)
Introit: Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake (Farrant/Hilton)
Anthem: Behold the tabernacle of God (Harris)
Postlude: Toccata (Gigout)

June 19, 2011

Prelude: Cantabile (Franck)
Introit: Draw us in the Spirit's tether (Friedell)
Anthem: How lovely are the messengers (Mendelssohn)
Postlude: Finale Jubilante (Willan)

June 20, 2011

Prelude: Adagio, from *Symphonie I* (Vierne)
Introit: Give almes of thy goodes (Tye)
Anthem: Verleih uns Frieden (Mendelssohn)
Postlude: Finale, from *Symphonie I* (Vierne)

July 3, 2011

Prelude: Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, BWV 654 (Bach)
Introit: O Come, ye servants of the Lord (Tye)
Anthem: Praise to God in the Highest (Campbell)
Postlude: Gigue Fugue in G, BWV 577 (Bach)

July 10, 2011

Prelude: Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 662 & 663 (Bach)
Introit: Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky)
Anthem: For I went with the multitude (Aston)
Postlude: Allegro deciso, from *Evocation*, op. 37 (Dupré)

July 17, 2011

Prelude: Voluntary IV (Russell)
Introit: Cantate Domino (Pitoni)
Anthem: My eyes for beauty pine (Howells)
Postlude: Postlude (Lavallée-Smith)

July 24, 2011

Prelude: Preludes on Welsh Hymn Tunes (Vaughan Williams)
Introit: O taste and see (Vaughan Williams)
Anthem: Jesu, joy of man's desiring (Bach)
Postlude: Praeludium in C, BuxWV 137 (Buxtehude)

July 31, 2011

Prelude: Sonata IV, BWV 528 (Bach)
Introit: Ave verum corpus (Mozart)
Anthem: Lord of all power and might (Shaw)
Postlude: Prelude and Fugue in D major, BWV 532 (Bach)

August 7, 2011

Prelude: Adagio in A flat (Fricker)
Introit: Tantum ergo (de Séverac)
Anthem: Most glorious Lord of life (Harris)
Postlude: Grand Triumphant Chorus in A (Guilmant)

August 14, 2011

Prelude: Fantasie f-moll, KV 394 (Mozart)
Introit: If ye love me (Tallis)
Anthem: Ave verum (Elgar)
Postlude: Grand Choeur (Reed)

August 21, 2011

Prelude: Jesu, geh voran, op. 65 no. 56 (Karg-Elert)
Introit: Exsultate justi (Viadana)
Anthem: O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Howells)
Postlude: Ein Siegesang Israels, op. 101 (Karg-Elert)

August 28, 2011

Prelude: Larghetto in F sharp minor (Wesley)
Introit: Sicut cervus (Palestrina)
Anthem: Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré)
Postlude: Prelude and Fugue in G major, BWV 541 (Bach)

It Was a Busy Spring for the Choir

What a busy spring it has been for the choir! On the very first day of spring, the choir performed Handel's *Messiah*, experiencing via music the foretelling of the coming of the Messiah, His passion and Resurrection. For many of us, it was the first time singing this great work. For others, it was a joyous opportunity to sing this again with a superb choir and orchestra. During the rehearsals, conductor Jordan de Souza insisted that we understand the meaning behind the words and make the story come alive. This we did and thus entered more deeply into the story of this timeless event. All soloists for this performance came from within the choir. Bravo to all!

There was no rest after that performance, for Holy Week was fast approaching with several special services. This included music for Palm Sunday and Tenebrae, the Mozart Requiem with I Musici de Montreal on Good Friday, and of course joyous Easter Sunday.

However, between these two events, the *Messiah* and Holy Week, another delightful surprise awaited the choir: the special day called "Choir Recognition Sunday." Susan Stevenson and Madonna Bailey led the team that organized the celebration. Members of the choir were honoured with a bountiful luncheon, to which the whole church was invited. There were also special music performances, speeches, and even a gift for choir

members – a large color photo of the choir! Choristers were deeply touched by this expression of appreciation.

With the coming of May, some of the push to learn new music relaxed a bit as the regular choir season would end as of May 31. At rehearsals, we had more time to enter deeply into the intricacies of the music, improving our musical ears and sense of ensemble. During this time, we also began to say goodbye to our university singers as many of them left for home or summer music programs. Then, in June, Thursday rehearsals would come to an end, and summer choir would begin.

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Annual General Meeting Elects New Elders, Trustees

Minister Expresses Thanks for Warm Welcome

The congregation's Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 8, 2011. Following a delicious dinner organized by the Guild and a toe-tapping performance of a Scott Joplin rag presented by Jonathan Oldengarm, the meeting began. A brief verbal report was presented on behalf of the Kirk Session, followed by a presentation to Ruling Elder Robert Ayers in appreciation of his 25 years of service as an Elder. Two other Elders celebrate important milestones this year – David Christiani, who has been an Elder for 25 years, and Bruce Williams, who has served for 35 years.

Written reports were handed out from the Kirk Session, the Ministry, Worship and Music, Outreach and Communications committees, the W.M.S. and the Guild. Instead of having all these reports read, Bruce Bolton presented an entertaining slide presentation highlighting the many activities that took place over the last year.

The report of the Committee to Elect New Elders was presented and the following seven persons were elected: Elizabeth Austin, Raymond Brassard, Sharon Dworzak, Scott Feltham, Sheila Jacob, Brian Merrett and Suzanne Reny.

Following the election of new Elders, the Board of Trustees presented their reports, including the Chairman's Report and the report of the Treasurer. Five new Trustees were elected: Jane Bracewell, Ian Edwards, Diane Ellison, Christopher Powell and Kaaren Wallis.

Jeff Veenstra, our Minister, expressed his thanks for the warm welcome he and his family had received from the congregation and encouraged people to complete the Stewards by Design survey, which was available through the office or on the internet.

The meeting concluded with the singing of "The Day Thou Gavest Lord Is Ended," and the Benediction given by our Minister.

Judith Mowat



Margaret Glassford and Elizabeth Austin enjoy salad and conversation at the 2011 AGM.



Jonathan Oldengarm entertains with a toe-tapping Scott Joplin rag.

From the Archives

The Mackay Family Heritage

In an earlier article in this series, I described how in 1930, when The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul on Dorchester St. was expropriated by the Canadian National Railway, it acquired the property at the corner of Sherbrooke and Redpath Streets from the estate of the late Robert Mackay as the site of its new church. I will now tell the story of the Mackay family. A present member of the church, Joan Mackenzie (nee Mackay), is a descendant of this family, being the great-granddaughter of Robert Mackay.

The Mackays came from the remote County of Sutherland, Scotland, where William, the patriarch of the family in the late 18th century, was a small tenant farmer, or crofter, in the beautiful broad mountain valley of Kildonan. He was a tenant on the estate of the Duchess of Sutherland. He and his wife, Anne, had ten children. Unfortunately, the whole family was uprooted and deprived of their holdings in the notorious Highland clearances in the early 19th century. The landowners wished to convert the land from the tillage of crops to the pasturage of sheep in order to improve the return on their investments. Armed men simply came round one day, with the support of the law behind them, and torched the tenants' homesteads and evicted them from the land. As many as 15,000 crofters were evicted from the Duchess of Sutherland's estates alone between 1811 and 1820.

Some of these unfortunate people emigrated to the United States or Canada, while others reclaimed wasteland on the coast and attempted to survive by eating edible seaweed. William and Anne Mackay and their family settled at Roster in the County of Caithness in the bleak and barren extreme northeast of Scotland. Their third-youngest child, Joseph, stayed there until 1832 when the 21-year-old sailed from Aberdeen to Canada aboard the Carrick. He was fortunate to have survived the passage and also his initial stay in Montreal, because there was much cholera sickness aboard the ship and Montreal was in the grip of a cholera epidemic when he arrived.

Joseph was a most industrious man. When he first arrived in Montreal, he set himself up

as a tailor and merchant on Notre Dame St. before going into the wholesale dry-goods business, where in short order he made his fortune. He was soon joined in Montreal by his brother Edward, who came to Canada in 1840. Edward first spent six months in Kingston but then he settled in Montreal and became a clerk in Joseph's dry-goods business. By 1850, Edward became a partner in the firm that had become known in that year as Joseph Mackay and Brother.

In 1857, Joseph Mackay decided to move his residence from St. Antoine St. up the hill to the Square Mile, and he bought the property at the corner of Sherbrooke and Redpath Streets. He had become aware of the tendency of many of his prosperous neighbours, and even of some shops such as Morgans and Birks, to move uptown, and he knew that some of the most beautiful houses in the Square Mile were being built on Sherbrooke St. He built a magnificent stone mansion for himself and his brother Edward, who were both bachelors. Joseph Mackay named his house "Kildonan" after his birthplace, and when The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul built its church there in 1930, this same name was given to the parish hall. The original "Kildonan" was set back from Sherbrooke St. in a large shaded property. There were stone gateposts on Sherbrooke, from which a curving driveway led up to a pillared porch on the front of the house with a porte-cochère on the side. The rooms were large with high ceilings, and decorated with paintings and heavy furniture. It may have been dark and gloomy on the inside but there is no doubt that it was a most imposing structure on the outside, as pictures of it show us today.

Joseph Mackay was closely associated with the Protestant Institute for Deaf-Mutes. He donated the property on the west side of Decarie Blvd. for this organization and paid for the construction of a four-storey building for classrooms. He also assumed the presidency of this institution, which was named in his honour in 1878 as the Mackay Institute for Protestant Deaf-Mutes. Joseph and Edward Mackay were also ardent supporters of The Presbyterian College, which they helped to build and where they endowed a course of theological study.

Joseph Mackay died in 1881 and left his estate to his brother Edward. Edward Mackay in turn died in 1883 and left their combined estates to their nephews Hugh, James and Robert, sons of their sister Euphemia and her husband, Angus Mackay of Lybster, Caithness, nearby Roster. These boys had all come to



Senator Cairine Wilson

Montreal. Like their uncles, Hugh and James were also bachelors. When they died, James in 1889 and Hugh in 1890, they left their respective shares of their uncles' estates to their surviving brothers or brother, with the result that Robert ended up inheriting the entire estate. Unlike his uncles and brothers who were all bachelors, Robert was not going to forgo the pleasures of matrimony and children. To the contrary, in 1871, at the age of 32, he married the 21-year-old Jane Baptist, the daughter of George and Isabella Baptist from the town down the river from Montreal, then known by the English name Three Rivers. Robert's father-in-law, George Baptist, was a successful lumber merchant in the Saint-Maurice region of Quebec. Robert and Jane Mackay went on to have eight children between 1871 and 1887, Louisa (who died shortly after birth), Angus Robert, George Baptist, Hugh, Euphemia, Isabel Oliver, Anna Henrietta, Cairine, and Edward.

By this time, Robert Mackay had also become a most successful and prosperous businessman. In 1893, Robert retired from the family dry-goods business. He had become a partner in the business 26 years earlier and head of the firm three years prior, but he now wanted to devote more of his time to managing the Mackay estates and his many business commitments. For example, he was a director of 16 prominent companies, including the Bank of Montreal and the Canadian Pacific Railway, as well as the District Savings Bank,

Dominion Textile Company and Bell Telephone Company, in which he also served as vice-president. He was a much sought after man to serve as a director and for his advice on the basis of his experience in wide-ranging interests. He joined the Board of Trade and became its president in 1900, and he was a member of the Board of Harbour Commissioners and served as its president from 1896 to 1907. He was also at one time president of St. Andrew's Society and honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada. Robert Mackay was appointed to the Senate of Canada in 1901.

Robert and Jane Mackay's most famous child in Canadian history was their youngest daughter, Cairine. She was born in "Kildonan" in 1885, educated at Trafalgar School for Girls and married to Norman Wilson in 1908. What she is famous for is being the first female member of the Canadian Senate. She was appointed to the upper chamber by her friend Mackenzie King in 1930. Up until that time only men had been appointed to the Senate. In the 1920s, several women's groups had urged the government to appoint a woman, but it was not known then whether women were eligible for such appointment. A case was accordingly brought before the Supreme Court of Canada by five Alberta feminists to answer this question. This was known as the Persons case. The Court held that women were not Persons within the meaning of the 1867 BNA Act and, accordingly, were not qualified to be appointed to the Senate. This decision was reversed by their Lordships of the Privy Council in London in October 1929, and Cairine Wilson then received her appointment four months later on February 15, 1930. Cairine served in the Senate for 32 years from 1930 until her death in 1962. Her greatest interest is believed to have been related to immigrants and refugees, and it was on these topics that she spent much of her time, perhaps because of the experiences of her forebears, who came to Canada after being so cruelly evicted from their homeland in Scotland through the infamous Highland clearances. Cairine Wilson was a member and supporter of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Ottawa, where there is a stained glass window in her memory.

The facts in this article were found in First Person, A Biography of Cairine Wilson, Canada's First Woman Senator, by Valerie Knowles, Dundurn Press, Toronto & Oxford, 1988.

William Stavert

Black Watch Officer Honoured by U.S.

Lt.-Col. Plourde Receives Meritorious Service Medal

After the service in the church for the Black Watch Parade, the Regiment marches back along Sherbrooke St. to Bleury, turns right, and marches down till it reaches the doors of the Armory, and the parade continues inside. Some very fortunate folk get invited to watch the proceedings from balconies of the Officers' Mess and Sergeants' Mess.

There are awards to individual members of the Black Watch for various meritorious activities, and these are presented with appropriate congratulations and applause.

This year, there was a VERY special award for the commanding officer of the Black Watch – Lieutenant-Colonel Bruno Plourde. He was awarded the U.S. Meritorious Service Medal after serving in Afghanistan. This award was presented to him by Lieutenant-Colonel John Fisher, U.S. Air Force, currently Assistant Air Attaché, U.S. Embassy, Ottawa, and himself an officer with a remarkable record of service in Afghanistan.

The citation reads:

“For exceptional meritorious service while serving as the international security assistance forces, regional command – South liaison officer for the Afghan national police force headquarters and deputy commander for the regional police advisory command. Lieutenant-Colonel Bruno Plourde’s efforts greatly contributed to the successful partnership between ISAF, the ANP and RPAC-S. His efforts provided great mutual benefit for the coalition forces and Afghan national police throughout southern Afghanistan. His professionalism and dedication to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects great credit on him, ISAF, the Black Watch Regiment and Army reserve, Canadian Armed Forces.”

We read in the papers of the war that is happening so far away. Here in Montreal is a reminder that people who live in our city go to war, and give exemplary service. It is important that we recognize this. The President of the United States was represented there in the Black Watch Armory as this medal was given to Lieutenant-Colonel Bruno Plourde.

It made for a very special Sunday for this correspondent.

Susan Stevenson



Lt.-Col. Bruno Plourde, right, receives the meritorious service medal from Lt.-Col. John Fisher of the U.S. Air Force.

How to Help A&P Carry On This Summer

Who among us doesn't welcome the arrival of summer and the chance to enjoy a break from the busyness of our lives? Many of us will spend some or all of the summer away from Montreal, enjoying time at the cottage or by the seaside, or perhaps taking a trip farther afield. But the life of The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul carries on through the summer, and for that your continued financial support is so important. Even if you cannot be with us at worship because of your vacation time, you can be with the church in spirit through your financial support.

The easiest and most convenient way to do that is to switch to PAR, which stands for pre-authorized remittance. Your regular gift is automatically deducted from your account, which means you continue to support your church whether you are home or away. The Church Office can tell you how to make this switch; it's easy. (And in case you're wondering what to do once you've started PAR and the offering plate is passed each Sunday, here's what many do: just place an empty envelope, or one marked "PAR," in the plate.)

Other ways of continuing to support your church's work through the summer months: using post-dated cheques; or increasing the size of your regular offering before you leave for vacation. Whichever method you choose, you are helping The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul maintain its key presence as one of the leading Christian voices in Montreal.

We wish everyone a pleasant and restful summer.

The Stewardship Committee

ReachOut With Music



Françoise Morin-Lyons, in a captivating moment with a young child (above), brings music to Moms 'n' Tots at Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre in Little Burgundy. Françoise hopes to expand the ReachOut With Music program to older youngsters.

Fall Fair 2011

Yes, church members and friends, it's time to start planning for our next Fall Fair. Mark your calendars now for another exciting day: **Saturday, November 5th.**

Spring cleaning? Think of donating your items for sale, the proceeds of which go to the many charities the church supports. Treasures, Trifles, Linens and Laces, Asian Delights, Books, Jewelry and Accessories are all items that could be donated for sale at the Fall Fair. Of course, what's more fun on a rainy day than making jams or jellies, or doing some home baking? All are welcomed and needed for sale. And, of course, our Bottle Shop is a fun and interesting table, where surprises galore await you!

Need help getting things to the church? Please contact Jim Evans (514-287-0181) or Kerry Martin (514-937-9277), who are kindly helping with this once again.

The success of this terrific event depends on YOU and your contributions. Thank you in advance for your help. Have a safe and fun-filled summer!

Kathie Mills and Betty Teryazos

Unsung Heroes



Genevieve Holding

If you help at the Fall Fair, you've met her. If you were a member of the Guild Executive a few years ago, you've met her. If you are a member of the Women's Missionary Society (WMS) or the Presbyterial, you've met her. Genevieve is one of our church's quiet and most thoughtful treasures!

She was born and brought up in British Columbia, and with her husband lived in various cities across Canada, including Winnipeg, where they were married. They came to Montreal a good time ago with their children, and it was one of her sons who started bringing Genevieve to a church. He was invited to a Sunday School by one of her friends and so she, too, attended the church. Church-going was not part of her own upbringing, although she had been baptized.

Living in N.D.G., she attended church out that way. But one Sunday, on her way to a concert downtown, she passed The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul. She decided to attend the service. When she came in the door, she was warmly welcomed by friends whom she knew from Montreal West – and as she says, “the rest is history.”

Genevieve quietly goes about doing random acts of kindness. Those whom she helps know about this. It is she who makes the most wonderful delicious soups to encourage everyone who is setting up the Fall Fair. This past year, she had help from Margo Kyle and they made a great team.

At the moment, her concern is for the WMS, which is moving gradually to a different pattern of meetings and studies. With the other members, Genevieve is looking at ways to keep the spirit of the WMS alive, though with less formality. In her care, this program will find a good solution.

What has meant the most to her about her membership at this church? Genevieve does not hesitate to say it is fellowship and friendship – and from the Worship Service, a message of hope and uplifting music that helps her through her week: “Surely it is that for us all?”

Thank you, Genevieve, for all that you do.

Susan Stevenson



Sandra Lecouffe

Sandra Lecouffe has hung up her choir gown in her locker. Palm Sunday service is over and it's on to Easter week and several trips back and forth from her home in Baie d'Urfé for choir practices and services. Christmas is still her favourite season

but she says, “As I mature and move on, moments like Easter mean more and more to me.”

Sandra auditioned for Wayne Riddell 30 years ago and she has been singing soprano at A&P ever since. It was a change of repertoire from the folk and classical guitar she played at Montreal coffee houses during her hippie days. Now, she says, choir practice keeps her sane. “It's my primal scream therapy. I just come and sing.”

Over those 30 years, Sandra worked as a pediatric nurse at the Montreal Children's Hospital and raised two children with her husband, Steve – a son, Trevor, and a daughter, Kim. She now tutors nursing students at John Abbot College and runs the nursing labs. She has become a bit of a Mom and mentor to the nursing students there and to the student choir members at A&P. She likes to make sure they know choir decorum and the choreography of their entrances to and exits from the sanctuary. She knows they are getting an invaluable introduction to the classic church repertoire. Sandra says the stipend they earn singing means a lot to them. “It's not money thrown away. They buy food and pay rent with this.”

Sandra is proud of the level of the music program at A&P. “It's unique in Canada. What we do for music in Montreal is very important. It's one thing to hold a spaghetti dinner to raise money, but our choir concerts take fundraising up a notch.”

Thank you, Sandra, for the music you make. It's an integral part of the congregation's spiritual growth and development.

Jeanette Kelly

From the Church Registrar

Baptisms



April 3, 2011

Oliver Frederick Clarke, son of Christopher Clarke and Mary Pitt

Memorials



January 18, 2010
Thomas Clarke

January 22, 2011
Ingeburg Lüdke

May 13, 2011
Dr. Donald Edward Douglas



Helen Potter

Chances are high that at any given event, from the Fall Fair to the Sunday School Christmas Pageant and beyond, you will run into 87-year-old Helen Potter. Helen has been attending A&P since 1982. “It’s like home,” she says.

“When I walk into the church, I feel at peace.”

Born and bred Presbyterian, Helen grew up in Rosemont but eventually came to A&P because her church there had closed. A&P appealed to her for many reasons, especially since it had a regular meeting of the Women’s Missionary Society – an organization in which she and her mother had been very active while at the Kydd Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Besides her involvement with the WMS, Helen has served in several capacities throughout the years, from the Knitting Group to making tea at church socials, to stuffing envelopes, etc.

Most of all, Helen has been a part of the backbone of the Sunday School. She taught for many years at her old church and at A&P on a regular basis until about a year ago. She still teaches from time to time when needed. Kindergarten-Grade 1 is her favourite age group to shepherd. She was also a cub leader for the Boy Scouts for 13 years. There is no doubting her when she says, “I enjoy children!”

Of volunteering, Helen says that “we all should be involved with different things at the church. Giving service is expected of us when we become members.

“Of course, many people are busy with their jobs,” she acknowledges. Helen is grateful that she has time to give. Mostly, though, her reasons for volunteering (besides helping others) aren’t complicated: “I enjoy church. It’s just part of me.”

Thank you, Helen, for all that you do.

Kena Herod

continued from page 7

At a recent rehearsal, the choir exec gave an end of the year report, during which the choir looked back together at the past choir season. We expressed our gratitude to both our conductor, Jordan de Souza, and music director Jonathan Oldengarm, whose commitment and talents are so deeply valued and appreciated. In addition, we acknowledged the tireless contribution of our organ scholar, Han Mi Kang, who performed miracles as choir librarian. It had been a fine choral year of glorious music combined with the opportunity to serve within the church community.

Wendy Glaubitz



Donna George

Donna George first came to A&P when she was 9 years old for a Christmas Eve service with her mother. “I was old enough to stay up,” she remembers. She came back to the church as a member of the choir in 1972, when Wayne Riddell became the musical director.

Donna says she lived her life backwards, having her children and then going back to university to complete both her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Honours English. She also started a PhD in English Theology and Intellectual History of the 16th Century. In fact, one child was born during a Milton class. For the young mother, choir practice on Thursday was her night out. “My husband made supper...well, he ordered pizza.” But it was more than just a night off. “I’m so grateful to Wayne Riddell for the exposure to the great works of the Anglo and German church repertory.”

In turn, Donna shared her love for the classics with high-school students, in both music and literature, while teaching at West Island College. “Kids are really exciting,” she says. “Their intellectual excitement is stimulating. Even with difficult kids, there’s always a chance you can get through to them. That’s why I love teaching. Shakespeare shows the complexity of the human condition and when they start to understand, you can talk to them about almost anything.”

Ten years ago, Donna was inspired to develop a constitution for the choir. It established written rules for behaviour and created executive positions with limited terms for the administration of the choir. The choir also gained two voting positions on the Worship Committee. Donna says this document ensures the smooth functioning of the choir and a voice for choristers in the church organization. The constitution includes criteria for the hiring of the director of music and the choir conductor, and sets a framework for productive feedback.

Donna feels strongly about the accomplishments of the music program at A&P. “We are the keepers of the flame,” she says. “Where else can you come, from 18- to 80-year-olds, all from different backgrounds, coming together to make this beautiful sound? The first time I sang the St. John Passion, I couldn’t believe what it does to uplift your spirit.” Her favourite service is Tenebrae, for its ethereal quality. “Come to my church on Easter Sunday,” says Donna. “It will blast you right out of apathy!”

Thank you, Donna, for your music and your spirit.

Jeanette Kelly

Dr. Donald Douglas

The Appreciation Delivered by Dr. J.S.S. Armour at the Funeral of Dr. Douglas, May 13, 2011



First and foremost, Donald Edward Douglas was a devout Christian. Brought up at the First Presbyterian Church of Montreal, he was active

in Young Peoples, and for all his long life the Church and its Gospel was central to his thinking and action. If you visited Donald in recent years, at home or in hospital, more often than not you would find him with an open Bible on his knee.

Donald was a graduate of McGill – a doctor not of medicine but of biochemistry. His working life was given over to research. Many of his discoveries were written up in learned journals.

He kindly lent me some. They were quite incomprehensible to my non-scientific eyes but revealed an inquiring mind far ahead of his time.

Indeed, Donald would tell you that when he was well into his 80s and long retired from the Department of Medicine at McGill, a medical institution in Germany that had chanced upon his papers invited him to come and lecture to the students on his exciting new findings! Donald was both amused and humbled.

His expertise was also of use to this church. My predecessor here at St. Andrew and St. Paul, who was far more imaginative in regard to worship than I, once arranged for a large Aladdin-like lamp to be part of the service on Pentecost Sunday.

Dr. Douglas was asked to suggest a chemical to enhance the drama of the Pentacostal flame. Donald was happy to oblige and turned up with the miracle ingredient. It is my understanding that the lamp that Sunday gave a wondrous light!

As you all know, Donald was an elder of this congregation. Ordained in 1959, he is one of only five men, to the best of my knowledge, who served for over 50 years in that high office. And what a great elder he was. I can recall few meetings when he was absent, and he proved one of the most faithful visitors this church has ever known.

His was a large district covering Lachine, Verdun and Little Burgundy. Donald did not drive, but he visited the members of his flock before every communion with their card. In addition, if he heard of anyone in the congregation who was sick or in trouble, the minister was notified immediately and urged to visit. For Donald, the church was more than a worshipping community. It was a caring one.

The cause of Missions meant everything to Donald and Mabel Douglas, and how loyally they served this church, where they were married in 1957. Mabel was the honorary president of the Women's Missionary Society and a Fall Fair convener, and Donald was deeply involved in the work of Tyndale House. Together they were active in the Bible Society and the Grenfell and Leprosy Missions.

In 1968, they gathered up 8-year-old Eoin and went to India – to Vellore, Tamil Nadu – where Donald worked as a pharmacologist at the Christian Medical College and Hospital, while Mabel visited the families and clinics of the district. How excited they were when Dr. Paul Brand came to preach at St. Andrew and St. Paul, and how pleased Donald was when our church agreed, as a bicentennial project, to help the work of the Dr. Graham's Homes in Kalimpong.

Years before, a nurse, Miss Edith Pratt, went as a missionary from this congregation to Kalampoor and Donald was instrumental in having her picture placed in Church House.

Sixty-four Aberdeen Avenue was a centre of much hospitality. Mabel was a superb cook and baker and loved to entertain. For years, WMS Teas were held in their home, and when I arrived in Montreal 28 years ago, one of the first to have us for a meal were the Douglasses. Characteristically, it was not just the minister and his wife but the whole Armour clan.

These last years have not been easy ones for Donald, following Mabel's long illness and sad death. But there were no complaints, and despite doubts that he and Eoin could manage, they picked up the threads and carried on in a quite remarkable way. By foot, by

bus, or driven by Dr. Lawrence Hutchison, Donald was at session meetings and Bible Study and, with Eoin, at church each Sunday.

It was only in the last few years that help was needed. And then something quite wonderful happened. Inspired by Dr. Richard Topping and The Reverend Stephen Filyk, in stepped fellow elders Susan Stevenson and Robert Ayers - helped by Mark Philips, Jola Knapik, Donald's housekeeper of 40 years, and others. They quietly and competently took charge of Donald, arranging for his care and ensuring for Eoin a rewarding future. What an example of a congregation serving one who had proved himself a faithful servant to them.

And how grateful Donald was, not only to the Committee but to all of you – his fellow elders, the kind friends of the Bible Study group, the people who greeted him when he came to church, the recognition of his long years as an elder by a commemorative plate.

One last thought ... Mabel and Donald were fiercely proud of Eoin – his steadiness and the high regard in which he was held by his fellow workers at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel – but these last years the roles were reversed. Instead of Donald caring for Eoin, it has been Eoin caring for Donald. And that was a lovely thing to behold.

During this period, David Luckow from our congregation became Eoin's doctor and Dave Wiseman, whom Eoin met at the Westmount Y, became a friend, legal advisor and member of the Eoin Douglas Tutorship Council.

Thank you, Eoin, for the care you have taken of your father. You have proved a good son and we, your church family, are proud of you and wish for you a happy and fulfilling life.

God bless you.

Mission & Outreach

Celebrating the Past and the Future

It's that time of year when we look both back and forward. In the rear-view mirror we can see several Outreach projects that seemed to touch people's hearts – the January Sunday celebrating the many local service organizations our church helps to support; Heritage Weekend with its Taste of the Nations supper and the Flag Day presentation; and the launch of both ReachOut With Music and the focus on a Presbyterian World Service and Development program in Pakistan.

Over the horizon, we will welcome new members of the Mission & Outreach Committee, new Chairperson Diane Ellison, and regretfully say au revoir to several members who are moving on to other things. Also in our sights are, among other objectives in the coming church year, raising the profile of the Narthex Welcome Table, working with our neighbours of the Association du quartier du musée, revitalizing our relationship with our twinning partners at the Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry, and continuing to delight in the increasing popularity of Coffee & Conversation.

Françoise Morin-Lyons continues her ReachOut With Music program with Moms 'n' Tots at Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre in Little Burgundy and dreams of expanding it to older youngsters. Diane Janna, working with Nathalie Hess, Robert Johnson, Jacqueline McClaran and others, will work with Tyndale's new executive director, Jen de Combe, in defining our growing relationship with this historic partner, founded in 1927 by Charles Johnson, a member of our church.

We are delighted that the Church School and Youth Group have so rapidly and enthusiastically supported the PWS&D project in Mirpurkhas in southeastern Pakistan, and we hope to spread this excitement to the entire congregation. In partnership with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and Church World Service, PWS&D is working to alleviate hunger and encourage women through training and micro-loans in one of the world's most poverty-stricken communities.

"One goal of the project was for families to be eating at least two meals a day, which many report is now a reality," reports Canadian Foodgrains Bank's website. "For many people in Sindh province, this represents a significant increase. In order to increase the amount of food available, a vari-

ety of agricultural training sessions were held and a seed bank was opened. While women in Sindh do take an active part in farming, agricultural decisions rest with the men.

"Women's Self-Help Groups were formed to give women in these communities access to income and capital. The groups encourage women to save money with the group and then to give small loans to fellow members. Vegetable seeds and training were also distributed through these groups. Many women are now growing small kitchen gardens which are providing food, and, in some cases, a source of income."

And, finally, in his most recent report that you can find on our website, Rev. Stewart Folster offers this definition of the Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry: "It's about

establishing relationships of trust through our food program. We feed people and get to know them and listen to their stories. Eventually, we ask them if they would like to attend our worship service. Our service begins with a traditional smudging ceremony and an opportunity to say our own personal prayers to the Creator while we hold the talking stone. We use the hand drum, occasionally, if it fits with the song. Our Board members are beginning to come out to our worship and it is great to see their support. However, I think, like myself, they prefer to worship in our informal way and to share worship with the people on the street. I always have a good spiritual feeling when service is over. Our worship is a special place in our lives."



The Canadian Foodgrains Bank helps women develop sources of income.

Church School

Cabane-à-Sucre, Mothers Day Events Draw Large Crowds

Church School continues to grow as we have welcomed four new families this spring and new babies have arrived! Congratulations to the Cornett, Gee & Raschle-Ferreira families – may God bless your new additions!!

We have had a very busy and active spring season, beginning with our ever-popular Cabane-à-Sucre. This year two busloads headed off after church on a gloriously beautiful day to the Sucrerie de la Montagne in Rigaud. Close to 180 attended this wonderful event, including 24 of our friends from St. Columba by the Lake. Everyone had a great time, as you can see by some of the photos!

Our children were very much involved in the preparations for Easter once again. On Palm Sunday, they joined in the procession waving their palms and then sang two songs for the congregation. After the service, we enjoyed lunch together and then headed off to Place Kensington to sing for the residents and to present them with palms. The residents were delighted and the children are really enjoying their visits to the residence.

Our 'Spiritual Walk' was set up in the Iona Room for Good Friday as well as Easter Sunday and was very well attended by the Church School families, as well as visitors. It is an activity we believe helps the children to understand and grasp the true meaning of Easter.

We all enjoyed a very special Mothers Day breakfast together – a delicious meal prepared by Iain Lamont, served by teachers and members of our Youth Group, with wonderful entertainment provided by some of our talented children. A special thank you is extended to Luca & Nico Cristofaro, Adelka, Gabriel & Kaelan Falcarek-Hope, Elizabeth & Sonia Jacob with their mother, Sheila, and little Oscar Joyeux and Emma-Maria Phillips with her dad, Mark. We had an amazing response with 110 in attendance!!!

It was a particularly special Mothers Day as I shared an email I had received from the mother of George, a 10-year-old boy the children have been praying for since October 2010. She thanked us for our prayers and shared the good news that George's bone-marrow transplant appeared to be successful. The family was hopeful that he would be returning home shortly. George has been in hospital since last October, when he was diagnosed with leukemia.

The children are continuing on with their Church School Mission Project – PWS&D/Pakistan – and will be returning their collection boxes shortly as well as selling their ever popular cards. They were particularly pleased to meet Barbara Summers on April 3. She gave an informative presentation that helped make this worthwhile project even more relevant to them.

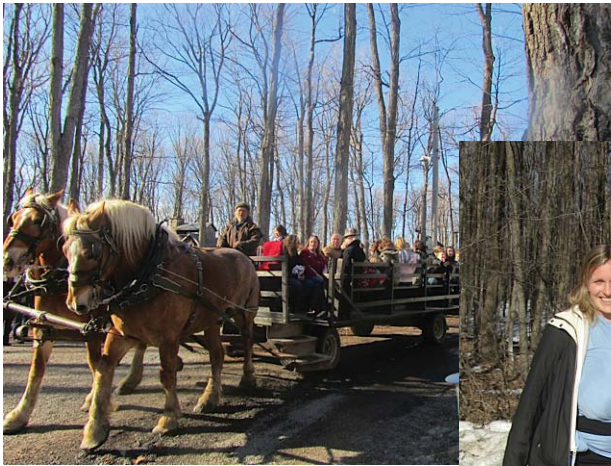
On June 12, we will be honouring fathers at the Church School Celebration. An invitation to lunch in the Quiet Garden after the service is extended to the congregation.

Finally, Church School will continue over the summer months, beginning on July 3, and we have a fun program this year from Cokesbury: we will be 'Cooking Up the Scriptures!' The program will be held in the Iona Room each Sunday for children from Kindergarten through Grade 5. The theme is based on scripture, but also includes fun activities and crafts to bring home. Do join us! Church School teachers and older students will be helping out with the program.

The Crèche and Nursery will remain open throughout the summer, including the last two weeks of June.

I would like to wish all of you a safe and restful summer, and once again thank all of you for your continued support and prayers. All of our staff truly appreciate your interest and the care that you exhibit for our Church School children.

Sharon Dworzak
Church School Co-ordinator



The ever-popular Cabane-à-sucre attracted nearly 180 people.



Paul and Susi Cornett with their growing family.



Youth Group members worked on a water-filter project.