

the Messenger

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



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WELCOME TO PARKDALE

A special 2008 welcome to Parkdale United Church. We enjoy meeting you and being together in ministry.

Parkdale's congregation responds to God's call and Jesus' teachings by:

- a) Uniting in joyful worship as an act of praise and gratitude, for inspiration and guidance**
- b) Providing learning opportunities for the Christian way of life and to enhance Biblical literacy**
- c) Supporting one another through pastoral care and concern**
- d) Reaching out to people in need**
- e) Promoting justice**
- f) Praying for guidance, wisdom, and support.**

Visitors and newcomers to Parkdale, be on the lookout for our hospitality team on Sunday mornings. They wear pale yellow name tags and would be pleased to meet you and to answer questions about our worship service and about activities that go on through the week at Parkdale.

If you are visiting, please ask for a copy of the 'Welcome to Parkdale' edition of the Messenger. It has a striking goldenrod cover! Please take a copy home to read. We hope you will come again for worship and fellowship.

The Parkdale Congregation



WHERE TO FIND IT

Minister's Message	4
2008 Bazaar	8
Stewardship	11
Erin Fortune	14
In From The Cold.....	15
Recipe.....	18
News from the Pews.....	20
Letters.....	22
Truth Is Stranger Than Fiction.	24
International Dinner.....	26
Crossword.....	28
Presbytery Report.....	30
Thankfulness.....	33
Cartoon.....	35
Dispatches from Brazil.....	36
Library list	42

*Christmas 2008
Parkdale Services and Events*



November 30, 10:30 am, First Sunday in Advent, Advent Luncheon

November 30, 7:00 pm, Evening Service

December 7, 10:30 am, Communion

December 14, 10:30 am, Choir Cantata

December 14, 7:00 pm, Christmas Hymn sing with Ernie and Lynda Cox

December 17, 7:00 pm, Reflective Christmas service (for those who find the Christmas season to be difficult)

December 21, 10:30 am, Christmas Pageant

December 24, Christmas Eve services; 7:00 pm (family service), 10:00 pm, (candlelight service)

December 28, 10:30 am, Morning Worship, Lessons and Carols

**SPECIAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**

A special meeting of the congregation will be held downstairs in Tape Hall immediately following the morning worship service on Sunday, December 7, to receive a presentation from the Official Board regarding plans to change to a **church council** form of governance for Parkdale.

(An overview of the proposal was published in the October issue of *The Messenger*.)

*The cover of the Messenger this month is funded through a donation.
In memory of my parents Philip and Leah Chan, sister Lenora
Wong and brother-in-law Quinton Mar.*

Valerie Hum



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

**Advent Rhythms
and Deep Christmas Joy**

It was a brisk and windy Friday night in November, the second Friday of the month as a matter of fact. Parkdale's YOMACOP (young-ish married couples) group arranged to do something different for our monthly gathering. We met at the National Art Gallery for a very exquisite, engaging and sociable evening with about one hundred and twenty other folks.

The free event was called "Rediscover Christmas" and featured a lecture by Kathleen Norris, the renowned Christian poet, author and contemplative. Her talk was entitled *'Remembering, Waiting and Hoping: the countercultural pursuits of Christmas'*, and it was wonderful. The gathering was a celebration of the launch of a new book called *God With Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Christmas*. Kathleen Norris is one of the six



contributors to this wonderful

book of spiritual, theological and devotional offerings on the Christian seasons of Advent and Christmas. Included are master works of art which are utterly stunning.

In a very understated but intentional manner, Kathleen's words were

woven together into a rich tapestry of poetry, prose, prayers, insights, wisdom and dry humour. She gently but pointedly challenged us in the community of the Christian faith not only to resist the materialism and consumeristic messages conveyed by merchandising slogans like: *'Shop here for Joy'*, *'Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without (insert name of store)'*, *'Christmas is cheaper at (insert store name)'*, *'Why pray for a miracle when you could wear one of our swimsuits'*, but also to pursue countercultural manoeuvres which engage the true meanings of Christmas.

Remembering

Kathleen invited us to rediscover

the joy of waiting by remembering and re-immersing ourselves in the ‘poetry’ of Advent and Christmas. Poetry, she said, is “language that is in dialogue with silence”. The poetry in the stories of these two seasons pushes back against the noise and hyper-activity of the ‘lead-up’ to Christmas. The fatigue of too much of our ‘getting ready for Christmas’ is addressed by the poetry of the angels’ heavenly music which “floats o’er all the weary world” (a line from the carol It Came upon the Midnight Clear). She gently chided us for not sufficiently remembering our stories.

A Prayer

“O Holy One Who Comes, we turn again to you, and we open our hearts, we open our minds, we open our entire beings to your approach. We ask for strength and wisdom that we may now prepare the way. We ask that all may receive you in joy. Now and forever. Amen”

Scott Cairns

Waiting

Norris called on us to challenge the all too prevalent contemporary designation of waiting as a waste

of time. With our penchant for high speed this and that, our fast food, and preferences for rapid turnaround, waiting is just too non-economic and unproductive. Conversely, in our Advent and Christmas stories waiting is not only essential, it is generative. For instance, look at the waiting in the stories in Luke’s gospel; Zechariah and Elizabeth had to wait, Mary had to wait, Simeon had been waiting for the ‘consolation of Israel’, Anna waited, as did ‘all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem’. From the very beginning in Creation, even God waited: “and there was evening and morning, the first day...” There was space in the rhythm of God’s creative activity.

All of us had to wait to be born! What else is waiting to be born in and through us if we but learned again and prized how to wait? In our renewed commitment to waiting might we perceive differently, might we receive the gifts that can only come from waiting?

“They that wait upon the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow

weary, they will walk and not be faint.” Isaiah 40:31

Hoping

Holy Waiting engenders hope. Quoting from her most recent book, *Acedia and Me*, Kathleen asserted that hope is part of the essential character and DNA of not only Advent and Christmas, but also of Christian life. She maintained that the opposite of hope is inertia; in the Christian tradition of contemplative spirituality this is referred to as ‘acedia’. Acedia describes the state of being unable to care anymore. That is, not only does one not hope anymore, but one does not care that one does not or cannot hope anymore. It is the spiritual aspect of sloth. Norris is clear to make a distinction between acedia (a spiritual condition) and depression (a medical condition). The ancient and contemporary monastic remedy for acedia was/is: community, stability and prayer. Commenter Chris Smith points out something of the challenge most of us and our society faces in this regard.

“The monastics...resisted acedia

with three non-negotiable practices: community, stability and prayer. We, on the other hand, go to great extremes to resist these three practices. We resist community, instead glorifying individualism; our selfish ambitions and constant mobility shatter hopes of stability; in the increasing secularization of our culture and in our middle-class opposition to menial work, we find ourselves resistant to prayer. It is little wonder then that we have such little capacity for resisting the temptation of acedia!”

A Prayer

*“O Emmanuel, ruler and law-giver,
Desire of the nations,
Savior of all people:
Come and set us free,
Lord our God”*

Kathleen Norris

Norris suggests that hope is not the same as optimism. Rather hope is resilience and strength grounded in a sustaining vision of God’s promise-keeping and God’s trustworthiness. It is not flimsy but is as real as it gets. In closing, Norris commended to us a modi-

fied version of Jesus' words:

Do this (remember, wait and hope) in Remembrance of Me.

As well, she called on us to rediscover Christmas and be countercultural by being like Mary and giving our assent to God by saying YES to 'heaven on earth'.

It was a stimulating and challenging evening which our group continued over conversation and 'sweet' refreshment at a sumptuous dessert place in the Market.

I highly commend to you the book **God With Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Christmas**, ed. By Greg Pennoyer & Gregory Wolfe.

On behalf of Wendy and our children Chania, Michelle, Kristen and John, I pray for you (and us all) a blessed Advent experience and a joy-filled, hope-laden Christmas celebration.

Peace,
anthony

December Lectionary

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalms 126

or Luke 1:47-55

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Luke 1:47-55

or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day

December 24/25

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalms 96

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 28

Isaiah 61:10-62

Psalms 148

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40



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Bizarre at the Bazaar



Idle curiosity drew Linda Dent to the jewellery table at this year's Parkdale Christmas Bazaar, but her brief stop resulted in a fascinating encounter with a long-lost connection to her family's history.

About 20 years ago, a small pinky ring that was a family heirloom mysteriously disappeared from Linda's possession. She can't even remember the precise date, or where she was when the ring went missing.

So imagine her surprise when the ring turned up on the jewellery table in Memorial Hall. "How bizarre...such a coincidence...a total mystery," she said.

The ring originally belonged to Linda's great-great grandmother, who lived on a farm in the mid-1800s in what is now the US state of Texas. She was married in 1860, and her first child was a son, born three years later. When the boy's first tooth eventually

came out, it was made into a rose gold pinky ring for his mother, and it was gradually handed down through the family to Linda, who received it when she was 16.

Linda is delighted to be reunited with the link to her family's history, but she still has no clue as to how the ring ended up at the bazaar. Her mom has occasionally contributed articles for sale at the bazaar, and Linda wondered whether the ring might have inadvertently been included, but her mother has no recollection of that. Linda also sustained a break-in at her home a few years ago, but she doesn't think the ring was involved then either.

Because the ring is so unique (how many families mount the first tooth of their firstborn on a piece of jewellery?), Linda had no difficulty identifying it. The ring had a \$2 price tag, but she received it at no charge after excitedly explaining its story.

So how does Linda plan on making sure that the ring doesn't disappear again? "It will stay on my finger," she asserted.

She hopes that her good luck might rub off on someone else. "It's one more reason for people to go to the Parkdale Bazaar," she added.



STEWARDSHIP



Thinking with an Open Heart

Before I became an editor, I worked for a year as an administrative officer for one of the dearest managers that I have ever known. We worked like two peas in a pod. We met each morning to discuss the day's priorities and I could even anticipate his administrative needs before he expressed them.

One morning, I commented to him that he seemed distracted. He reminded me of the appointment that he had a couple of days earlier at the Heart Institute and told me that he was going to need

another open heart surgery to correct his congenital heart defect. If it was not successful, it would inevitably be lights out for him.

The famous heart surgeon had promised to telephone him within 24 hours, yet he was still waiting for the call. My boss was consumed with worry, anxiety and negative thoughts. How could the surgeon not make the time to call him back about such an important matter? Didn't the surgeon realize how stressful it was for my boss and his family? My boss was only 45 years old - much too young to die. How could the doctor be so uncaring and unreliable? The more my boss spoke, the more agitated he became.

"Maybe the doctor doesn't think that it is urgent," I suggested. My boss stared at me for what seemed an eternity. (Oops, I had not meant to sound flippant.) Indeed, I was sincere in trying to reassure him that perhaps there

was hope and that the situation was not quite as desperate as it seemed that morning. Suddenly, he smiled as my intention finally sank in. He had been so (justifiably) consumed with worry that he had not thought of that possibility!

Isn't it often that way? We are so consumed with anger, worry, fear, insecurity, confusion, hurt, frustration, revenge or anxiety that we cannot think with an open heart. We cannot imagine that the other person had other priorities or good intentions because our mind is paralyzed by negative thoughts and negative mindsets about life in general or others in particular.

Just like a computer, our thoughts become infected with a terrible virus and they must be stewarded and reprogrammed. Like any malfunction situation that needs reprogramming, it is always a good idea to consult the owner's manual – in this case, the Bible. In fact, it is

vital that we archive or delete our old negative ways of thinking and select positive, godly, faith-filled thoughts about ourselves and others each day because our thoughts become words; our words lead to actions; and it is our continued actions that eventually define our character.

Although it is sometimes very hard, it is always best that we choose faith-filled positive thoughts and that we love our adversaries by speaking words of blessing, using gentle correction as appropriate. It is sometimes surprising how quickly and dramatically our situation can improve when our heart is open to God's abundance and grace.

Of course, it is equally essential that we steward our attitude as well as our specific thoughts. It has been said that life is only 10 percent of what happens to us and 90 percent how we react to it. The good news is that we can make a choice each

day regarding the attitude that we will embrace for that particular day. We cannot change the past or that people act in certain ways toward us, but we can choose how we feel about something and how we respond to events and others in our life. Each new day brings God's mercies.

Fast forward to eight months later when I was working elsewhere as an editor and my boss finally had his open heart surgery. I do not recall whether I had told him that I had been praying for him and keeping him in my thoughts for the last eight months (he went on medical leave a week after the appointment at the Heart Institute), but I will always remember the day that I visited him in the hospital after his surgery. He was seated on the side of the bed, reading a newspaper. He looked up and smiled broadly. My prayers had been answered and my heart was overjoyed.

Will your heart be open today to God's grace, joy and abundance?

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Hennessy, Chair
Stewardship Group

OPEN

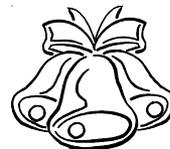
Second Blessing Coffee Shop



Sunday

December 7

After the morning worship
service, available at the congregational meeting





Rummage Sale

Notes from a Visitor

My grandparents, Derek and Helen Fortune, belong to Parkdale United Church. They also go to Church there. They help with the rummage sale and the bazaar. This year I got to help. My mom and I spent 4 days there from Toronto. Friday we sorted and Saturday was the sale. I worked with my mom at the linens table. I noticed 3 wonderful things about it. It is non-expensive, it helps people who are poor and the money goes to the Church to pay for programs in

the building. It is good for kids and adults and there are very nice, intelligent people helping you. The next event is the bazaar on November 1st. You can donate too. It makes the donators feel good and it helps the Church and you.

Submitted by Erin Fortune

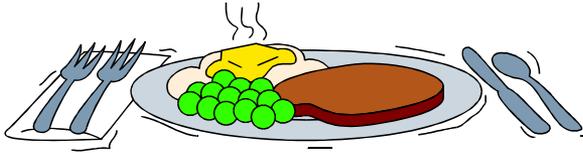
Age 8



Bridge at Parkdale

No bridge in December

IN FROM THE COLD



Our In From The Cold Ministry is in full swing for another season. Can you believe - our SEVENTH season?! We were happy to welcome back many familiar friends, both guests and volunteers, as well as some who came for the first time. Over our first three weeks, our guests numbered 83, 118 and 128 respectively.

We are grateful for our new energy efficient freezer and again thank the members of the congregation who made this purchase possible. We are also grateful for the generous supply and variety of vegetables which came from our Stewardship Garden.

In spite of the inconvenience of all the construction on Wellington Street this past summer, all our generous donors continue to support us.

Please take time to express your appreciation to the following merchants as you shop:

Bridgehead Coffeehouses, GT Express, Harvest Loaf Bakery, Herb and Spice, Morris Home Hardware, Ottawa Bagel Shop and Deli, Parma Ravioli, Ottawa Food Bank, The Real Canadian Superstore, The Table Vegetarian Restaurant, Saslove's Meat Market, Three Bakers & A Bike Bakery and Café, and Trillium Bakery.

Clay Cardillo, our Chef Extraordinaire, is also back again and we are most grateful.

Our guests express their appreciation over and over. We give thanks that we have the opportunity to serve in this ministry that is making a positive difference in our community.



Hazel Bowen, coordinator of the In From the Cold program, checks the menu in preparation for the first meal of the fall/winter series, which began last month

Volunteers prepare take-home sandwiches for In From the Cold guests.



Volunteers prepare the meal in our well-equipped and maintained kitchen



An injured arm did not deter Nancy Garrard from volunteering at the In From the Cold meal program



Clay Cardillo, chef of the In From the Cold program, hard at work preparing food for the first meal.



RECIPE

Quick and Easy Recipes for the Holidays

These three recipes are great for those who want all the wonderful flavours of homemade cooking but don't want to spend even an extra minute in the kitchen preparing them.

Three Cheese Dip

- 1 cup beer
- 1 tbsp cornstarch
- 1 tbsp water
- 2 cups Cheddar (8 oz.), grated
- 1 oz. cream cheese, cut into pieces
- 1 oz. blue cheese, crumbled
- ½ tsp Dijon mustard
- ½ tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1-2 loaves of bread, preferably a mix of dark rye or pumpernickel and sourdough



Simmer beer in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Meanwhile, whisk together cornstarch and water in a small bowl or glass. Add the cornstarch mixture to the beer and cook, whisking until slightly thickened, about 2 minutes. Lower the heat and whisk in cheeses ½ cup at a time, allowing each addition to melt before adding the next. Add mustard and Worcestershire sauce with mixing. Pour the dip into a heat-proof bowl and serve hot with pieces of bread for dipping. Makes about 2 cups.

Peggy's Pecan Pieces

This recipe was submitted by Valerie Hum on behalf of Peggy who brought this treat to Parkdale's bridge group this past summer.

¾ cup butter
¾ cup brown sugar
1 cup pecan pieces
20 graham wafers



Preheat oven to 350°F. In a microwave safe bowl, cook the butter and brown sugar on medium low in the microwave for 3 minutes. Stir butter mixture, return to microwave and cook for an additional 3 minutes. Line a 9 x 13-inch cookie sheet with graham wafers. Pour butter mixture over wafers. Sprinkle with pecans. Bake in oven for 8 to 10 minutes, or until bubbly. Let cool and then break into pieces.

Chocolate Macaroons

Make this recipe extra festive by using both green and red maraschino cherries. This recipe is great for cookie exchanges, as it can easily be doubled or tripled.

5 1/2 cups flaked coconut
½ cup cocoa
1 can sweetened condensed milk
2 tsp vanilla extract
about 24 red (and green) maraschino cherries,
halved



Heat oven to 350°F. Generously grease cookie sheet. In a large bowl, stir together coconut and cocoa; stir in sweetened condensed milk and vanilla until well blended.

Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto prepared cookie sheet. Press cherry half into center of each cookie.

Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until almost set. Immediately remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely. Store loosely covered at room temperature. Makes about 4 dozen cookies.



NEWS FROM THE PEWS



Congratulations to Ray and June Watson who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct 16, 2008.

Conogratulations to Joanne and Ron Heinbuch who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently.

Congratulations to Judy and Richard Hamley who celebrated 25 years of marriage.

Congratulations to Bartosz Bober and Hyae Young Chun who were

married on November 1.

Congratulations to Rick Cunliffe who recently received an award for excellence in wood design given by The Canada Wood Council for the Beechwood National Memorial Centre project. LuAnn and Rick travelled to Toronto for the awards ceremony.

The congregation extends its congratulations to Maxime and Laura Valcin on the baptism of their son Devon, to Maria Cinquino and Casey McLean on



Devon

the baptism of their daughter Sofia, and to Robert Johnson and Monique Ramdhan on the baptism of their daughter Sophie, all on November 23, 2008.

After completing her degree in journalism in May, Chania Bailey has now also completed the diploma from Centennial College, and is living and seeking her first position in Toronto.

News from the Sunday School:

Callum Underhill has started his hockey career, in the Initiation league with the West End Hockey League. Way to go Callum...

Honor Charley is in a play at school - he plays the Petit Chat. Good luck remembering your lines, Honor.

Jevon Small-Service is enjoying track and field at school. They visit other schools to compete, mostly in the spring.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald wants to remind everyone that the Christmas Pageant will be held on December 21.



Sophie



Sofia

Birthdays in December

Our warmest
greetings to



1st Josée
Mela
3rd: Ryan Goetz
5th Nicholas McGregor
6th Donovan Sealy
6th Steward Drodge
7th Karel Nelson
8th Carson Duquette
9th Andrea Harris
10th Joanna Hamley
11th Clara Lu
13th June Coll
13th Nicole Greaves
14th Emily Bailey
19th Alex Ngwafusi
20th John Bailey
27th Derek Fortune
29th Andrew Scott

If you would like your birthday to be a secret, please let Jennifer in the office know and we will leave you off the list.



LETTERS

Dear Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent generous donation to Operation Go Home. Please know that this donation and your support are much appreciated. We reunite over 400 youth with their families every year - that's one youth every three days who gets a second chance. Our drop-in sees 30-40 youth every day; youth who need food, clothing, counselling or just a safe place to be for a while.

As a non-profit organization, we rely heavily on donations from our friends in the public. We thank you for supporting Operation Go Home and our work in the community.

Elsbeth McKay,
Executive Director.

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Stewardship Group, I am writing to express my heartfelt thanks to Scott Andrews

for his leadership of the half-day God and Money Workshop on Saturday, November 22.

The workshop was opened by Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey, whose introductory comments were insightful and interesting. Anthony provided the theological framework for the workshop and shared with us the 7 reasons why money seems to be so appealing and important.

Scott's presentation was excellent. His passion for the subject and his thorough preparation were evident. His presentation was interspersed with small group discussions and a good mix of videos from the well-known Good Sense Ministries.

Feedback was extremely positive. Participants indicated that Scott's delivery was wonderful and that the workshop surpassed their expectations. Many encouraged Scott to give the presentation again in 2009. Some also enquired about a follow-up budget workshop and a similar workshop for Parkdale's youth.

Once again, thank you for the wonderful leadership Scott.
Sincerely,

Barbara Hennessy, Chair
Stewardship Group

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TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION

by Gloria Goodine



Someone once said, “*Real life can be more remarkable than invented tales.*” . . . such as in the case of my own life.

It was Shanghai, 1954. I was barely 3 months old and Dad, Mum, Grand Dad and 3 siblings (all under 6 years) were on a ship bound for Hong Kong. You see, life had become more restrictive for Westerners (my Grand Dad being from England) and Eurasians (my parents being of English/Chinese ancestry) under the Communist regime, and the family had decided it was time to leave Shanghai while they still were able to do so legally.

The voyage to Hong Kong took several days and was quite eventful. The seas were rough and Mum was in bed with seasickness. Bill, the eldest (who was 6), was given the responsibility of washing diapers, while Janet (4 years old) guided our partially-blind Grand Dad carefully around the ship, and Robert (2 years old) charmed the ship’s passengers and crew with his command of the Chinese language. And what of baby Gloria? Mum would recall this tale often during family gatherings and end by saying, “. . . . thank goodness, Gloria was such a good baby!” In fact, this was closer to the truth than you can imagine, as apparently I was a contented baby and happy to stay in my crib most of the time, so much so that Mum (whom you will remember was seasick) occasionally forgot to feed me!

Back to the story. We had finally made it to Hong Kong and freedom, unable to bring much in the way of material wealth with us, except for a few pieces of luggage and some gold jewelry that was

smuggled out of Shanghai in my diapers! Our exhausted and bedraggled family was met at the docks by members of a Christian association (that was affiliated with the Emmanuel Church in Shanghai where my family attended services) whose responsibility it was to assist refugees coming out of China and thus began our new life in Hong Kong with our extended Christian family.

Dad quickly found a job with help from the local Christian community, while Mum stayed home to raise the family and take care of Grand Dad. Fast forward and ten years later (1964) Dad was among several church members gathered at a plot of land with spade in hand, to plant trees and to officially inaugurate the Kowloon Baptist Church. One year later, the Kowloon Baptist Church was erected and formally dedicated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Over time, our family became more and more involved in the life

and activities of the church — Dad became a Deacon, the Church Treasurer, taught Sunday School, Mum became the Church Secretary and President of the Women’s Missionary Union, and my siblings and I (now 6 in total) were baptized by full immersion, attended Sunday School and sang in the choir.

Some of you may recall I travelled to Hong Kong last October to visit my sister and brother. During my brief stay, Janet and I returned to the Kowloon Baptist Church for the first time in about 20 years. The visit brought back many memories, especially the fine hymns that we could still remember after all these years — Equally amazing was the fact that we recognized our former neighbor (and church organist) well into her eighties, singing in the choir!

We are nearing the end of 2008. I am thankful to have led such a “remarkable” life, starting with my birth in Shanghai and growing up in Hong Kong, having lived and

worked in 9 countries, and now nicely settled in Canada, and all the while, behind the scenes, who has been guiding me? I am reminded of one of my favorite hymns – “*All the way my Saviour leads me, what have I to ask beside? For I*

know what e'er befalls me, Jesus doeth all things well.”

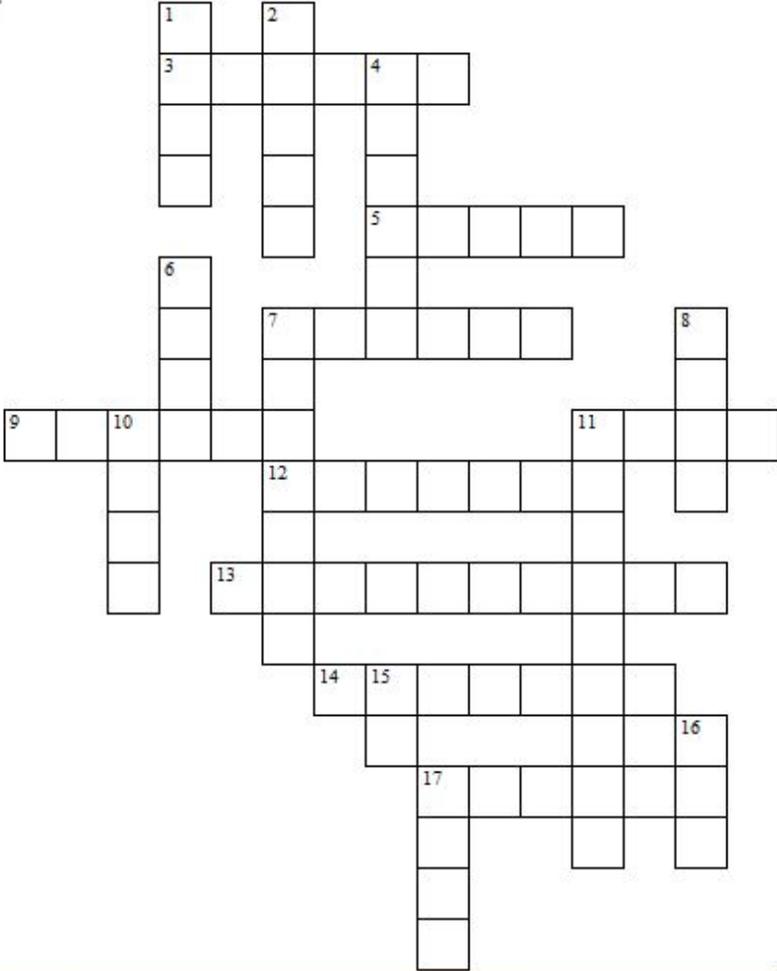
He most certainly does!

The international dinner was a great success - many thanks to those who worked hard to make this a memorable event. The money raised (\$1,300) will be divided between Haiti Hurricane relief and the North Street reconstruction project.





Christmas Crossword Puzzle



Answers are on page 46

ACROSS

- 3 Jesus' age when he was taken to Jerusalem
- 5 "The ____ of God was upon him"
- 7 Jesus was laid in this
- 9 First name of the member of Parkdale who played Jesus in the Pageant of 1995
Hint: His Father is a trustee at Parkdale and his Mother sings in the Parkdale choir
- 11 "Mary, of whom was ____ Jesus"
- 12 In 1952, the newly-named Men's ____ Club of Parkdale United Church used to decorate the interior of the sanctuary at Christmas
- 13 Parkdale member who sewed many of the costumes for the Pageant (2 words)
- 14 Parkdale members Agnes Caldwell and Joyce Warren donated the nativity scene and advent ____ that appear at the front of the sanctuary during advent
- 17 "Mary was espoused to ____"

DOWN

- 1 This went before the wise men
- 2 He was king at the time of Jesus' birth
- 4 "Behold, a ____ shall be with child"
- 6 The wise men came from here
- 7 Popular oratorio written by Handel that is sung during advent
- 8 Mother of Jesus
- 10 A female ancestor of Jesus, as recorded in Matthew 1
- 11 Jesus' birthplace
- 15 The year from Jesus' birth
- 16 "Ye shall find ____ babe wrapped in swaddling clothes"
- 17 "Where is he that is born king of the ____?"



Special Christmas Offering

The Special Christmas offering this year will be shared between **The Mission & Cornerstone - Housing for Women.**

The Mission is a shelter for homeless people in the Ottawa area. The Mission reflects Jesus' love by helping men, women and children with food, shelter, clothing and skills.

Cornerstone - Housing for Women provides safe and supportive housing for a diversity of women. Cornerstone is unique as it is the only community-based emergency shelter and housing program for homeless single women in the region.

Your Christmas offering can be placed in the special "Christmas" envelope, or marked as "Christmas" on any regular envelope or blue envelope.



PRESBYTERY REPORT

Ottawa Presbytery met on Tuesday, November 11, 2008 at Kanata United Church. This was one of the two program meetings scheduled for each year. The Church in Society Committee and the Global Partners Committee worked cooperatively to develop an educational process focusing on “Listening for Peace”. There was no business agenda for the meeting.

Rev. Dr. Graeme Carruth called the court to order and asked the court to stand in a moment of remembrance. The following announcements were highlighted: the lecture by Senator Roche at Southminster on December 4, 2008; a call to be mindful of how we can be stewards for the future by Paul Sales, Special Gifts Officer of the United Church for this region; encouragement by Carolyn Ruda, the M&O Conference Mission and Service Enthusiast, who reminded the court of the invitation to make



Sunday, November 23, 2008 a time for supporting the Mission and Service Fund through a special ‘Remembering our Blessings’ offering; Andrew Hyde, the Presbytery Youth and Young Adult Minister asked that congregations be reminded of

the retreat for middle school teens and the Youth Leader Training Day.

Rev. Read Sherman called the court to a time of remembrance which included the presentation of the “Fallen of Canada 2008” with images of those who have died in the past year while in military service. The presentation was prepared and shared by Rev. Neil Parker, a United Church Minister and Chaplain in the Canadian Forces.

The drumming of Bev Souliere moved the assembly into a time of reflection on ‘Listening for Peace’. The ‘Prayer to the Four Directions’ was led by Kathryn Fournier, one of the workshop leaders for the evening. The invitation to listen for peace by

Rev. Ellie Barrington was presented through a series of quotes about listening, interwoven with images from the 'Quilt of Belonging' featuring particularly those squares created by Canadian Aboriginal communities, and then moving to those from Israel and Palestine.

There was then a choice of three workshops to further engage in the work for 'Listening for Peace'.

Workshop 1 - Stories of a Native Man

Kelly Running Wolf is from Oka. He is a First Nations Elder, with his roots in the Mi'kmaq (Micmac) nation. He is a member of Montreal Presbytery where he is the representative from Kanesatake and he is also chair of the Native Concerns Committee of the M&O Conference. Kelly is a survivor of the Shubenacadie residential school.

Rev. James Scott - Jamie has worked in peacemaking and conflict resolution both inside and outside the church. Since 2003, Jamie has served the national office of the United Church as the General Council Officer for Residential Schools where he brings his commitment to

restorative justice to the areas of policy and programming

Workshop 2 - Stories of a Native Woman

Kathryn Fournier is a member of the Pinaymootang First Nation in Manitoba. Her mother's parents attended the Rupertsland Indian Industrial School near Winnipeg, which was run by the Anglican Church. Her father is Francophone. Kathryn works at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in the Aboriginal and Circumpolar Affairs Division. She is a member of Glebe-St James United Church and is also a member of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, a body of the World Council of Churches.

Workshop 3 - Stories of Palestine and Israel

Jonathan Wouk has been involved with the Palestine-Israel issue for over forty years. He taught Political Science at Dalhousie University and the University of Pittsburgh in the 1970s and 1980s. For three years he was Board President of OCISO. As a hospital chaplain from 1996-

2004, Jonathan worked with clergy and lay people of all faith-traditions and with some of the inter-faith groups active in Ottawa. Since retiring, he has taught at the Ottawa Lay School of Theology, lectured at religious institutions in the region, and been active in the Ottawa Arab-Jewish dialogue group “Potlucks for Peace”.

Samah Sabawi is a Human Rights and Social Justice advocate who lives in Kanata. She says: “Shortly after I was born in Gaza my family fled the 1967 war, took shelter in a refugee camp in Jordan and settled for a while in Saudi Arabia before emigrating to Australia. Later I was married in Syria to a man I met in Egypt and we ended up living in a series of cities before we finally came to Canada”.

Rev. Dr. Tom Sherwood is the Ecumenical Chaplain at Carleton University. He is engaged in many ways with interfaith dialogue, including being a founder member of one of the local Jewish-Christian dialogue groups.

The meeting concluded with a plenary gathering for closing worship during which learnings from the workshops were shared.

The **Canadian Centennial Choir** and **Ottawa Pocket Opera** will present a holiday concert featuring Gian-Carlo Menotti’s beloved opera Amahl and the Night Visitors and other seasonal music.

Performances are Saturday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. at **Parkdale United Church**, 429 Parkdale and Sunday, December 7 at 3 p.m. at **Orléans United Church**, 1111 Orléans Blvd.

Tickets are \$18-22 in advance and \$20-25 at the door; families \$60 in advance or \$65 at the door; accompanied children under 12 free.

Contact Valerie Hum for tickets at 728-8830

Solists:

The Mother: Nadia Petrella
Amahl: Ben Shipley
King Kaspar: Michael Carty
King Melchior: François Doucet
The Page: Greg Delmage
Stage Direction: David MacAdam
Conductor: James Caswell



THANKFULNESS

Thanks to convenor Valerie Hum and the many people who hepled make this year's bazaar a great success.. the bazaar raised around \$13,700 for our ministries.

Thank you to guest preacher on Sunday November 16, Dr. David Lyon, from Kingston, Ontario.

Thanks to the Parkdale Orchestra for enriching our worship under the direction of Melanie Culina.

Thank you to LuAnn Cunliffe and the hand bell choir for their contribution to the service on November 23.

Emily Bailey did a great job of welcoming us all to International Children's Sunday on November 23. This involved a lot of practice to commit her words to memory.

Thank you to our Sunday School teachers - on a recent visit classes were humming along, with 17 in the pre-school class! Teachers had organized fun activities and meaningful lessons for all of our junior members.

JESUS LOVES ME

Submitted by Barbara Hennessy

Jesus loves me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow.
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.

(CHORUS)

YES, JESUS LOVES ME...
YES, JESUS LOVES ME...
YES, JESUS LOVES ME
FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

Though my steps are oh, so slow,
With my hand in His I'll go.
On through life, let come what
may,
He'll be there to lead the way.

(CHORUS)

Though I am no longer young,
I have much which He's begun.
Let me serve Christ with a smile,
Go with others the extra mile.

(CHORUS)

When the nights are dark and
long,
In my heart He puts a song.
Telling me in words so clear,
'Have no fear, for I am near.'

(CHORUS)

When my work on earth is done,
And life's victories have been
won.

He will take me home above,
Then I'll understand His love.

(CHORUS)

I love Jesus, does He know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.

(CHORUS)

White Gift Sunday

The White Gift tradition shares in the spirit of Christ and the God of love at Christmas. We give gifts of love to people in need. These gifts are often nonperishable food items which are distributed to people in the community, or warm clothes for the cold winter months. White Gift Sunday celebrates the stewardship of God's love and giving at the time of year when we remember the coming of the King of Kings.

White Gift Sunday is traditionally held at Parkdale on the first Sunday in January.

This Christmas it will be held on **January 4, 2009**. Bring

gifts, and they will be collected by the children to place at the Nativity Scene and will then be distributed to people in the community.

A SPECIAL REFLECTIVE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

**Parkdale Chapel, 7.00 pm
December 17, 2008**

The Advent and Christmas seasons are challenging for many people, who find they have trouble feeling "in the spirit" of things. This may be due to a recent (or anticipated) death of a family member or friend, the end of a marriage or a relationship, the loss of work or a move away from the place that has been home for some time. Often when people are focused on choosing gifts, planning meals, and singing Christmas carols, it can be hard to reconcile these activities with feelings of sadness and loss. Further, for many persons it seems as if there is nowhere that these difficult feelings can be acknowledged and validated. Once again, this year Parkdale

United is offering a supportive and reflective worship experience that acknowledges this kind of emotional space and lifts it before God.

All are welcome.

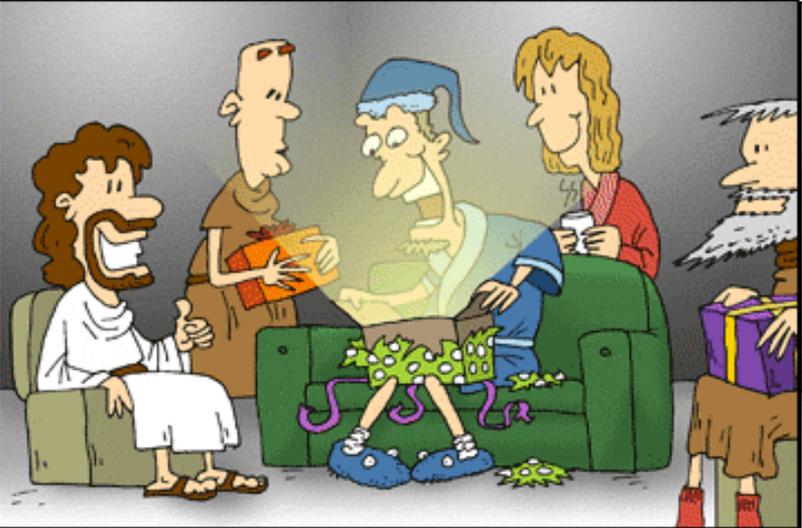
If you would like to discuss what will be taking place at this service, please feel free to speak with Rev. Dr. Bailey (613-728-8656, abailey@trytel.com). Special music and readings will be included.

How are our finances?

Parkdale's Ministries are primarily financed by donations. We depend on our congregation to provide the financing for our staff, building, programs, and financial support to the community and local and world mission activities.

We have a **deficit** of \$14,487.51 to the end of October. Please give generously!

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Thanks to Andrew S.

12-21-2007

ETERNAL LIFE, MY FAVORITE ... THANKS JESUS!



DISPATCHES FROM BRAZIL

Ecumenical Get-togethers, Various including Lutheran Cookies and Celebrating the Reformation

A very Merry Christmas to all! I am looking forward to Christmas in Canada. My nine months in Salvador seem to have passed very quickly, although December promises to move at a snail's pace. It already is and it isn't even December! I have extreme eagerness for time with my family.

Meanwhile, I have been keeping myself out of mischief and will write here about a few of my recent 'ecumenical' experiences.

Ecumenism: Refreshing the Continuing Dialogue at CESE

Every month, many and sometimes all CESE staff participate in a half-day meeting on a specific theme. This month, we began a series of meetings to explore the nature and scope of ecumenism in

Brazil, especially in the north-east. The purpose is to refresh our understanding of the significance of CESE's ecumenical roots and values and how our work should exemplify that commitment.

Seven pastors, priests and ministers met with the staff for a morning. All seven are and have been actively involved in CESE's work – contributing their own time and energy as well as prayers and often financial support from their congregations. A range of churches were represented, including Roman Catholic, Anglican, two of the Presbyterian Churches, as well as Baptist and Lutheran. Of course, the United Church of Canada was also fully engaged in the meeting.

All seven were asked to respond informally and fairly briefly to two questions:

- 1) What was going on in your church at the time you (and your congregation) started working with CESE? and
- 2) Why is it important for you? These were personal questions.



The pastors know each other well. Their mutual respect and friendship were abundantly evident as were their senses of humour and camaraderie. It was stimulating, informative and fun.

The pastors were also asked to talk with us about why their ‘church’ is involved. (For all but the Baptist pastor, this question referred to the national churches. But as Baptist Pastor Joel Zeferino said, “There is no Baptist

church in Brazil, only Baptist churches.”) On the other hand, there are three national Presbyterian churches in Brazil: the United Presbyterian Church, the Independent Presbyterian Church of Brazil and the Presbyterian Church of Brazil.

The pastors are personally and strongly committed to helping realize CESE’s mission: to defend and promote human rights and to help strengthen groups – large and small, formal and infor-

mal – who share in that human rights work. The churches came together 35 years ago to establish CESE for just that purpose. The Methodist church was one of the founding churches, but the national church has since withdrawn. Some Methodist congregations still participate.

As we all know only too well, in many parts of the world, including Brazil, churches and congregations have struggled recently. These struggles have distracted many of us from our Christian commitment to help the poor and disadvantaged. That is one reason that CESE asked the United Church of Canada to provide a staff person with qualifications and interest in both organizational development and ecumenical initiatives. And here I am!

That I am here reminds me of a Peanuts cartoon I once saw on a greeting card. Snoopy is gazing at Woodstock with a bit of puzzlement on his face. (I think maybe the little bird was bathing in his water dish or something like that.)

In his overhead thought bubble, Snoopy is saying to himself, “You aren’t what I prayed for exactly, but apparently you’re the answer.” (Matthew 6:8)

Future staff sessions will continue the focus on ecumenical relations. Specifically we will explore what the Bible says about ecumenism and also the doctrine and policies that guide each of the churches regarding ecumenical initiatives. I am looking forward to those sessions very much.

Lutheran Cookies

First of all, congratulations to Val for her coordination of the Parkdale Bazaar on November 1. The best ever, right? I think we say that every year – with justification!

I am learning about bazaars in Brazil thanks to an invitation to make cookies at a nearby Lutheran church. The minister is an active participant in various CESE activities. Last week, I spent a morning with about 10 women at a Lutheran church (Igreja



The cookie team

Evangelica Luterana). We were making cookies – hundreds of them - for their Christmas Bazaar to be held next Saturday, including everybody's favourite Brazilian and German recipes.

My skills were assessed and I was quickly assigned to chop nuts and orange peel. I also helped roll cookie dough and cut angels, stars, Christmas trees, hearts, bells, and lambs to be decorated. Try to imagine the setting: outdoors, on a large concrete patio under a permanent roof to protect us from the sun. My favourites were little spicy cookies full of bits

of prune, coconut, nuts and orange peel. After baking and cooling, they were dipped in chocolate!

With temperatures of almost 30°C, you can imagine the challenges involved. No such problems

making Christmas cookies in Canada and we all laughed,

Mid-morning we stopped for refreshments – no surprise there! Our “coffee” break began with 4 or 5 Christmas carols with harmony and guitar accompaniment. Then we enjoyed an actual feast of fresh juices and fruit – pineapple, mango, papaya, banana, caju, as well as cheese, various kinds of breads and jams (from last year's bazaar) and little cups of very strong black coffee (or herbal teas).

I left at noon for my Portuguese class so I missed the hot traditional meal that was being prepared. Next year, I will be there

for the day! You can see some cultural differences in the photos, but the hard work, camaraderie and sense of fun are perhaps universal.

My life here is enormously enriched with such invitations. As I have reported many times, I am always warmly welcomed.

Reformation Celebration – Sunday, November 9

During the month of October, my choir worked hard to prepare for celebrating the Reformation on Reformation Sunday, November 9. We HAD to work hard because Bach's cantata, *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* or rather, *Castelo Forte é O Nosso Deus*, is difficult and quite different from many of our anthems. We were accompanied by a fine, small orchestra and our choir provided choral accompaniment to four excellent soloists. It was difficult music for us but, *graças a Deus*, we sang very well. Anchored (I like to think) by the tenor section, which has a major role in the choral parts of the cantata.

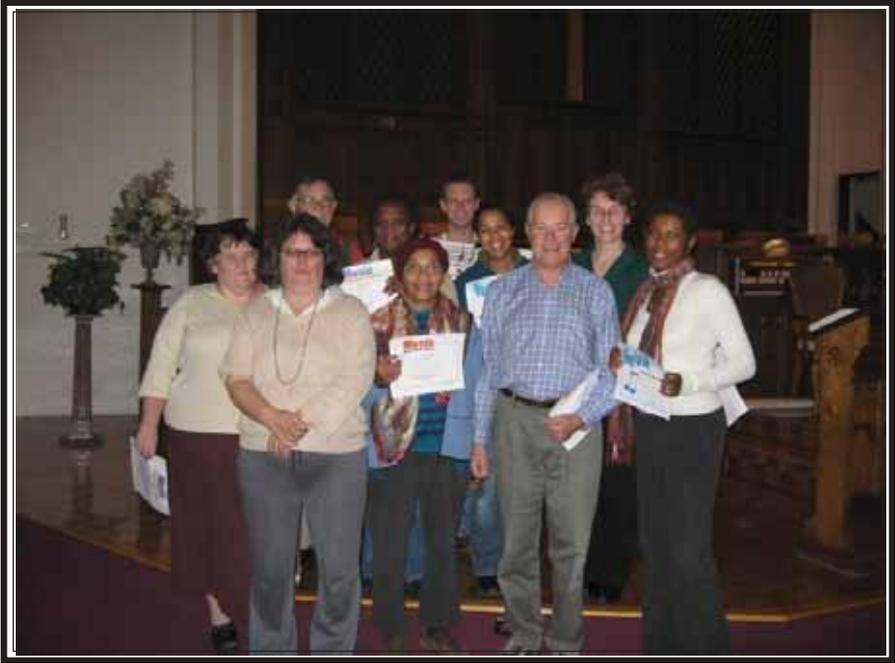
My choir is an ecumenical group and, on November 9, we were singing and worshipping in a Presbyterian church which is associated with the Presbyterian Church of Brazil.

I had another reason to celebrate that weekend. My United Church of Canada liaison person, Mark Hathaway, was visiting CESE and me and was able to attend the service. His visit provided an opportunity to talk about my life and work here. I benefit from the advice he can offer based on his own experience in Peru a few years ago and what he can share about other UCC partners and overseas mission initiatives in this region.

Thank you, Mark, for your visit – it was great – and for your continuing support.

I will close as I began – warmly wishing you all the joys and peace of the Christmas season.

Kathleen



Troy Cross, Parkdale's Organist & Music Director, and Corinna Anderson, a piano teacher and member of the congregation, presented a course on the basics and essentials of music, entitled "Music 101", which concluded last month. Several members of the congregation took advantage of these informative and interesting sessions. It is possible that another course might be held next year.

Some of the participants are pictured at the conclusion of the sessions.

COMPASS

Community of Men at Parkdale Acknowledging the Significance of Scripture

Next **COMPASS** meeting is Friday, December 5th. The group will meet at the Ottawa Bagel Shop for breakfast.

The Church Library



As we seek to expand our Church Library now located in the Friendship Lounge/Second Blessing Coffee Shop off Memorial Hallway, we are inviting the congregation to consider donating books and other resources. This may be done by making a Christmas gift to the Library, or donating a resource in memory of someone. Please choose from the list below and contact Jennifer in the Church office with your choices(s), so as not to have duplication. Other suggested titles will follow in subsequent 'Messengers'. For further information, please feel free to contact Barbara or Anthony.

Suggested Titles

Books by Kathleen Norris

Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith

Silence, Solitude, Simplicity: A Hermitus Love Affair with a

Noisy, Crowded, and Complicated World

Acedia and Me

Dakota: A Spiritual Geography

God With Us (K. Norris is one of the contributors, edited by Grey Pennoyer & Gregory Wolfe)

Books by Walter Brueggemann

The Prophetic Imagination

Hopeful Imagination

The Bible Makes Sense

Peace

The Land is Mine: Six Biblical Land Ideologies

Using God's Resources wisely:

Isaiah and Urban Possibility

Biblical Perspectives on Evangelism: Living in a Three-Storeyed Universe

Mandate to Difference: A n Invitation to the Contemporary Church

A Social Reading of the Old Testament: Prophetic Approaches to Israel's Communal Life

Books by Brian D. McLaren

Finding Faith: A Self-Discovery Guide for your Spiritual Quest

A New Kind of Christian

Church on the Other Side: Doing Ministry in the Postmodern Matrix

A Generous Orthodoxy: Why I am a Missional, Evangelical, post/protestant, Liberal/Conservative,

Mystic/Poetic, Biblical, Charismatic/Contemplative
The Secret Message of Jesus: Uncovering the Truth that Could Change Everything
More Ready Than You Realize: Evangelism as Dance in the Postmodern Matrix

Racial Justice, Diversity and Intercultural Issues in the Church

The Heart of Racial Justice: How Soul Change Leads to Social Change, Brenda McNeil & Rick Richardson
That All May be One: A Resource for Educating toward Racial Justice (United Church of Canada Resource)
One Body, One Spirit: Principles of Successful Multiracial Churches by George Yancey
Black and White Together: The Search for Common Ground by Danny Duncan Collum
A Healing Journey for Us All: Uncovering the Wounds of Empire (UCC- Aboriginal issues)
Toward Justice and Right Relationship: a Beginning (VHS, UCC study resource)
Our Roots, Our Lives: Glimpses of faith and Life from Black and

Asian Canadian Women, Wenh-In Ng
Sacred Acts, Holy Change: Faithful Diversity and Practical Transformation, by Eric Law
Inclusion: Making Room for Grace by Eric Law
Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness and Reconciliation by Miroslav Wolf

Books by Philip Yancey
The Jesus I Never Knew
What's so Amazing about Grace? Disappointment with God
Where is God When it Hurts?
Soul Survivor
Prayer

Books by Philip Jenkins
The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity
The New Faces of Christianity: Believing the Bible in the Global South
God's Continent: Christianity, Islam and Europe's Religious Crisis

Books by Marva J. Dawn
Being Well While We're Ill: Wholeness and Hope in Spite of Infirmary

My Soul Waits: Solace for the Lonely from the Psalms
Unfettered Hope: A Call to Faithful Living in an Affluent Society
Is it a Lost Cause?: Having the Heart of God for the Church's Children
Sexual Character: Beyond Technique to Intimacy

Books by Annie Dillard

Teaching a Stone to Talk
Holy the Firm
Pilgrims at Tinker Creek
Tickets for a Prayer Wheel (poems)

C.S. Lewis

The Problem of Pain
The Weight of Glory
Mere Christianity
any of the Narnia Chronicles

Marcus Borg

The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith
Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time

N.T. Wright

Jesus and the Victory of God
Following Jesus: Biblical Reflections on Discipleship
The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions (this book was written with Marcus Borg)

Frederick Buechner

Secrets in the Dark
Listening to your Life
Peculiar Treasures: A Biblical Who's Who
A Room Called Remember: Uncollected Pieces

L Gregory Jones

Embodying Forgiveness: A Theological Analysis

Karen Armstrong

A History of God: The 4000 Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity and Islam
Holy War: The Crusades and Their Impact on Today's World

A subscription to Sojourners – see information on www.sojo.net

Children Faith Formation and Ministry

BIBLES

The Children's Bible in 365 Stories
Batchelor, Mary Lion Children's Books
The Toddler's Bible Beers, V. Gilbert Chariot Victor Publishing
Bible Stories dePaola, Tomie Putnam/Zondervan
The Beginner's Bible
Henley, Karin Zondervan

ADVENT

Here Comes the King Bass,
George CSS Publishing Company
The Wonder of Christmas Carlson,
Melody Crossway Books
Advent is for Children Kelemen,
Julie Ligueroi Publications

CHRISTMAS/ EPIPHANY

Christmas is Love Anglund, Joan
Walsh Harcourt
The Donkey's Dream Berger,
Barbara Penguin Putnam Books
Song of the Camels Coatsworth,
Elizabeth North-South Books
A Northern Nativity Kurelek,
William Tundra Books
Amahl & the Night Visitors
Menotti, Gian Carlo William
Morrow
The Night Before Christmas (Sign
Language) Moore, Clement C.
Kendall Green Publ.

PRAYERS, POEMS, & PSALMS

My First Prayers and Psalms
Random House Lap Library
The Lord Is My Shepherd
Anderson, Joel Golden Books
A Little Book of Poems & Prayers
Anglund, Joan Walsh Simon &
Schuster
Can I Open My Eyes When I
Pray? Brown, Susan Taylor

Hyperion

A Child's Garden of Verses
Kinkade, Thomas Tommy Nelson
Inc.
A Child's Book of Prayers Trist,
Glenda DK Publishing
Prayers from Around the World
Wilkin, Eloise Golden Books
The Lord's Prayer, Ladwig, Tim
Eerdmans

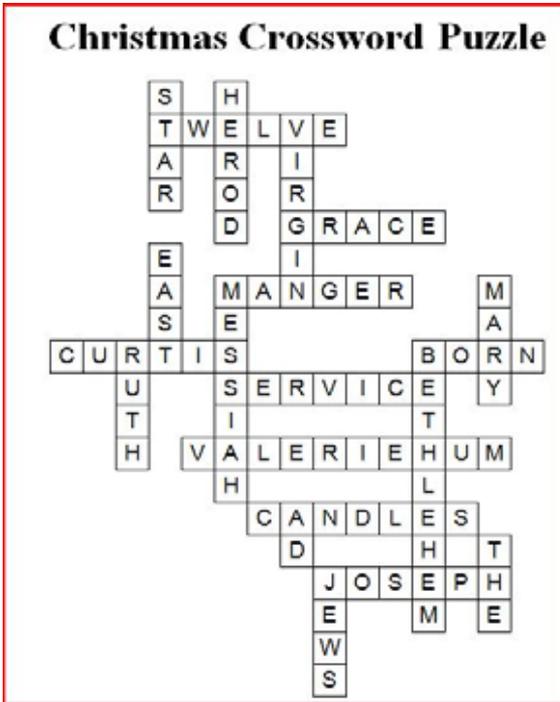
NEW TESTAMENT

The Miracles of Jesus dePaola,
Tomie Holiday House
The Parables of Jesus dePaola,
Tomie Holiday House
The Story of Jesus Watson, Jane
Werner Golden Books

FAITH/ SPIRITUALITY

The Children's Book of Faith
Bennett, William Bantan
Doubleday Dell Bks.
Just In Case You Ever Wonder
Lucado, Max Thomas Nelson
God's Paintbrush Sasso, Sandy E.
Jewish Lights
Pilgrim's Progress, Schmidt, Gary
D. Eerdmans
Who Am I?, Patterson, Katherine
Eerdmans
Does God Know How to Tie
Shoes? Carlstrom, Nancy
Eerdmans

Answers



Seen in church bulletins....

- "The cost of attending the Prayer and Fasting Conference includes meals."
- Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation."
- "The sermon this morning will be 'Jesus walks on the water'. This evening's sermon will be 'Searching for Jesus'."
- At this evening's service, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?'. Come early and listen to our choir practice."

PARKDALE'S E-MAIL CHAIN

Would you like to receive the announcement section of the bulletin by e-mail or be reminded of events by e-mail? Simply send an e-mail to pdale@trytel.com and ask to be added to the announcement list, the reminder list, or both, and we will be glad to send you an e-mail every week. Privacy laws prohibit us from sending this type of e-mail unless an individual requests us to do so.

WOULD YOU LIKE GIVINGS ENVELOPES?

Offering envelopes for 2009 will be ready for distribution in early December.

Parkdale United Church is financed by congregational donations. If you do not have envelopes and would like to, please contact the office and let Jennifer know. Using regular envelopes with your own number helps ensure that all your givings are included in one charitable tax receipt at year-end.

the Messenger



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Call (613) 728-8656 to volunteer

The Parkdale Messenger is published at Parkdale United Church, on the last Sunday of each month and includes a calendar of events and activities for the following month. We appreciate any submissions to the Parkdale Messenger. We reserve the right to edit, condense or reject submissions, but will try to find space for all.

Next issue: January 2009.
Please submit articles and materials to pdale@trytel.com or the church office by December 17.



The 2008 Parkdale Bazaar



Tessa Robertson and Jenna Leavy were two of the excellent cafe waitresses