

the Messenger

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



Photo by Peter Meerburg

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Editor: Danica

We are always looking for new ideas, volunteers and submissions.

We reserve the right to edit, condense or reject submissions, but will try to find space for all.

Next issue: February 2015.

Editor next issue: Elise Menni

Please submit articles and materials to

messenger@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca

or the church office

by Sunday January 18th

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What Are We Seeking?

*I do not ride on camels,
through a wind-swept desert.
I do not carry gifts that are fit
for a king.*

*I do not see the star that
guides the stalwart riders.*

Yet I, too, am seeking.

I, too, am longing.

*I go among the busy days
yearning for the Unknown
One...*

*Holy One, you who reveal,
make manifest your presence.*

Open the eyes of my heart.

Awaken my unattuned spirit.

The Christian season of Epiphany celebrates the “shining forth”, or revelation, of God to humankind in human form, in the person of Jesus Christ. It is a season that concludes the twelve days of the Christmas season. Epiphany invites reflection on and commitment to the ways in which we may discern and join God in God’s self-revelation to all humanity. The season of

Epiphany invites us to “arise, shine; for our light has come.” (Isaiah 60:1)



“Light” is a profound metaphor and source for our quest of seeking. The signature text in Epiphany that highlights seeking is the one describing the arrival of the wise ones from the East who bring their worship and their gifts of frankincense, myrrh and gold to present in adoration of the child Jesus (Matthew 1:1-12).

The essence of the story is not about the physical gifts *per se* but about what they symbolize about the identity, life,



mission and meaning of God's gift of the person of Jesus. Namely, that Jesus is from divine royal lineage inaugurating a God's reign wholly unlike anything humans can construct (gold); that the "aroma" of the inbreaking of this way of ordering creation's life and relationships will be a just and healing one (frankincense); and that the way in which this newness will be ushered in will be by way of absorbing pain, suffering and rejection, and even crucifixion (myrrh).

Through Christ, we are all called to seek both God ("Seek the Lord while He may be found." Isaiah 55:6) and God's reign ("Seek first the Kingdom of God" – Matt. 6:33), and to present our gifts of faith, time, intellect, money, energy, creativity, commitment, and joy. To do so is at one and the same time an act of worship, a way of clarifying what we are really seeking, an act of witness to our faith and an act of practicable significance to the redemption of life in the world

that God so loves. The scope of God's self-revelation is the world. The spiritual, relational, communal, political, economic, recreational life of the world matters to God. God gets into the weeds of human life – that's one of the reasons Jesus came; to get his feet muddied and his hands dirty and his eyes moist and his heart broken.

By God's grace, our seeking will be hallowed, our offerings and service will be blessed, our witness to the saving, redeeming love of Christ will be strengthened, and all this will matter to the world. Dorothy Day of the Catholic Worker movement used to say that we should live in such a way that our lives wouldn't make much sense if the gospel were not true. Commenting on this conviction, Philip Yancey writes: *"if we do not live in a way that draws others to faith rather than repels them, none of our words will matter. Secular culture masterfully promises more than it can deliver...It takes active faith to follow Jesus' counter-culture"*

way.”

Speaking of making a difference in the world, this is the target year – 2015 – by which the Millennium Development Goals were to be substantially addressed. Established in 2000 the United Nations was joined by other global development agencies in establishing eight key problems to be tackled:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
- Achieve universal primary education.
- Promote gender equality and empower women.
- Reduce child mortality.
- Improve maternal health.
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases.
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop a global partnership for development

This month the Secretary-General of the UN will present

a report - The Road to Dignity – which will outline the progress made on the 8 goals thus far, and identify what is being called the ‘post-2015 development agenda’. It is reported that by 2030, three of the key commitments for the UN moving forward are ending the world AIDS epidemic, extreme poverty, and establishing strong measures for protecting the planet.

Surely what we seek in our lives and for the world that God so loves, includes offering prayers for and adding our efforts to initiatives that are consonant with God’s dream for human life on earth. This year, how will we bear witness and how will we get involved? For this will betray what we are truly seeking.

Blessed New Year Greetings to all

Anthony





PARKDALE COUNCIL REPORT NOVEMBER

REPORT OF COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2014

Matt Baker, on behalf of Chair Blaine Pauling who was vacationing in Berlin, welcomed members and passed the floor to Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey for the opening devotion. The devotion was designed to build on the enthusiasm that had been generated during Council's October 4 retreat and to encourage stewardship of our prayer life as elders of Parkdale United Church. Members were invited to consider prayer as dialogue as we opened by singing the first verse of "Breathe on Me, Breath of God". We then spent a few minutes quieting ourselves, meditating on Psalm 46:10 *"be still and know that I am God"*, and writing down anything that we were worried about, then handing these things over to God. After singing the second verse of "Breathe on Me, Breath of God", we spent a quiet time considering things we are thankful for, connecting with God, inspired by Psalm 100:4 *"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise."* After singing again, we spent time listening for the voice of Christ, as offered by 1 Samuel 3:9 *"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening,"* while focusing on the memory of thanksgiving and asking Christ what He would like us to know and learn from this, and to show us how He sees us. The

devotion ended with a word of encouragement to extend the listening prayer during the coming week, to deliberately find some time each day to spend in dialogue with God, and to choose a question or theme to repeat each day, carefully listening for any response. We closed by singing the final verse of "Breathe on Me, Breath of God".

Moving to the business section of the meeting, Matt noted that Blaine had advised him of a letter inviting Anthony to participate as a speaker at the Epiphany Explorations Conference and to be the guest preacher at St. Aidan's United Church in Victoria, BC from January 21-25, 2015. A positive response has been sent.

Council then heard from Samantha Tim, who very capably presented an overview of the findings of the Memorial Fund Working Group. The key message was that the Fund should be living and enduring, a sustainable source of funding for emergency needs both at Parkdale and more globally, a fund that is used and replenished. The Working Group vision includes a fund that provides inspiration to others to enthusiastically contribute time and money to various projects. This will require long-term commitment and imagination but we were reminded that with faith and confidence in God, we can do more than we can

imagine. The Report sets out nine recommendations, one of which pertains to a Stewardship Campaign to increase givings, in line with the vision of a future where the Memorial Fund is not used to offset operating deficits.

Overall, the Report was well received by Council; it was seen as a thoughtful and comprehensive document and thanks were offered to the Group for the good work that had been done in drafting it. Council asked for some time to provide written feedback, which may require modifications to the draft Report, after which a process will be determined for sharing with the congregation in advance of the Annual General Meeting in February, where it will be an agenda item.

The second item of business pertained to a fundraising proposal proposed by Jennifer Payne. Jennifer, who is a BeautiControl consultant, offered to sell some select products on Sundays when the Coffee Shop is open, proceeds to go to the sponsorship of the refugee family. Jennifer views her proposal as similar to the selling of honey and other products to raise money for Camp Kalalla. However, some resistance has been encountered and she was therefore seeking clarification of the process for approval of fund-raising projects.

After considerable discussion, it was decided that a decision on the current funding proposal be deferred,

pending the approval by Council of a comprehensive fundraising policy to be developed by the Stewardship Committee. There was then an expression of appreciation for Jennifer's effort to raise money for the refugee family.

Moving to the third agenda item, Carolynn Halkett spoke to the proposed list of ministries that had been distributed in advance of the meeting. The purpose of this document is to assist in revising the content of the Parkdale website, which is currently in need of revision, especially under the 'Ministries' tab. There were some suggested revisions and additional feedback was invited. Carolynn will revise the list based on feedback received and will then talk to various Committee Chairs to flesh out the details.

The final business item pertained to 2015 Council Nominations. Peter Meerburg provided a quick update on the status of these; there are 19 positions to fill in total. The importance of identifying someone to fill the role of Vice-Chair was noted. Council members were asked to prayerfully think about people in the congregation who might be willing to serve.

As at all Council meetings, Committee chairs provide written reports on recent activities and upcoming events, as well as a verbal update on the highlights of their work. A summary of these



PARKDALE COUNCIL REPORT CONTINUED

reports follows:

Financial statements to the end of September had been distributed in advance of the meeting. Kathleen Stephenson, on behalf of the **Finance Committee**, reported that as of the end of October 2014, a deficit of \$24K is forecast. Kathleen also reported that the Finance Committee is working on two policies: a revised investment policy statement and guidelines for people who handle cash.

On behalf of **Ministry and Personnel (M&P)**, Judy Hamley noted that meetings with staff to discuss goals and objectives took place during the month of October. Ministerial staff will share these with Council at an upcoming meeting. In addition, M&P hosted a staff appreciation dinner on Friday, November 21; this was an opportunity to thank all Parkdale staff for their commitment and hard work over the year.

Faye Beaufort, on behalf of the **Mission, Outreach and Justice Committee** thanked Rev. Debbie Roi for acting as MC at the very successful Celebrating Our Cultures Event, where almost \$900 was raised for the Refugee Fund. Faye also reported a successful start to the Fall Images and Stories series, with Faye, Anthony Bailey and Ken Elder presenting Greece in September and

Vita Savelieva talking about her “Unforgettable Summer of 1983” in various regions of Russia, and Ann Tompkins who presented “The Safari Serengeti” on November 28, 2014. Faye also reported that Elise Mennie, who leads Parkdale’s efforts on the Living Into Right Relations with Aboriginal People, attended The People’s Social Forum in August, where she participated in a workshop by the youth group “Assembly of Seven Generations”. Elise also attended the Kairos Covenant Chain Link Conference in October and provided a heads’ up with respect to a Reconciliation Walk to be held in Ottawa on May 31, 2015; the aim is to get 100,000 people walking to mark the end of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the presentation of its report and recommendations to government. Plans are in the works to organize an event after church on April 19, 2015, which would promote the walk and provide an opportunity for the congregation to learn more about indigenous rights and issues. Stay tuned for more information on this event. With respect to the refugee family from Syria, the government has advised of some new rules and additional requirements; a small group continues to work on responding to these. Fundraising efforts are going well, with interest in this project catching the attention of people far beyond the walls of Parkdale. A chart of some sort

indicating the status of our refugee fund is planned and will be placed in the Memorial Hallway when ready. A fund-raising light soup lunch is planned for March 8, 2015, and the “Murder Mystery” event will take place on April 26, 2015. Last but not least, Faye reported that the 2015 World Day of Prayer Service will be hosted by Parkdale, in cooperation with St. Matthias Anglican, St. George’s Roman Catholic, St. Stephen’s Presbyterian, and will take place on Friday, March 6, 2015. Beth Gutsell will be looking for volunteers to help make this service a success.

Ken Elder noted on behalf of **Property Trustees** that repairs to the brick masonry at the North Tower will require scaffolding, which will cost approximately \$2500, in addition to the cost of the brick repair itself which will be done by Lorenzo Balerna on a cost plus basis. The installation of an air conditioning unit in the church office will be a priority for next year. A new carpet cleaning machine has been acquired at a cost of \$2200 and Khan reports that it is an excellent machine. New air vents have been installed in the church office and in Anthony’s office. The dishwasher in the Ladies Parlour had a defect in one of the circuit boards; the problem has been fixed with the installation of a new timer for a cost of \$800. The two Volcano water tube boilers installed new in 1992 and converted to hot water in 1996 have developed a problem in the automatic controls; possible solutions are being

developed. The “Yard-Man” snow blower has developed some problems and David Baird has offered to take it for routine maintenance.

Marilyn Hahn reported that the **Membership Development Committee** had an enthusiastic response to the three week nametag blitz in October, with another 32 name tags ordered.

Barbara Faught, on behalf of the **Worship Committee**, advised that Don Macpherson accepted the position of Presiding Elder and Hugh Nelson agreed to take on the task of Chief Usher. Thank you, gentlemen! The Worship Committee, among many other things, assumes responsibility for decorating the sanctuary, doing a wonderful job for Thanksgiving and for Advent. Barbara also advised that two new banners will be hung in the new year and that Alan Menzies is constructing a new bulletin board for prayer requests to accommodate those who prefer that to using the prayer box.

Carolynn Halkett noted that the **Communications Committee** purchased and installed banners promoting the Christmas Bazaar and advised that the bulletin boards on the two doors leading from the sanctuary to Parkdale Avenue will be revised to focus on newcomers and will be updated every month; the first month will focus on December and the various Christmas services. Tweets will be sent periodically to thank various businesses for their



PARKDALE COUNCIL REPORT CONTINUED

contributions to In From the Cold.

Paul Crabtree reported on the activities of the **Christian Enrichment Committee**. We give thanks to all those who have agreed to teach Sunday School, with only one gap remaining in the teaching roster for the rest of the year. The Circus Workshop was thoroughly enjoyed by 19 children and we will see some of what was learned during the Christmas Pageant. The Youth Group is bonding well and is now ready to address spiritual themes. The Committee also explored possible options for helping older youth (post-Confirmation) to transition into participating in morning worship. A special spot in the sanctuary is one possibility. After Easter, a family event based on the DVD series and study book "Tough Guys and Drama Queens" is planned. The Committee prepared its submission for the 2015 Budget; due to the increased number of children, additional resources will be requested for Children and Youth Ministry, as well as for storage. Also, it was agreed that no one would be turned away from any of Parkdale's activities based on ability to pay.

Samantha Tim, on behalf of the **Stewardship Committee**, reported that about 15 people had attended the Financial Stewardship session on September 20, 2014. The committee

is contemplating a Spirit Giving Workshop and events related to Earth Day in the spring, in addition to potential additional financial stewardship activities. As noted above, the Committee recently completed a major task with the presentation to Council of a comprehensive report on the Memorial Fund. Congratulations and thank you to the Working Group members for an excellent job done!

Reports from our Ministerial staff were also received.

Melodee Lovering, Minister to Youth and Children, reported that the senior youth have been meeting every other week with Paul Crabtree and sometimes Steve Leck; they have cooked, watched movies and had a games night. A four-week series was run with Junior Youth, including hide and seek, a games night, a movie night and a circus workshop. Camille Beaufort has been assisting. The circus workshop was a huge success and elements of it will be included in the Christmas pageant. Another block of programming will be run in the new year. A group of youth from the Toronto conference will be hosted at Parkdale during Worshiplude on January 30-February 1. The 'Artist's Way' Wednesday evening series was well attended and expansive for those who participated. Consideration will be given to doing a 'Part II' at some future date. The

intergenerational service on the theme of “Joy” on November 23 was joyously received, as was the macaroni and cheese offered by the Coffee Shop after the service. Recipe requests were numerous! At the time of writing this, pageant rehearsals for the Christmas pageant were well underway. Melodee offered thanks to Pat Hall and Jill Hamer-Wilson, as well as Jayde Williams Priddie, who helped with music, and to the youth class, who created some of the props for the pageant. Melodee also extended her thanks to the roster of teachers who have agreed to teach in 2015.

Rev. Debbie Roi, Minister of Pastoral Care, reported that she spent a restful and renewing week at Still Point, a place of Silent Retreat on the banks of the Madawaska River as part of her Spiritual Director’s course. The focus of the week was on writing and Debbie reported a blessed time, without internet access and therefore without interruption. During this time, she spent six half-days in silence, fulfilling one of the requirements of the Spiritual Director’s course: three days of silence. It was a week filled with prayer and was a wonderful reminder of the gift of Sabbath rest. Debbie also reported that the prayer shawl ministry is well underway, with a dedicated group of individuals who meet regularly to create shawls. The shawls have brought deep comfort, a reminder of the prayers

that surround the recipient and the love of our church family. Just over twenty care packages were prepared for students within our church family and extended family, with the furthest destination being Nova Scotia. Debbie also noted that a workshop that will focus on walking with those who mourn is under development, a need that was identified during the Lenten Series. This series will be most welcome, given the number of deaths experienced by Parkdale families in recent months. Last but not least, a women’s retreat, focusing on the gift of time, will take place at the Galilee Centre in Arnprior in January 2015, co-led by Debbie and Melodee.

Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey, Coordinating Minister, reported on the trip to South Africa, enjoyed by a group of 19 Parkdalers and friends of Parkdale. This was a powerful, emotional and informative experience that included a trip to Robben Island, as well as learning visits and experiences around Cape Town with our United Church partner, the Surplus People Project, and Outliers, the educational resource and capacity-building initiative led by Heidi Segal, Barbara Faight’s daughter-in-law. In early November, Anthony spoke at the Ministry in Motion Conference, with the UCC Moderator and the General Secretary in attendance, to consider and discern how the United Church is called to change and to recover its original missional identity and

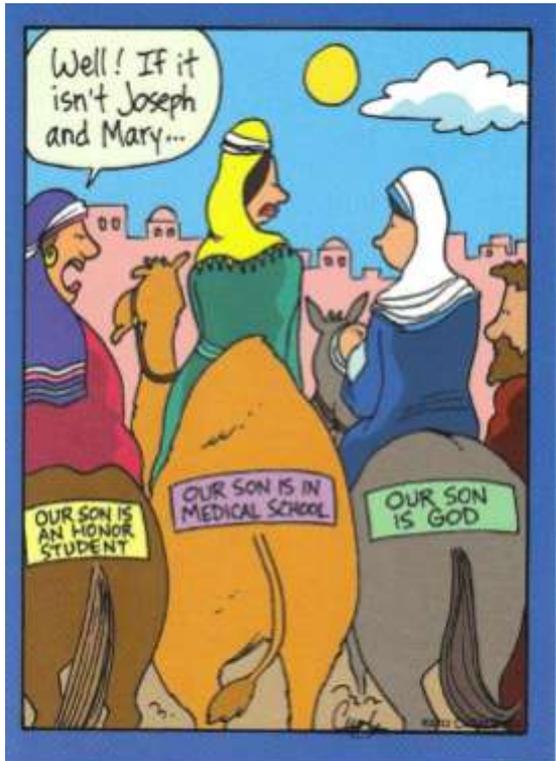


PARKDALE COUNCIL REPORT CONTINUED

witnessing task. Faith Formation and Bible Study Groups have been well attended and meaningful. Anthony noted that an undertaking, similar to Unbinding the Gospel, that will engage the entire congregation in prayer, spiritual formation and engagement is under prayerful consideration. Further, it is his intention to partner with the Stewardship Committee to facilitate stewardship conversations within the congregation around the notion of “whole life stewardship”, as a way of generating deeper understanding of and support for our ministries, stimulating generosity in financial givings and bequests, and encouraging all of us to better realize the importance of all of our assets in relationship to God’s Mission entrusted to Parkdale United. Further to one of the group discussions from our recent Council retreat, Anthony has begun to explore resource people and groups who could help us in a conversation about redeveloping Parkdale’s physical facilities. Between January and April, a group of interested people will be convened to prayerfully and practically discern how God may be calling us to steward our physical plant, in line with our vision, mission and neighbourhood realities. The context for faithful ministry is changing, as is the neighbourhood in which Parkdale is ministering. All of this presents us with an exciting opportunity to discern God’s

leading for us. The Ottawa Presbytery Pastoral Care and Oversight Committee has asked to visit in March to conduct four consecutive conversations; one with the pastoral staff, one with other staff, one with the Council and one with the Congregation. As noted above, Anthony will be the Epiphany Explorations Speaker and Guest Preacher at St. Aidan’s United Church in Victoria, B.C. from January 21-25, 2015.

The meeting closed with a meaningful prayer led by Matt.





NEWS FROM THE PEWS

**Birthdays in
January**

Our warmest greetings to:

- Jan 1 Joshua Lewis Milan
- Jan 1 Christine King
- Jan 5 Gloria Goodine
- Jan 5 Abi Wicke
- Jan 7 Ryan Scott
- Jan 7 Murray Stevenson
- Jan 8 Shannel Charley
- Jan 10 Sophie Johnson
- Jan 10 Scotia Pinheiro
- Jan 11 Muriel Bellman
- Jan 11 Ruth Thompson
- Jan 11 Megan Elizabeth Clark
- Jan 12 Quinn Fincham
- Jan 14 Honor Charley
- Jan 14 Devon Valcin
- Jan 14 CiCi Waugh
- Jan 18 Theodore Andrews
- Jan 18 James Bell
- Jan 23 Kay Badgley
- Jan 25 Faye Beaufort
- Jan 26 Julia Méla
- Jan 28 Cecil Toombs
- Jan 30 Ivy Baird
- Jan 30 Elizabeth Fitzgerald



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



IN FROM THE COLD UPDATE

We are often asked, "How many guests were served at In From The Cold?" The following brief report gives the answer:

November 8	120
November 15	146
November 22	164
November 29	117
December 6	129
December 13	128
December 20	120

Our guests continue to enjoy the craft table thanks to Judy Tape and her team, the book, magazine and newspaper table thanks to Brenda Caillo and her team and the card and picture making table thanks to Vita Savelieva.

Each week a delicious four course meal has been prepared and served.

As a congregation, we are grateful to support this Ministry to our Community with our prayers and financial support. If you would like to join our team of faithful volunteers, fill out an IFTC Volunteer Sign Up Sheet and leave it on the collection plate or in the church office or contact CiCi at: iftc@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca

All of our guests and volunteers enjoy the musical entertainment organized this year by Elaine West:

November 8	Rob Hikes and his FOAM BAND
November 15	Bob Waite Piano, Neil Seeley Bass, Val Suriano Saxophone
November 22	Hannie Fitzgerald and Fumblin' Fingers
November 29	Carol Diamond Piano and singing
December 5	Joy Ells Flute
December 13	Troy Cross Piano
December 20	Nigel Bell French Horn, Rosemary Kimberley Piano



Obituaries

STINSON, Margaret Dorcas (nee Cowie)



Peacefully, Sunday, December 28, 2014 in her 101st year. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Allan C. Stinson. Loving mother of John (Sharon), Robert (Patti Forrest) and William. Proud grandmother of 4. Dear sister of the late Claude Cowie, the late Craig Cowie, the late Mary Cummings and the late Laura Cooper. Daughter of the late Mrs. Jessie Dorcas and the late Mr. Norman Albert Cowie. Margaret will be fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews and many friends. The family would like to acknowledge Rose Sprague for the loving

care she provided Margaret over the last nine years.

WILLIAMS, Oneta (Nee Inniss)



Peacefully, Thursday, December 25, 2014, at the age of 81. Beloved mother of Angela Trotman (Tony) and Andrew (Maureen). Cherished grandmother of Donna, Natalie, Ava, Patrick, Wayne, Edward, Stephanie (Jason) and Shawn (Talia) and great-grandmother of Nadia, Kamika, Iesha, Nathan, Adrianna, Ethan and Micah. Caring sister of Bobby (Avril). Dear friend of Margaret and Monica. Predeceased by her husband Norris, her sons Rawle (Linda) and Peter.

HILL, Winifred Helen

Peacefully at Elisabeth Bruyere Centre on December 3rd, 2014 in her 92nd year. Mother of Diana and husband David Mason and Nana to Neil and Lorena. Predeceased by her beloved husband Syd. A celebration of Helen's life was held at Parkdale, Saturday, January 3rd at 11:00 am.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Gospel Service

Once again this January, we will be welcoming the Imani Gospel Singers from Montreal, under the direction of Marcia Bailey, to our worship service on January 18 at 10:30am. You don't want to miss this powerful music and worship experience. Share the news with your family and friends and come join in this annual city-wide celebration.



IMANI GOSPEL SINGERS



LECTIONARY

January 1 – New Year’s Day

Ecclesiastes 3:1–13

For everything there is a season.

Psalm 8 (VU pp. 730–732)

We are crowned with God’s glory.

Revelation 21:1–6a

A new heaven and a new earth.

Matthew 25:31–46

When I was hungry, you gave me food.

January 4 – Second after
Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7–14

The grieving people will be gathered in joy.

Psalm 147:12–20 (VU pp. 868–869)

God blesses Jerusalem with peace and abundance.

Ephesians 1:3–14

Adopted, forgiven, and blessed with abundance.

John 1: (1–9), 10–18

The Word was in the world, but the world did not know him.

January 6 – Epiphany

Worship materials for Epiphany

through the Third Sunday after Epiphany were contributed by John Moses, Trinity U.C., Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Isaiah 60:1–6

Arise, shine; for your light has come.

Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14 (VU p. 790
Parts One and Two)

God’s anointed defends the poor.

Ephesians 3:1–12

Boldness and confidence through faith.

Matthew 2:1–12

The visit of the Magi.

January 11 – Baptism of the
Lord

Genesis 1:1–5

The first days of creation.

Psalm 29 (VU p. 756)

God’s voice is over the waters.

Acts 19:1–7

Paul baptizes with the Spirit.

Mark 1:4–11

Jesus is baptized by John.

LECTIONARY

January 18 – Second after Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1–10, (11–20)
God calls Samuel.

Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18 (VU pp. 861–862)
God has searched and known me.

1 Corinthians 6:12–20
Your body is a temple of God’s Spirit.

John 1:43–51
Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael.

January 25 – Third after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1–5, 10
Jonah calls Ninevah to repent.

Psalm 62:5–12 (VU pp. 779–780)
Be still, my soul, and wait for God.

1 Corinthians 7:29–31
The time is short for the present form of the world.

Mark 1:14–20
Jesus calls Simon, Andrew, James, and John.



RECIPE

Creamed onions

Geof Colley`s recipe for creamed onions, a dish that he usually prepared for Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners each year.

2 pounds of medium yellow onions

Peel onions and cut into quarters or smaller pieces. Boil until soft (about 30 minutes).

Drain completely and place in casserole dish. Pour white sauce over and cook in oven (350 degrees) until heated through.

White sauce: 2tbsp butter; 2tbsp flour; 1cup milk; salt to taste.

Geof Colley`s Whole Wheat Bread (1 Loaf)

Whenever bread machines came out, Geof became the "breadman" for his family so that they rarely bought bread for a number of years. Geof worked on his recipe to make it perfect.

- 1cup white flour
- 1cup whole wheat flour
- 1/4 cup rolled oats
- 1/4 cup bran
- 1 tbsp. flax seed
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 1/2 tbsp. margarine or butter
- 2 1/2 tbsp. brown sugar
- 1 cup lukewarm water or milk*
- 1 1/2 tsp. instant dry yeast



PARKDALE BOOK CLUB

- Jan 4** **The Russian Album** by Michael Ignatieff. Chronicles four generations of Ignatieffs in pre-revolutionary Russia. 2011 Governor General's Award winner.
- Feb 8** **The Light between Oceans** by M.L. Stedman. 2012. A couple who are lighthouse keepers in Australia keep "a gift from God" with many repercussions. Extraordinary novel.
- March 15** **All That Matters** by Wayson Choy. 2004. Sequel to **Jade Poppy**. The story of the Chen family in Vancouver's Chinese Diaspora and winner of the Trillium Award.
- April 19** **Medicine Walk** by Richard Wagamese. 2014. Brilliant novel about a native family, the universal story of a father and son struggle, their goodness and redemption.
- May 24** **The Master and Margarita** by Mikhail Bulgakov. 1967. The Devil visits the fervently atheistic Soviet Union. Considered one of the best novels of the 20th century.
- June 14** **God's Bits of Wood** by Sembene Ousmane. 1960. Senegalese author's novel of a railway strike in Senegal in the 40's, examining colonialism's many faces.

If you have any questions please email either Marlene MacLean
<marlenemaclean@gmail.com> or Heather Brophy
<h.brophy@sympatico.ca>

All Welcome!
Meet in the Ladies Parlor after church on book club days
Bring a lunch



IMAGES & STORIES



IMAGES & STORIES REVIEW – November 28, 2014

Tanzania – The Serengeti – The great migration

If you have ever watched a documentary on “The Great Migration” of animals in Africa, you would have been fascinated to listen and see photographs of hoards of animals on the move in this vast area of lands in Tanzania. Our own Ann Tompkins of Parkdale was there in February 2014 and returned with fascinating pictures and experiences to share with us. So, it was at our last Images and Stories presentation for the year, Friday, November 8, 2014, that about 35 Parkdalers and friends gathered in the Ladies’ Parlour to see photographs and to hear Ann’s stories of her once-in-a-life-time trip to the Serengeti.

As Ann tells it in her own words: “I had the experience of a lifetime, visiting Tanzania during the great migration. The Serengeti or the endless plains, as they call it, forms the heart of this unique ecosystem that also encompasses the Ngorongoro

Conservation Area and Kenya’s Maasai national reserve. It is a vast area with amazing diversity of natural habitats, short and tall-grass, savannahs, woodlands, meandering rivers and rich wetlands. A treasured sanctuary, it is home to the greatest variety and number of game animals on earth. But at this time of the year, the great seasonal migration of its wildlife, in a rhythmic cycle triggered by the long rains or masika and short rains or the mvuli, begins. The millions of animals such as wildebeests, zebras, and gazelles move in a pattern that is ageless in its origin and amazing for the human eye to observe.

The number of different species of animals, birds and plants that we observed was breath-taking and, at times, unbelievable. We saw the herbivores living in ways that supported, complimented and





protected each other, learned about plants and animals living in symbiotic partnerships and got to watch the animals display their unique personalities.

I can't say enough about our tour guides. Their knowledge of the birds, plants, animals, history, geography and geology of the area was impressive. But what was most remarkable was their love and respect for the Serengeti and everything that lives on it, and their most sincere hope that this will continue to survive."

It was just awesome to watch these magnificent animals; some, like the giraffes, appearing so majestic, the lions seemingly so calm and stately. But then you shudder to think that she took these pictures from a frighteningly close range. We were not at all surprised when she told us of a fear-stricken moment with a herd of cape buffaloes.

We thank you, Ann, for this journey with you to the Serengeti; especially that not many of us will venture out on this one.

Our next Images and Stories evening is Friday, **January 30, 2015** at 7:00 PM, when Daunett Tucker will tell us of her life and work as a nurse in Northern Ontario.

We wish you all many blessings and much peace throughout 2015.

Faye Beaufort
for Mission, Outreach & Justice
Committee.



Towards Reconciliation

From May 31 to June 3, 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada will wrap up and present its report to Parliament. So, what is meant by reconciliation? It is more than forgiving and forgetting. Reconciliation is the act of two people or groups becoming friendly again after an argument or a disagreement. It is also a long journey towards repairing and building stronger relationships. Jesus tells us that we must reconcile with our brother before offering ourselves to God. 'If you are offering your gift at the altar and then remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.' (Mat 5:23-24)

As Canadians and Christians, we are invited to educate ourselves about Aboriginal justice issues, show our solidarity by participating in the May 31st Walk for Reconciliation in Ottawa, and take action to ensure that real change happens.

Throughout 2015, I will submit a series of monthly articles on Aboriginal justice issues. The first article, below, was co-written by members of a coalition of faith groups and Indigenous peoples working for reconciliation through education. They make a plea for the churches and all Canadians to continue seeking the resumption of negotiations regarding funding and legislation of First Nations Control of First Nations Education. The United Church of Canada wrote a letter in this regard in June 2014 to Aboriginal Affairs Minister Valcourt and has had no response to date.

Elise Mennie

Opinion: Justice for Indigenous children — the heart of reconciliation

By Terry Leblanc, Gayadowehs Lu Ann Hill-Macdonald, Mark Macdonald and Michelle Nieviadomy. Published in the **Montreal Gazette**, December 8, 2014. Reproduced with permission.

We are saddened and angered by examples around the globe of unjust treatment of one group by another. How can people do such things? The

reasons for injustice can be complex, but at least two stand out.

The first is an intentional act to treat someone harshly, abusively and unfairly. These are obvious and easy to identify; society is swift to agree that something must be done about it.

The second is more difficult to pin down. It is an act of disregard. It's not that we intend to harm people. It's simply that we don't recognize the act as injustice.

We believe Canada to be a kind and gentle place — and for the most part it is. Canada's good reputation, however, is coming under increasing scrutiny, as the world witnesses continued discrimination in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis children.

Take for example the current stalemate between the federal government and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) over Bill C33, the First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act (FNCFNEA). The Minister of Aboriginal Affairs refuses to return to the negotiating table despite a request to do so by interim National Chief Ghislain Picard, saying if the federal plan is not accepted, there will be no plan.

Cause and effect of discrimination in funding cannot be denied: there is a 20- to 50-per-cent difference in

funding between on-reserve schools and provincially funded schools across the country; only 40 per cent of on-reserve First Nations students graduate from high school compared to 87 per cent of the non-Indigenous population. Addressing the success of First Nations students by eliminating the shortfall is a matter of justice, and reconciliation.

Despite the Constitution Act, 1982, which entrenches Indigenous rights; despite Supreme Court decisions affirming these rights, the colonial shadow endures in the education of Indigenous children. Canadian society perceives unequal treatment not as an injustice, but as our unwillingness to, once more, “go along to get along.”

Even as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission concludes, it is obvious the vast majority of Canadians are unaware of its work or of the second half of its mandate: reconciliation. To be truly reconciled, several issues need our consideration, but one that deserves our immediate attention is the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis children.

Indigenous peoples must be able to establish and control their own educational systems in order to properly include their own cultural values, languages and perspectives. To do so, Indigenous people need necessary financial resources and the unequivocal support of Canadians for their right to educate

their children as they deem appropriate.

Among many of our peoples, women carry the responsibility of thinking generations into the future, working now to secure that future. The focus is both immediate and long term. Yes, there are competing priorities, but what is more important than our children?

We must take action to elevate these discussions now as individuals, groups and organizations, to ensure a better future for our children. The education of the youngest and fastest

growing segment of our population affects all of us. If the whole community would get behind justice for Indigenous children, reconciliation with Canada's First Peoples can become a reality. Church, we need your help with this; business, we need your help with this; citizens of Canada, we need your help with this.

Ensure Canada's response toward Indigenous children's education is a just one.

Terry LeBlanc, Mi'kmaq/Acadian, is executive director of NAIITS: An Indigenous Learning Community.

The piece was co-authored with Gayadowehs Lu Ann Hill-MacDonald, Haudenosaunee, Six Nations; the Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Anglican Bishop; and Michelle Nieviadomy, Assistant Director, Edmonton Native Healing Centre.

Graph (below) Share of Population with a Degree, Certificate or Diploma

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006



2014
Christmas
Pageant







YAYA Ottawa Presbytery SPOTLIGHT ON

****CAMP AWESOME...** Staff and Host Congregation CA applications are now available on the YAYA link of the presbytery website.



<http://www.uccanottawa.org/camp-awesome.html> Staff application deadlines: Co-ordinator – Dec. 8th; Senior Staff – Dec. 15th; Counsellor – February 1st; Leader-in-Training – May 1st. Host Congregations, as soon as possible, please.



****YAYA MINISTRY GATHERING...** Do you have a vision for YAYA ministry and welcome the opportunity to brainstorm ideas? Are you a youth or young adult with YAYA ministry suggestions to share? The YAYA Committee is hosting an evening of sharing, networking and fellowship for ALL who feel passionate about YAYA ministry ... January 14th, 2015 7-9 p.m.; Emmanuel UC; RSVP:

hmerritt@uccanottawa.org



****WORSHIPLUDE...** January 30th - Feb. 1st, 2015. Worship celebration Saturday, Jan. 31st. Theme: "All My Relations: Who's Missing From My Facebook Friends?" More information and registration forms are available on the YAYA link on our presbytery website! Anyone wishing to join Stream for this event is asked to contact Rev. Hilary before Dec 15th.



****OPEN TABLE...** Young Adults' free meal: the "last Sunday of the month" ... January, February, March, 2015 at St. Albans Church, 454 King Edward Ave.! Doors open at 5:30; meal at 6 p.m. See you there! EAT. MEET. REFLECT. And connect – with each other, with God and with the community. OPEN TABLE is a partnership between Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Church communities seeking to serve Ottawa Young Adults.



****CAFÉ CHURCH OTTAWA...** A new, outreach initiative of Dominion-Chalmers United, for Young Adults in the 20-40 age range. They meet in Woodside Hall, D-C, one Sat./ month, 10:00 a.m. to noon. Coffee and homemade muffins available at low cost. All are welcome!

PARKDALE FOOD CENTRE HAS MOVED!!!

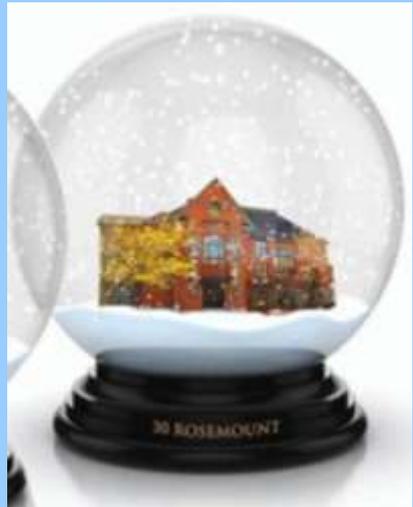


We are now located next to the Library on Rosemount Avenue -- #30 is the building now housing Somerset Health Centre Services – and we are located in the basement area.

Several things have changed – the clients are now going to choose their own food choices, and will be accompanied by a volunteer shopper to assist them.

We will no longer need yogurt containers (which we used to hold cereal), we are giving out boxes of cereal to clients, so if you would like to donate cereal, that would be welcome.

We still need clear (plastic or glass) small drink containers to use to bottle oil, vinegar, etc. The ensure bottles (cleaned, please) are still needed for shampoo, conditioner, dish soap and laundry detergent.



We will continue to recycle milk bags for making mats, etc. (see sample by grocery cart).

Please continue to donate items to the grocery cart, or make your donation through your Church envelopes – mark your donation **“Parkdale Food Centre”** – this will help us buy eggs, milk, butter and cheese.

**GOOD FOOD
HELPING
GOOD PEOPLE**



thank
you!

On behalf of the guests and volunteers at the Literacy Table, I would like to extend a big thank you for the dozens of calendars and the hundreds of Christmas and other greeting cards that you donated in 2014. We were overwhelmed by your generosity! We have also appreciated all the books, magazines and reusable bags that have been providing to date and welcome any future donations as we look forward to the next twelve weeks

of IFTC. If you have any questions or would be interested in volunteering at the Literacy Table, please contact Brenda at [613-729-0705](tel:613-729-0705) or at Brenda.mcardillo@gmail.com.

Many thanks again for your support.



“Images and Stories Presents...”

Friday, January 30, 2015 at 7:00pm

"Northern Exposure"

Daunett Tucker gives us a glimpse of her life and work as a nurse in Northern Ontario in the First Nations' Community in Sioux Look Out and along the James Bay coastal region.

Join us after the presentation for fellowship and refreshments in the Ladies' Parlour.



**Benjamin Britten's *Noyes Fludde*
(Noah's Flood)**

Seeking children for animal chorus (age 6-12) and young musicians for this rarely performed children's opera.

Performance dates: Friday, May 8, and Saturday, May 9, 2015, at St. Matthew's Anglican Church, 217 First Avenue, Ottawa.

Starring Bass-Baritone Gary Relyea as Noah.

Visit www.stmatthewsottawa.ca to register for auditions to be held on Saturday, February 7, 2015, and to check rehearsal schedules.



Noah's Ark (1846), a painting by the American folk painter [Edward Hicks](#)



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:



Uniting in joyful worship as an act of praise and gratitude, for inspiration and guidance

Providing learning opportunities for the Christian way of life and enhance Biblical literacy



Supporting each other through pastoral care and concern

Reaching out to people in need

Promoting justice



Praying for guidance, wisdom, and support.