Messenger

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WELCOME TO PARKDALE

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.

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Ouestions

A few years ago I came across a book by a former Wall Street Journal reporter and syndicated journalist, who became an Episcopal Priest. The book was called, Just Wondering, Jesus: 100 Questions People Want to Ask. The book is divided into chapters with subject headings such as: Church, Suffering, Peace, Evil, A Mother's Death, Change, Purpose, and so on. Each chapter has a number of questions on its particular theme. Some of the questions didn't really grab me, but there were some that caught my attention.

Here are a few of them:

- 1. "Jesus, what role does the church have in building faith? Your ministry was in the garden, in the valley, in the desert, along the roadside. Where does organized religion fit in?"
- 2. "I would shout to Jesus, 'Have you seen my father? Is he OK? Please tell me that by the grace of God he's OK now. Have you



seen my father? He suffered here so long."

- 3. "Jesus, how can I be sure of the path you want me to take and how do I know that the things being taught to me are really your will?"
- 4. "Jesus, Son of David [can youl turn my daughter's search for acceptance from drugs and promiscuity to your loving embrace?"
- 5. "Is IT really true?"
- "Given the opportunity, I would ask Jesus to help me know what it feels like to be loved unconditionally, and to recognize and accept that love."
- 7. "Why are people so afraid of the idea that God believes we are all equally special and deserving of grace?"

Now these questions and others in the book are good questions. But I was also wondering about the kinds of questions that were not only about "me" or "us", but somehow reflected some of the angst and outrage about what may be going on in society and in the world.

As this summer edition of the Messenger begins with the month of June, which is Aboriginal Heritage Month, there are some deep and urgent questions I am asking God, myself and all who live in this country.

- 1. When will we see comprehensive, compassionate justice for our Aboriginal brothers and sisters in this country of Canada?
- 2 What substantive and sustained action will be undertaken by civil society, governments and religious communities regarding the RCMPconfirmed 1,186 missing and murdered Aboriginal women here in Canada?
- 3. When will the full truth and history of the residential school debacle in Canada be told? When will those church-

- es and governments that have apologized more deeply live into the actions that these apologies require?
- 4. When will the negative trans-generational impact of the residential schools on Aboriginal languages, cultures, families, relationships and employment be fully recognized?
- 5. To what extent will the findings and recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada be taken seriously and appropriately acted upon?
- 6. How will each of us inform ourselves and act in the spirit of Christ in ways that demonstrate our solidarity with our Aboriginal brothers and sisters?
- 7. What might God's Spirit be calling us to learn and to do as the congregation of Parkdale United?

Here at Parkdale United we have a Living Into Right Relations (LIRR) sub-committee of our Mission, Outreach and Justice Committee. Led by Elise Mennie, this group is assisting us as a congregation to become more informed so that we may prayerfully, wisely and coura-

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geously respond in solidarity and advocacy. Please consult the following pages in this Messenger for more information about Aboriginalrelated events, issues and initiatives.

Over the coming months, may I invite us to deeply experience the important refreshment that summer can bring, while we ponder the happenings in our soul, our relationships and our world. Then let us allow God's Spirit to awaken profound and maybe even whimsical questions within us. As a spiritual, sacred and attentive exercise, may I invite

us to write these questions down over the summer months, and then let us collect them (some...all?) in September. I can imagine in some way having them find their way into our gathered worship time, as we honour them and lift them to God. They may be offer anonymously or named.

Summer Blessings to us all. God's Peace and Joy.

Anthony



Accepting that God longs to use you and me (receive this reflection by Carol Orsborn)

I fall short of my own ideals over and over. Yet, despite the certainty of my unworthiness, I feel spirit urging me to venture forth again.

So, God, I ask you to use me, anyway.

Take my fears and use me, anyway.

Take my failures and use me, anyway.

Take my arrogance and use me, anyway.

Take my greed and use me, anyway.

Take my guilt and use me, anyway.

Take my confusion and use me, anyway.

Take my regret and use me, anyway.

I offer all of myself to you. Use me to serve many or few. In pain or in joy.

Use me as you will.

Welcome New Members!

Thirteen new members were officially received during the 83rd anniversary service on May 4. Seven were received through reaffirmation of their faith, and six via transfer from other congregations.



In the photo, from left to right: Cici Waugh, John King, Christine King, Ruth Bush, Larry King, George Bush, Elaine West, Hugh Nelson, Esther Hermosa, Patricia Slight, Kevin Bosch, and Tania Lambert-Bosch. Absent from the photo is Catherine Younger-Lewis.

Tania, Kevin, Christine, Larry, John, Hugh and Cici joined through reaffirmation of faith; the others through transfer.

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The Membership Development Committee hosted the new members at a breakfast gathering prior to the worship service on May 4,. Dr. Bailey, Melodee Lovering, and several members of Council also attended and explained various aspects of Parkdale's programs and activities.



New members' Sunday was also our 83rd anniversary. Our choir's beautiful voices were accompanied by guest musicians.

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LECTIONARY

June 1 – Seventh of Easter, Environment Sunday

Acts 1:6–14 The Ascension of Jesus. Psalm 68:1–10, 32–35 (VU p. 787) God makes a home for the poor. 1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11

Cast your cares on God. Be alert. **John 17:1–11** Jesus prays that his disciples "may be one."

June 8 - Pentecost

Acts 2:1–21 The Holy Spirit comes in wind and flame.

or Numbers 11:24-30

Moses shares the spirit given to him. **Psalm 104:24–34, 35***b* God's Spirit brings life and renewal.

1 Corinthians 12:3*b*–13 One spirit; many gifts.

John 20:19–23 Jesus appears behind locked doors. Or John 7:37–39 Let the thirsty come and drink!

June 15 - Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1—2:4*a*The first story of creation.

Psalm 8 God, your glorious name.

2 Corinthians 13:11–13

Agree with one another; live in peace; trinity.

Matthew 28:16–20 Go make disciples!

June 22 - Second after

Pentecost Sunday Closest to Aboriginal Day (June 21) Genesis 21:8–21

Hagar and Ishmael sent away. **Psalm 86:1–10, 16–17**

Turn your ear to me, O God.

Romans 6:1*b*–11

Dead to sin; alive in Christ.

Matthew 10:24–39

Discipleship; lose your life to find it.

June 29 - Third after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14

The sacrifice of Isaac.

Psalm 13 (VU p. 734)

How long will you forget me, God?

Romans 6:12-23

The wages of sin is death; eternal life is a free gift.

Matthew 10:40-42

Welcoming; and offering a cup of water.

July 6 - Fourth after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34–38, 42–49, 58–67

Rebekah is found as a wife for Isaac.

Psalm 45:10–17 (VU p. 769)

A song for the anointed ruler.

or Song of Solomon 2:8–13

A love song.

Romans 7:15-25a

I do not do the good I want to do.

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

My yoke is easy; my burden is light

July 13—Fifth after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19–34 Esau gives up his birthright for Jacob's stew.

Psalm 119:105–112

"Your word is a lamp for my feet."

Romans 8:1-11

To set the mind on the Spirit is life.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The parable of the sower and the seed.

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July 20 - Sixth after Pentecost

Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob's dream of the ladder.

Psalm 139:1–12, 23–24 God, you have searched me and know me.

Romans 8:12-25

Creation groans with labour pains.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The parable of the weeds scattered among good seed.

July 27 - Seventh after Pentecost

Genesis 29:15-28

Jacob marries Leah and Rachel.

Psalm 105:1–11, 45*b* Make known what God has done. Or:

Psalm 128 It shall be well with you.

Romans 8:26–39 The Spirit intercedes for us when we cannot pray.

for us when we cannot pray

Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52

Five parables: mustard seed, yeast, treasure, pearls, net.

August 3 - Eighth after Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31

Jacob wrestles with God.

Psalm 17:1–7, 15 Guard me as the apple of your eye (verse 8).

Romans 9:1-5

Hear my cry for justice (verse 1).

Matthew 14:13-21

Feeding more than five thousand.

August 10 - Ninth after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Joseph is sold into slavery by his brothers

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

Remembering Joseph.

Romans 10:5-15

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (verse 8).

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus walks across stormy waters.

August 17 – Tenth after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15

Joseph is reunited with his brothers.

Psalm 133 How pleasant it is when God's people are together.

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected the Hebrews.

Matthew 15: (10–20), 21–28

A Canaanite mother challenges Jesus.

August 24 –Eleventh after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8—2:10 The baby Moses is adopted by the Pharaoh's daughter.

Psalm 124 If God had not been at our side!

Romans 12:1–8 Present yourselves as a living, holy sacrifice to God.

Matthew 16:13–20 "Who do you say that I am?" asks Jesus.

August 31 – Twelfth after Pentecost

(Labour Day – September 1)

Exodus 3:1–15 Moses encounters the burning bush.

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

Remembering Jacob and Moses.

Romans 12:9–21 Let love be

genuine; overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21–28

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Take up the cross and follow me.



NEWS FROM THE PEWS

A Caring Canadian

Long-time Parkdale member Dr. Norman Tape was honoured this spring for his community and volunteer work, by receiving the prestigious Governor General's *Caring Canadian Award*. He is the second Parkdale member to receive this honour; the first was the late Charles Hurst, in 1996. (Mr. Hurst died last November.)

The Governor General's Caring Canadian Award was created in 1995. The Governor General's office says that the award "recognizes Canadians who have made significant, sustained, unpaid contributions to their community. Often working behind the scenes, these individuals volunteer their time and efforts to help their fellow citizens. The award also brings to light the example set by volunteers, whose compassion and engagement are a part of our Canadian character."

In the announcement of Norman's selection, Rideau Hall described him as "a retired scientist who has shared his time, knowledge and leadership talents with various sectors in his community for over 30 years. He has served on the governing boards of two Ottawa hospitals and has volunteered for the YMCA, the Ottawa Grace Manor, the Kidney Foundation, the Big Rideau Lake Association, and the United Way. He has



also provided advice on regional health care programs and services for the Ottawa-Carleton District Health Council for several years."

At Parkdale, Norman has been a dedicated and committed leader in various aspects of our church's governance. (He began attending in 1936 at age 5, when the congregation had about 850 members.) He has also been actively involved with Ottawa West Community Support (OWCS), Queensway Preschool, and continues to be a co-leader of the arts and crafts activity program which is part of our *In from the Cold* program.

Norman's father, Robert Tape, was a prominent former Elder and chair of the Board of Trustees. Tape Hall, immediately below the sanctuary, is named in his honour.

The Caring Canadian Award consists of a certificate and lapel pin, presented to recipients by the Governor General. The award's emblem incorporates a stylized maple leaf, heart and outstretched hand. The leaf symbolizes the people of Cana-

da and their spirit, the heart depicts the open -heartedness of volunteers, and the outstretched hand portrays boundless generosity. The blue and gold colours, which appear on the Governo



appear on the Governor General's official flag, indicate the award's connection with the Governor General.

Thanks from the Book Table!

Heartfelt thanks to the congregation of Parkdale for donating so generously to the Literacy Table at In From the Cold for another year!

We are frequently asked what our guests enjoy reading, and our response is — everything! One afternoon I counted the different magazines that we had displayed, and to my surprise, discovered that we had 92 titles. They ranged from A(the Atlantic) to Z(Zoomer). Our guests have wide-ranging interests in books too, and among the favourites are best-sellers, biographies, history and anything related to animals and the Royal Family. Large print books, recipes and craft and knitting patterns are also in demand. Everyone was most appreciative of the greeting cards that were donated too. Please save your reading material throughout the summer and fall so that we can replenish our shelves in November. You may leave books and magazines outside the chapel any time.

Thank you again for your generosity and kindness. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda at 613 729-0705 or at Brenda.mcardillo@gmail.com.

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AMY ROSS COGSWELL ABELL

1914 - 2014

Our much beloved mother and grandmother passed away at the Ottawa Heart Institute on April 13, 2014, in her 100th year. We will miss her bright eyes and sweet smile!



dearly missed by her 7 grandchildren, Andrew (Brenda), Matthew, Sarah, Sean, Amber, Jesse and Ella, her nieces and nephews, and her many treasured friends and bridge

companions.

Born in Edmonton on September 24, 1914 to Jennie Wright Ross Cogswell and Edward Borden Cogswell, Amy was predeceased by her loving husband Sinclair (1998), her cherished daughter Sarah (2010) and her four sisters, Margaret Cogswell, Mary Smith, Jean Willoughby and Elizabeth Frost.

She leaves her 3 daughters, Judy (Maurice Price), Jennie (Neil Sargent) and Nancy (Michael McKean) broken-hearted at the loss of her wonderful love, companionship and inspiration; but deeply comforted by the happy times we have shared through the years, including fun-filled summers at the cottage she and Dad built on the Ottawa river and the laughter, the guidance and the many great meals around her table. She will be

Amy was a remarkable woman: charming, gracious, elegant, athletic, and intellectual, but most of all a profoundly loving person with a great curiosity and compassion for others and a deep zest for life. She graduated in Pharmacy from the University of Alberta during the depression. There she starred at basketball and tennis and made many lifelong friends, including her Tri Delta sorority sisters. She moved to Ottawa in 1941 to marry Sinclair, and there created a beautiful and welcoming home for friends and family. She taught us all the meaning of love and family and community. She drew strength from her long involvement with Parkdale United Church and the United Church Women

BAK TEANG CHAO LIM

1950-2014

The deepest sympathy of the congregation is extended to Khan, our highly valued friend and custodian, on the death of his beloved wife. Bak

Teang, and to their loving daughters, Kim and Amy. Bak Teang passed away peacefully surrounded with love on May 13th. She also leaves her dear sisters, Neng, Chou, Suong, Sung and her sister-in-law Suong Chao. The Service of Thanksgiving celebrating her life was held on May 16th at Parkdale, conducted by Anthony. Also participating were Barbara Faught and Rev. Gervis Black, who was Khan and Bak Teang's minister when they came to

Canada in 1980 as refugees from Cambodia, sponsored by Parkdale. We pray that Khan, Kim and Amy will know the continuing love and support of the congregation and feel God's great strength, encouragement, guidance, comfort and peace accompanying them now and always.



From left to right: Barbara Faught, Rev. Anthony Bailey, Kim, Amy and Khan Chao, and Rev. Gervis Black

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At the May 11 service, Christian Family Sunday, we were honoured to have four families bring their children to be baptised.

In photo at right: Azalea Rice, with parents Davanti Karunaratne and Alexander Rice





At left: Noralyn Smith-Wong, with parents Jaylyn Wong and David Smith

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Above: Viola Menzies, with parents Jeff Menzies and Leigh Melanson



Above: Lauren Loreti, with parents Camillo Loreti and Dana O'Brien

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BIRTHDAY NEWS

Birthdays in June

Birthdays in July:

Our warmest greetings to:

Our warmest greetings to:

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

30th

31st

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Birthdays in August

Our warmest greetings to:

3rd	Jennifer Payne
3rd	Emitt Barlett
6th	Julia Bell
6th	Bilal Huggins
7th	Shayla McQuinn
8th	Derek Grozinger
8th	Barbara Hennessy
9th	Robert Scott
10th	Isaac Andrews
16th	Callum Barden-Underhill
17th	Janice Gray
17th	Joyce Webster
18th	Jenne Cunliffe
19th	Lynda Boonstra
19th	Dominique Ahmed-Robin
21st	George Grande
21st	Jennifer Bellman
22nd	Wally Prater
26th	Gretchen Koch
27th	Evelyn MacKlem
28th	John Butcher
28th	Emmet Deschamps
29th	Mary Tsikouras

Olivia MacLachlan

Matthew Baker

Walk and letter-writing event for First Nations equity

June 11th on Parliament Hill 10:30 to noon

On June 11th, the anniversary of the federal government's apology for Residential Schools, children from across Canada will write letters and walk to support equitable schools and services for First Nations children. Last year in Ottawa, despite the rain, there were 650 passionate and determined students from 12 schools who took part. This year, you are

invited to join with an even greater number of children and their supporters at the 3rd Annual Our Dreams Matter Too

Walk around Parliament Hill.

Six years after the apology, First Nations children should not have to fight for the education, health and child welfare services that all other Canadians enjoy. First Nations children deserve the same chance as others to grow up safely at home, get a good education, be healthy, and proud of their cultures.



If you have children or grandchildren, consider inviting them to write letters to their member of Parliament or the Prime Minister (and doing so yourself too!) See the sample letter below. You can drop letters postage-free in the mailbox, addressed to House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6, or bring them to Parliament Hill on June 11th.

> Consider taking your children out of school for this event and telling their teacher or school principal why you want them to participate in supporting First Nations chil-

dren. Hopefully, even more Ottawa area schools will get involved in this gesture of reconciliation next year.

Copies of letters to be signed are available in Memorial Hallway.

Shannen had a dream....

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Shannen Koostachin of Attawapiskat First Nation in Northern





Sample letter:

June 11, 2014

The Dreams of First Nations Children Matter Too!
First Nations children should not have to fight for services all other Canadians enjoy. Give First Nations children the same chance to grow up safely at home, get a good education, be healthy, and proud of their cultures.

Signed,

Ontario had a dream: safe and comfy schools for First Nations children and youth, and classes that respect First Nations cultures. Starting in 1996 when she was eleven years old, Shannen worked tirelessly to try to convince the federal government to give First Nations children a proper education and fair funding.

Here's what she said to federal politicians: "I want to tell you what it is like to never have the chance to feel excited about being educated... It's hard to feel pride when your classrooms are cold, and the mice run over our lunches. It's hard to feel like you could have a chance to grow up to be somebody important when you don't have proper resources like libraries and science labs. You



know that kids in other communities have proper schools. So you begin to feel as if you are a child who doesn't count for anything... That's why some of our students begin to give up in grade 4 and grade 5... We want our younger brothers and sisters to go to school thinking that school is a time for hopes and dreams of the future. Every kid deserves this."

When she was 15, Shannen had to leave her community to go to high school and, tragically, in 2010 she died in a car accident while away from home. Indigenous and non-Indigenous children from across Canada now join together to carry her dream forward and keep her work alive, through *Shannen's Dream*.

Attawapiskat's new school is expected to finally open for the 2014-2015 school year, 15 years after the old school was condemned and replaced by inadequate "temporary" portable classrooms. But there are still hundreds of First Nations communities in need of equitable schools across Canada.

Here are a few facts about First Nations education (from the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society):

- Schools on reserve are funded by the federal government but bound by provincial law and standards
- First Nations receive approximately \$2,000-\$3,000 less per child than the provincial system
- Zero dollars are provided for things like libraries, computers, learning languages or extra-curricular activities
- Health issues include: black mold contamination, high carbon dioxide levels, rodent and reptile infestations, sewage fumes in schools and unheated portables
- There are approximately 803
 First Nations schools in Canada. Less than half of these
 (49%) were listed in "good"
 condition in a 2009 report of
 the Parliamentary Budget



Officer.

• In a sample of 400 schools surveyed by the Assembly of First Nations in 2011/2012, 47% were in need of major maintenance, repairs or upgrades. Over 50 % of these schools have been waiting more than 5 years for repairs.

Parkdale's Senior Youth Group viewed the National Film Board's recently-released documentary about the *Shannen's Dream* campaign called "Hi Ho Mistahey".

Besides *Shannen's Dream*, the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society hosts other campaigns. *I am a witness* supports the human rights case for equitable child welfare funding so that First Nations children living on reserve get the same chance to grow up safely at home.







Jordan's principle demands that the needs of the child come first in any

jurisdictional disputes between the federal and provincial governments regarding services to First Nations children.

Find more information from First Nations Child and Family Caring Society at:

www.fncaringsociety.com

Submitted by Elise Mennie





Did you know? The United Church crest reflects Aboriginal spirituality

On August of 2012, at the 41st General Council, The United Church of Canada acknowledged the presence and spirituality of Aboriginal peoples in the United Church by revising the church's crest. The crest changes include incorporating the colours often associated with the Aboriginal Medicine Wheel. The Medicine Wheel, which reflects respect for diversity and interdependence, is often represented in the four traditional colours of yellow, red, black, and white, which incorporate important teachings from the four directions, the four stages of life, and the four seasons. The placement of these colours will vary according to the traditions of the nation. The Medicine Wheel teaches us to seek balance in the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of the circle of life. The crest changes also include the addition of the Mohawk phrase "Akwe Nia'Tetewá:neren" [aw gway-- nyah day day waw-- nay renh], which means "All my relations."

June is Aboriginal Heritage Month

You can enjoy many opportunities to learn about and celebrate the cultures of our Aboriginal neighbours. All are welcome!

"Honour our Truths' Commemorative Residential School Exhibit

Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health, 299 Montreal Road. Visit during the centre's operating hours 9 a.m to 5:30 pm Mon to Fri. The entire community is also welcome to Wabano Centre's **Culture nights** every Monday from 5 to 8 pm to share drumming, song, crafts, a meal and elder teachings. Info at www.wabano.com

Sunday, June 8th, 11:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Algonquins of Pikwakanagan Art & Music Festival Pow Wow

Makwa ball field, 59 Pakwanagemag, Goldern Lake, Ontario. http://calendar.powwows.com/events/algonquins-of-pikwakagan-art-and-music-festival

June 13th to 15th

Westfest Music Festival in Westboro

A Tribe Called Red on the Domicile Main Stage, corner of Richmond Road & Kirkwood Avenue on Sunday, June 15th, 9:30 to 11:00. Free admission!

June 20-21-22

Summer Solstice Arts Festival & Pow Wow

Vincent Massey Park Free admission!

Family fun zone, interactive arts and crafts, continuous music and dance, art, food, fashion market.

Pow Wow competition: Grand entries Friday 6 p.m., Saturday noon and 6 p.m., Sunday noon.

www.ottawasummersolstice.ca

June 21 is National Aboriginal Day in Canada



Later this summer...

July 23 to 27

Asinabka Film & Media Arts Festi-

val "Celebrating Indigenous Arts in Algonquin Territory". Features films on Indigenous issues in Canada and internationally and promotes Aboriginal film-makers. Screenings in various locations in Ottawa www.asinabkafestival.org

August 16-17

Algonquins of

Pikwàkanagàn Traditional Pow

Wow, Golden Lake, Ontario www.algonquinsofpikwakanagan.com

Family Camp

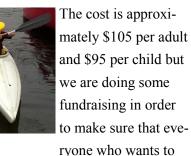
The weekend of June 20-22, we are hoping that everyone who

enjoys the Lord's creation will join us at Gracefield Camp in Quebec.
We'll enjoy breathing in fresh piney air, swimming and boating on the

lake, hiking and biking on beautiful wooded paths, listening to loons in the evening and, best of all, gathering around the campfire together. We plan for this time to be an opportunity to grow closer to God and each other through worshiping and playing together.

People of all ages, couples and singles, are welcome. As this is a family retreat, we expect that children and youth will come with their parents. Accommodations of various kinds are available, from tenting and trailer sites to lodge and cabins, all with access to indoor plumbing and hot

showers. All meals are provided from Saturday breakfast to Sunday lunch.



can attend. If you wish to make a donation in support of the camp, please put it in your offering envelope, clearly marked "camp".

This weekend is going to create wonderful memories and we think you will want to have a part in these memories. Please come and see us at the camp table near the coffee after church to register as soon as possible in early June.



COUNCIL MEETING — MAY 6, 2014

After welcoming Council members, Chair Blaine Pauling passed the floor to Reverend Anthony Bailey, who led members in a thought-provoking devotion on the theme "Bread for Life". This had been the theme of the 2014 Convocation of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, where Anthony had delivered a sermon to over 7,000 participants.

To open our time of devotion, Anthony read a Bread Poem. Then, in groups, we named as many different types of bread as we could think of: we shared 'bread' stories from our lives; and listed as many biblical bread stories/references as we could. In plenary, we briefly shared highlights of the group discussions. Then we celebrated communion, using the lovely pottery paten and goblet made by homeless people in Jamaica, which Anthony had received as gifts at the Convocation. Standing in a circle, we offered the bread and the cup to our neighbour, saying "I offer you the Bread of Life" and "I offer you the Cup of Salvation". Anthony then blessed the remaining fragments and closed with prayer. It was a meaningful time of reflecting on bread as a symbolic metaphor for sustenance.

Moving to the business part of the meeting, Blaine brought two letters to the attention of Council, one from Ottawa West Community Support,

thanking Parkdale for its financial support and for the presence of Derek Fortune on their Board, where he acts as Treasurer, and the second from the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands thanking Parkdale for Anthony's participation at the Synodical Convocation Service at the Montego Bay Conference Centre – April 25-29. (Copies of these letters are included elsewhere in this edition of The Messenger.) In addition, it was noted that Reverend Ruggles Constant, who served Parkdale from 1989 to 1991, had recently passed away; a letter of condolence has been sent to the Ruggles family.

Blaine then referred Council members to the draft report from the Long-Range Planning Pre-Planning Task Group, comprising Melodee Lovering, Kathleen Stephenson and Blaine Pauling, and solicited feedback. The document, which is intended to be 'evergreen', outlines the goal and purpose of the planning process, proposes criteria for potential committee membership, and provides an overview of the planning process. Council accepted the draft document and requested that regular updates on Committee work be provided to Council and that the congregation be engaged at an early stage. It was agreed that an overview of the process, which will include an inventory of all ministries, activities and facility usage, would be provided to the congregation on May 25. It

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was also agreed that a Council Retreat would be held on October 4, where long-range planning would be the focus of discussion. The tentative objective is to present the draft plan to the congregation at the AGM in February 2015; delays in the process may require a longer timeframe.

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 reports follows:

Beth Gutsell reported on behalf of the Finance Committee, which is pleased to announce the addition of two new committee members - Andrew Macdonell and Sara Chen-Wing. There was an interesting discussion with Parkdale's CIBC investment advisor at their last meeting. Parkdale's Investment Policy Statement (IPS), adopted seven years ago, is overdue for revision, so the Committee will be looking at this in coming months. With respect to the current financial situation, receipts are up slightly – approximately \$4K - over the same time last year. Capital funds have not yet been spent because pending projects require better weather. At the end of the first quarter, receipts appear to be on track with budget, with 25% of the annual budget received.

Marilyn Hahn advised that the May 4 New Members' breakfast, provided by the **Membership Development Committee**, had been a wonderful opportunity to engage with those joining Parkdale, many of whom have been active participants in Parkdale events for several years. A warm welcome to all who joined Parkdale on May 4!

On behalf of the Communications Committee, Carolynn Halkett highlighted the current initiative of profiling various Council members in the e-newsletter, the new banners that were in place for the Spring Rummage Sale, which have information for the Fall Rummage Sale on the reverse, and the advertising that was done for the Spring Rummage Sale and the Mothers' Day Spa.

On behalf of Trustees, Ken Elder reported that discussions at their last meeting had included various requests for lease and rental renewals, adjustments to temperature controls on the Tape Hall dishwasher, installation of a TV in the Senior Sunday School room, renewal of the Expert Irrigation contract and acceptance of a quote from Chubb Edwards for the fire alarm system inspection. Under new business, Property Trustees agreed that they would seek more estimates for re-paving the Gladstone parking lot, installation of a stainless steel back-splash in the Ladies' Parlour kitchen, and the reconnection of the piping to the radiator in the Chapel. Trustees are also looking at reviving CPR (Clean, Paint Repair) Days and conducting an experiment in refinishing the pew backs in the sanctuary.

With respect to **Faith Formation** and Christian Enrichment, Paul Crabtree reported briefly on the successful exchange trip to Haida Gwaii; the youth who participated will provide a report on May 25, during 'smoothie Sunday'. Planning is well underway for the June Family Camp in Gracefield, Quebec. Proceeds from the Sunday school picnic in early June will offset some costs. A new TV will be mounted on the wall in the Senior Sunday School room in the near future. Discussions have begun with respect to a potential youth retreat in the fall.

Barbara Faught advised that the **Worship Committee** will welcome two new members at its next meeting.

Mary McLeod, on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team reported a very well received forgiveness workshop on April 6, led by Darlene Garner Kuehn and her husband Roland, as well as a wonderful Special Communion service on April 27 conducted by Rev. Debbie Roi, with special music offered by Joan Scott. Easter lilies were delivered to home-bound seniors on Easter Sunday; thanks to Muriel Bellman for organizing this and to all who delivered lilies. The Prayer Shawl Ministry, introduced to Parkdale by Debbie, began with the presentation of shawls to Troy, Melodee and Anthony on Palm Sunday: the congregation is invited to support this ministry in various ways, as outlined in the May Messenger. Our hope is that many people will feel

blessed and comforted by the prayer shawls.

Samantha Tim reported that the Stewardship Committee is planning a financial stewardship workshop on September 20, with Paul Sales and Anthony Bailey in attendance; the focus will be debt management and estate planning. Samantha also reported delays in finalizing the report of the Memorial Fund Working Group, primarily due to illness and challenges in getting the group together. The work continues, however, and a report to the June meeting of Council is anticipated. The Committee continues its discussions on how to highlight the importance of a God-centred approach to financial support for Parkdale ministries.

Reports from Melodee and Anthony were received; Debbie was pursuing Phase I of Spiritual Directors' Program at the time of the May 6 Council meeting. We look forward to hearing from Debbie about this over coming months.

Melodee reported that recruitment of Sunday school teachers for the Fall session, as well as people who will oversee the summer program has begun. A good leadership team is in place for the youth program, with assistance from Joanna Hamley, Rob Hilkes and Tom Grozinger. The GodlyPlay team in place in the preschool to grade one is running smoothly with able assistance from Ellen Andrews, Dave Smith and Jaylyn Wong, Wendy Reid and

Cathy Lees. Teachers in the elementary program – grades 2-6 – have included Camille Beaufort, Michelle Bailey, Paul Crabtree, Jocelyn Baden-Underhill, Mary Catherine Harpur and Melodee; they are using the Gospel Light curriculum. We give God thanks for the dedication of these people to this important ministry to our children. Plans are well underway for the June family camp from June 20-22. Fundraisers, which allow us to bring families to camp who would not otherwise be able to attend have included the pancake supper, the spa day and the sale of coffee; gifts can be also made through offering envelopes.







The April Coffee Shop was very well patronized, with recent offerings of quiche, salad and citrus bars; May 25 is the next coffee shop – the annual fruit smoothie day! The Colleges and Careers group has begun its "Foundations" study group, under the leadership of Lauren Barbour. Parents and Tots meet on Wednesday mornings and held its first clothing and toy swap in early April, with leftovers sent to the rummage sale and then to a women's shelter. DaleSong continues to grow in community and in faith, with Jono Hamer-Wilson filling in for Marianne Dos Santos while she is on maternity leave, following the birth of Felix in April. There is certainly much to give God thanks for on the Youth and Young Families front!

Anthony reported on the conclusion of a very well-subscribed and faithenriching Lenten series on Courage (co-led with Debbie); a wonderful In From the Cold Appreciation Dinner that celebrated the end of 12 seasons of this important ministry: the Seder Supper organized by staff and held on Maundy Thursday. Anthony noted that, following the ecumenical service on Good Friday, there had been some preliminary discussion among staff of the possibility of future ecumenical partnering with different churches for various events.

In addition to his participation at the April Convocation in Jamaica, Anthony led baptismal seminars (four baptisms on May 11), as well as marriage preparation courses, and supported and encouraged the decision of thirteen people who chose to become full members of Parkdale on May 4. In addition to ongoing hospital and home visits, Anthony offered bereavement support to two families losing loved ones, including Winston Griffith (funeral service on April 19) and Amy Abell (Memorial Service on May 10). May God continue to comfort and bless these and other families. Anthony also expressed his appreciation for the leadership and enthusiasm being experienced in a number of faith formation small groups.

Mëssenger

Over the next few weeks, dates of note include:

May 19-23 - Anthony on Study Leave at the North American Festival of Homiletics in Minneapolis

June 1 – Celebration of Communion

June 8 – Pentecost Sunday...BBO Picnic

June 13-20 – Anthony on vacation

June 15 – Special Father's Day Service led by Melodee, Debbie and friends

June 29 – Reverend Debbie Roi preaching; Anthony is guest preacher at Lac Marois, Quebec Summer Chapel

The next meeting of Council will be on **June 10** in the Ladies Parlour, starting with a Pot Luck Dinner. As always, congregation members are welcome to attend. Helen closed the meeting in prayer.



Summer Event 2014! July 26-27 Ramada Hotel and Conference Centre, Cornwall Ontario

Members of the Parkdale congregation are invited to attend the 73rd Summer Event 2014, a weekend of worship, music and fellowship for men, women and children.

The theme is "How Can I Keep from Singing", with leadership provided by Lynda-Jean Coffin, Louise Shaw, June and Paul MacMillan, Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle and Janice Knowles.

Registration for the programme and meals is \$75 per person.

The deadline for registration is **June 27, 2014**.

Accommodations are to be booked through the Ramada Hotel & Conference Centre in Cornwall at \$138.00 per person (tax incl.) with full continental breakfast. Rooms are guaranteed until June 27, 2014. There is an indoor pool, outdoor patio and exercise room available for guests.

For additional information and registration forms, please contact Beth Gutsell at 613-729-8228.

The 73rd Summer Event is sponsored by the **Montreal & Ottawa Conference** United Church Women.

UCW Fellowship Day



Monday June 9, 2014

Aylmer United Church, 164 rue Princinpale, Aymer

The women of Parkdale United Church are cordially invited to attend the Ottawa Presbyterial UCW Fellowship Day on Monday, June 9, 2014 at Aylmer United Church in Aylmer, QC. Registration followed by refreshments will begin at 9:30 a.m. with time to visit the book display and purchase fair trade items.

Lunch will be provided by Aylmer UCW at a cost of \$8.00 per person.

The guest speaker for the day will be Mia Overduin who is associated with the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Her presentation will focus on her recent mission trip to Africa where she visited a number of grassroots projects which provide a lifeline for



those communities stricken by poverty and HIV/AIDS.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Beth Gutsell at 613-729-8228 no later than Tuesday, June 3, 2014 so that numbers attending can be forwarded to Aylmer UCW. If you need transportation, please contact Beth.

Directions:

After crossing the Champlain Bridge turn left at the traffic lights at Chemin d'Aylmer (rue Prinicpale) and proceed 10 km to Aylmer. The church is located on the southwest corner of rue Principale and Wilfrid Lavigne Blvd. across from Canadian Tire and Galeries d'Aylmer. Parking is available at St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church just west of Aylmer UC or at Canadian Tire.



Faithfully Handling 'Our' Money: A Workshop on Financial Stewardship

September 20, 2014, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm Parkdale United Church (Tape Hall)

Did you know there is more written in the Bible about our relationship with money and property than about heaven and hell, prayer, or faith? Now it is not that these latter themes are not crucial, they are. However Jesus knew that our relationship with money and property had huge implications for our spiritual lives and the just and peaceful life of society; hence he taught more about this subject than any other – there are over 800 references to money.



Financial stewardship is probably one of the most misunderstood subjects in the Bible and yet one of the most important. Jesus Himself said in Luke 16:10-11:

10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?

In other words, one message that emerges from this text is that we cannot compartmentalize our faithfulness. We are called to be faithful in small ways and in significant ways; with our time and with our money; in our leisure and in our worship and prayer life. Our attitudes towards and practices around our finances are important aspects of our spiritual faithfulness. The reference in the text to "true riches" has to do with

spiritual things that money can't buy. It seems to be saying that how we wisely and generously handle our money is deeply related to how we handle our faith and other spiritual practices.

We often believe that the money we have belongs to us. After all, we earned it. We have scrimped, we have saved, and we may even be working two jobs to make ends meet. We earned it, so it must be ours. Right? Well, let us explore this in the context of our faith.

On Saturday, 20 September 2014, join us for a financial stewardship workshop. In this morning time together using Biblical principles and insights from Planned and Legacy giving, we will explore what it means to live debt-free, to reflect on our attitudes and management of our finances, to see the relationship between generosity and faith, and to financially support God's ministries



ANOTHER LOOK AT "AFTER TWO NIGHTS"

PAMBY: Good morning, Namby.

NAMBY: And a very good morning to you too, Pamby.

PAMBY: I've been thinking a lot about what you said about your dream and your interview with the fellow Jesus.

NAMBY: Yes, I remember that we had reached the part where he admitted that he was dead but was beginning to explain why he was alive again.

PAMBY: That is the part of his story which intrigues and puzzles me at the same time.

NAMBY: It's the part of the interview that would have puzzled me as well had I not been speaking to him face to face.

PAMBY: So, what was so different about being face to face with him?

NAMBY: Well, he spoke simply and didn't behave as if it was anything extraordinary for him. It was as

if he knew that he would be alive again, that he expected it all along.

PAMBY: Really? And didn't he seem overconfident to you?

NAMBY: Not at all. A strange thing happened as he spoke; I heard the words, but I was also hearing something coming from deep within him, a kind of inner voice making a declaration

PAMBY: What are you talking about?

NAMBY: The best words that come to my mind to describe it are *conviction;* for he really seemed convinced; *belief* – there was no doubt in his mind; it all seemed to me that he was stating his *faith* that everything would turn out the way he expected, and that's exactly what had happened.

PAMBY: So, did you tell him that that was how he made you feel when he spoke?

NAMBY: No, I was thinking so much about what he said that I thought it best to be silent. And then, very quietly, he asked me "Namby, do you believe that I am alive again?"

PAMBY: And what was your answer?

NAMBY: First, I said to myself, "Oh my god! What is this guy asking

me? Then, I said to myself, "Get a life, Namby, if the guy is sitting talking to you, you must believe that he is alive; so then, I said to him, yes, I believe that you are alive".

PAMBY: Sure, it was easy for you; you were seeing a physical body which you could touch; you were hearing his voice, you were seeing him having a hot chocolate. But what about people like me who have never seen him, not even in a dream? How can I say that he is alive again?

NAMBY: I understand what you are saying. It's easy for me or anybody else to believe that somebody is alive if I am actually seeing them as a physical being or hearing their voice which I have actually heard before and can recognize, but do we only believe what we can see with our eyes?

PAMBY: NO, I believe that the earth and other planets go around the sun, but I have never really seen it happen; I also believe that a healthy sperm can fertilize an egg to produce a foetus; I have never seen the process of fertilization, but I know that it happens.

NAMBY: It looks as if you are saying that you and I do have the ability to see and believe some things without our eyes.

PAMBY: Or can we say it another way ,which is that we have eyes which aren't physical?

NAMBY: Yes, I wonder if that is what we mean when we talk about Faith.

PAMBY: When you said the word faith, I thought about the story of Job, the fellow who lost everything and still said that he believed that he would one day see God.

NAMBY: And I thought about the story of Abraham who believed that he was told to leave his country for another one which he knew nothing about, but set out to find it nonetheless because he believed that God was leading him.

PAMBY: So, from all that we have been saying, would you tell me that if I believe that Jesus is alive again, for me, he is actually alive?

NAMBY: I would say "yes". And when I say "alive", I am not thinking of a physical body which I can see with my eyes, although we know that there are countless images of a "supposed" Jesus in Art and Literature.

PAMBY: So, what kind of Jesus IS ALIVE for you?

NAMBY: I guess that I understand that he is Alive by what I have been describing as *faith*, a way of seeing and believing which depends on trust rather than facts; you know how it is in our world; if you can't demonstrate that something is true

by the facts which you or I can see with the naked eye, we don't believe it.

PAMBY: Wait a minute! Are you telling me to ignore *facts*, that *faith* is more important?

NAMBY: No, I'm saying that there is a place for both in our world. Let's look at it like this? Do you believe in Love?

PAMBY: Sure

NAMBY: Okay, but it's not something that you can see or touch, like a book, a computer or a car, is it?

PAMBY: No, I see where you are going with that; I agree; we can't see or touch hope, or friendship or anger either.

NAMBY: That's right. But how then do we know that they are alive?

PAMBY: I guess when we see them in other people and demonstrate them in our own lives.

NAMBY: Perhaps that is how I believe that Jesus is Alive, when I see other people trying to do and live as he taught.

PAMBY: Sounds like *faith* and *facts* together.

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March 27, 2014

Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey Parkdale United Church

429 Parkdale Avenue

55 Eccles Street Ottawa, Ont. K1R 6S3

Ottawa, ON KIY 1H3 General (613) 238-8210 Health (613) 238-1220

Fax: General (613) 238-7595 Health (613) 235-2982

www.swchc.on.ca

Dear Rev. Dr. Bailey and Parkdale Trustees,

On behalf of Queensway Preschool and Somerset West Community Health Centre, I would like to thank Parkdale United Church for its generous monetary donation of Queensway Preschool is very fortunate to have the ongoing support of Parkdale

United Church and our long standing relationship is truly valued by us.

At 55 Eccles Street

Administration

Health Services

Community and

Community Services

Nanny goat Hill

Regards.

Cindy D. Giddings, RECE, BA Onsite Supervisor Queensway Preschool.





Eng 8

April 28, 2014

Parkdale United Church 429 Parkdale Avenue Ottawa, ON K1Y 1H3

Dear friends,

Thank you for your support of Interval House of Ottawa. Your gift of \$250.00 will allow our staff and volunteers to provide emergency housing to over 285 women and children this year, answer more than 2000 crisis calls, and offer healing programs and activities for everyone residing in our home.

Interval House of Ottawa is the longest running women's shelter in Ottawa. Since 1976, we have provided emergency housing and programming to women and children fleeing violence because of the support of our donors. Thank you again for your generosity; we could not do our work without your help.

Sincerely,

Kia Rainbow Executive Director

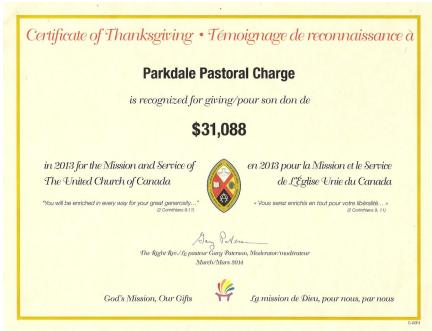
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PO Box 40089 2515 Bank Street Ottawa, ON KIV oW8 ihouse@bellnet.ca intervalhouseottawa.org

Business: Crisis Line: TTY: Facsimile:

613.234.8511 613.234.5181 613.234.5393 613.234.9474 "committed to ending the cycle of violence and to empowering women and children who are victims of violence"

Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou!



Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou!

ATTENTION ALL GARDEN LOVERS

(Those who don't like to see weeds in our beds around the church)

In order to continue to keep our Memorial Garden and all other beds around the church looking beautiful from May to October, could you help? The beds have been divided up into small sections and numbered. If one or two people could sign up to be responsible for a section for the summer, it would take very little time each week to keep everything in tip top shape. If one person was away on vacation, another could take over. If you would like to take part and choose a section, the sign-up sheet and diagram of numbered sections are in the Gladstone Hallway.



RECIPE

DEBORAH'S BROCCOLI SALAD

Here is one of my favourite summer salads and one that lights up the eyes of my family each time I bring it to the table.



SALAD

Medium size heads of broccoli (cut into bite size pieces)

½ cup baby carrots (shredded/thinly sliced)

1/4 cup red onions (diced) 1/2 cup dried cranberries

½ cup raisins

1 cup shredded cheese (3 or 6 cheese blend)

1/2 cup almond slices (roasted)...substitute: sunflower seeds
 8 maple flavoured bacon slices (cooked and crumbled)

Roast almonds using frying pan (medium heat). Heat 2 tablespoons of olive oil, add almond slices and stir regularly until they are golden brown in colour. Set aside and let them cool.

Use same frying pan, and cook your bacon on a medium heat (until it is somewhat crispy)...let it cool and crumble into bits.
Mix all salad ingredients into your bowl, and toss it.

DRESSING

½ cup fat free mayonnaise

½ cup Rancher's Choice Three Cheese Dressing

¹/₄ cup (approx.) white sugar

2 tbps red wine vinegar (standard white vinegar can also be used)

Mix mayonnaise, three cheese dressing, and vinegar together Gradually add and stir in the white sugar (to add sweetness)

*This is done to taste, so you may decide not to use all ¼ cup of sugar

<u>Note:</u> Just before you are ready to serve the salad, pour dressing over the salad and toss...it's ready to go!

Submitted by Deborah Bellware



Barbecue Picnic! June 8

June 8 is the date set for the annual beginning-of-summer barbecue, held after the service. The Christian Enrichment Committee is seeking a team of volunteers for this event. Shopping and how-to lists are available. If you would like to help, please contact Ellen Andrews at 613-745-3564 or eandrews@sympatico.ca, or Melodee at melodeelovering63@yahoo.ca















Dad's Sunday Service – June 15th

On June 15th, the worship service will have a special focus on "what would church be like if Dads were in charge". With this in mind, we are urging everyone to dress more casually that day. Also, men (not just Dads but all the guys) may make suggestions about music to DaleSong who will be leading music that day. Any reasonable suggestions about how our worship could be more men-friendly are also welcome. If you have any ideas please contact Melodee at 613-728-8656 ext.226 or melodeelovering63@yahoo.ca

Mëssenger



OTTAWA PRESBYTERY MEETING - MAY 2014

Ottawa Presbytery was warmly welcomed for its last meeting of the pastoral year on May 13, 2014 by the congregation of Shawville United Church. The warm rural hospitality and great home cooking made up for the rainy drive. Chair Trish Elliott called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm and guests were welcomed, including a contingent from Église Unie de la Grâce United who were present for the covenanting with Éric Hébert as a candidate for ordained ministry. Albert Armstrong, Chair of the Board for the Shawville congregation extended words of welcome and wished the presbytery well in its work. Chair Trish then invited the court to pause in prayer and remember the couple in the Shawville community killed in a fatal highway accident early that morning, their children as well as the woman who had been critically injured. Silent prayer was concluded with the singing of the Lord's Prayer. Lorena Duncan shared her gifts as the musician in residence for the evening.

Rev. David Sherwin, the Minister Director of the new ministry project *Faith and Arts Ottawa*, led in worship inviting the court into reflection of the call of the disciples. Projected images created space for personal meditation on the theme of following Christ. David then went on to describe the evolution of *Faith and Arts Ottawa* since its formation by Ottawa Presbytery in February 2012.

The ministry developed from a proposal to the "New Ministries Fund" of the United Church of Canada. David has been employed on a part time (20 hours per week) basis. It has been an exciting journey with many things learned along the way. The ministry is looking forward to "godVERBATIM", a production about perceptions and experiences of spirituality that will run as part of the Fringe Festival in June 2014 and to being the sponsoring body of "CRACKS - a festival of spirituality, art and social justice" in November 2014.

The court then conducted its regular business, including a large consensus packet including the end of pastoral year work of the Presbytery ministry teams (committees). The correspondence noted that the Presbytery has received gifts from the proceeds of the sale of the Wesley property and the Westboro property.

Each year in May, the Presbytery celebrates the ministry milestones of colleagues. This year the celebration included covenanting with Éric Hébert as a candidate for ministry; honouring of retirees Rev. Jan Lougheed, D. M. and Rev. Neil Wallace; the anniversaries of ordinations and commissionings and the long-time service of presbyter Isobel Eastman who has served as a representative for 25 years.

Montreal and Ottawa Conference will be electing commissioners to General Council 42 at the AGM and Ottawa Presbytery nominated the four persons to be considered by the Conference: Hanna Strong, Commissioner under 30; David Patterson, Lay Representative; Rev. Kim Vidal, Order of Ministry; Rev. Elizabeth Bryce, Order of Ministry.

The Diversity Ministry Team brought a proposal asking for the support of Ottawa Presbytery to its request that Montreal and Ottawa Conference begin the process of formally becoming an Affirming Conference. The Presbytery transmitted the request with its concurrence (support).

A budget review working group had been established in the Fall of 2012 to bring recommendations regarding the Presbytery's financial management principles and practices, with a view to balancing the budget. The working group presented its work: through more rigorous investment practice, supported by a bequest received over the last couple of years, it was able to make recommendations that were focused on balancing the budget through investment strategies rather than expenditure cuts to programming and staff or increased assessments. The recommendations were adopted with slight revisions.

The *Ministries in French* Ministry team presented "C'est la Vie", a time when presbyters learn about French

church vocabulary. The lesson of the evening was on the distinctions between Une **FOIS** - Le **FOIE** - La



FOI.

The Mission Strategy Ministry Team brought recommendations to the court regarding Mission priorities for the presbytery. The priorities are guiding principles that name innovation, community engagement, new ministry direction, clearly stated mission and partnerships as key components. The priorities will guide decision-making about resource allocation.

Rev. Hilary Merritt, Youth and Young Adult Minister for Ottawa Presbytery, shared moments from the Haida Gwaii SEVEC exchange and news about upcoming opportunities for YAYA participation. Visit the YAYA facebook page to get the latest news!

The Presbytery approved the annual report of the Nominations committee and elected for the coming pastoral year: David Lee as Chair and Rev. Anne Montgomery as Chair-Elect. The Presbytery also moves to the

new Executive model and elected the five Executive members at large: Rev. Steve Clifton; Rev. Karen Boivin; Mary Laidlaw; Jodi Hoar; and Jim Watchorn.

The meeting concluded about 9:15 pm and Chair Trish sent presbyters home by having them stand and participate in an action blessing. The Presbytery next meets in September at Glebe-St. James, the home congregation of incoming Chair, David

Lee. The Executive will meet June 3-4.

The Presbytery is beginning to look for congregations to host meetings during the 2014-2015 year. If you are interested, please be in touch with the office. Woodroffe has offered to host in February 2015 but October, November, December, January, March, April and May are still available!

Submitted by Derek Fortune

Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou!

the Stephen Lewis FOUNDATION

Turning the Tide of HIV/AIDS in Africa

Parkdale United Church 429 Parkdale Ave Ottawa, ON K1Y 1H3

Dear Friends at Parkdale United Church

I've written several letters like this over the years. There is, I must admit, a certain repetitive quality. From time totime, the Foundation staff therefore appeals to me to draft something that has a new and original touch. This, then, is the current effort.

But it's easier than usual. I don't have to contrive anything: there's something urgent to say

In 2011, the international scientific community put together what is being called a "Prevention Combination" to address the pandemic of AIDS. It consists of three over-riding ingredients.

First is the theory of **Treatment as Prevention**. Simply put, the phrase means that the more people you put on treatment, the more it will reduce transmission of the virus to partners. The process has to do with lowering the viral load in the body: it sounds complicated, but it's not. It works. And overwhelmingly, in the world of HIV and AIDS, Treatment as Prevention has become the best discovery of the last decade.

Then there's the **prevention of vertical transmission** of the virus from mother to child during pregnancy, labour, delivery and breast-feeding. The appropriate drug regimen can prevent transmission by nearly 100%! The baby emerges HIV-negative and the mother stays on the drugs, kept alive, hopefully for an entire lifetime.

...over

Finally we have male circumcision. I know that's a difficult idea for many men to accept, but it's now a medical fact, proven through unassailable studies, that men who are circumcised are subject to dramatically reduced rates of infection. Thus it is that across Africa, men are lining up to be circumcised in surgically-safe environments.

There are other preventive interventions afoot, from progress on a vaccine to dramatic progress on the production of a microbicide - a gel, foam or cream, vaginally-applied - that can prevent transmission. We're not there yet in either case, but we're closer, much closer,

All of this has led major scientific journals to talk about 'The End of AIDS'. Both Hillary Clinton and President Obama have used the same phrase. It's a thrilling prospect.

Yet, right at the threshold of victory over the pandemic, the funding is drying up. The reduction in funding from donor governments is so severe that in late 2011, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria announced cancellation of its next round of grants. It won't have new money for treatment, prevention and care until 2014! It's a disaster, and it spells certain death for untold numbers of Africans; women, men and children.

Many of the African countries, governments and publics alike, are panic-stricken

So how does all of this tie in with a thank you letter? Simple: what you are doing with your contribution is keeping hope alive and work continuing on the ground, at community level, in yet another dark hour for Africa. There's something perverse and detestable about reducing resources right at the moment when we know that AIDS can be vanguished. But at least the Stephen Lewis Foundation doesn't have to be part of that repugnant pattern.

You're proving again, with your generous donation, that Canadians care deeply about the struggle for survival on the African continent, and will not bend to the reprehensible call for cutbacks.

That deserves more than thanks. It deserves appreciation, affection and applause. Africa loves you for it.

With full heart, I extend all of those accolades to you.

Yours sincerely.

Chair of the Foundation



Turning the Tide of HIV/AIDS in Africa

260 Spadina Avenue, Suite 501 Toronto, ON MsT 2E4 Tel: 416-533-9292 Toll free: 1-888-203-9990 Fax: 416-850-4910 www.stephenlewisfoundation.org

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

This is to certify that we have received from:

Gift Amount: \$500.00

Benefit Amount: None

Parkdale United Church

429 Parkdale Ave

Date Received: 27/03/2014

Ottawa, ON K1Y 1H3

Location Issued: Toronto, ON

This acknowledgement of your contribution is provided for your records only and is not an official tax receipt. If you have questions regarding your contribution, please contact our office, BN/Charitable Registration Number RR 89635 4008 RR0001 Canada Revenue Agency website: www.cra-arc.gc.ca/charities

Mëssenger



EDITORIAL BOARD

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Contributors: Helen Hayes, Beth Gutsell, Anthony Bailey, John Harewood, Hazel Bowen, Valerie Hum, Derek Fortune, Samantha Tim, Deborah Bellware, Peter Meerburg, Brenda Cardillo, Faye Beaufort, Elise Mennie

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

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

> Next issue: **September 2014.** Editor next issue: Danica Rogers Please submit articles and materials to messenger@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca

or the church office

by Sunday August 17th* *3rd last Sunday of each month