

the Messenger

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



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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.

The Parkdale Congregation



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In Brief:

Unbinding Your Heart

Oct 8—Nov 18th

An invitation to grow in faith.

For more info, see the website

www.parkdaleunitedchurch.ca

or Anthony's message this

month.



Yuletide Bazaar

November 3, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars! Do you

have a talent, a donation or time

to share? See page 33 for more

information.



Parkdale Food Bank

First Sunday of every month

Share your food! See page 38.



Christian Meditation

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. More info

on page 35.



In From The Cold

Starts Saturday, November 10th

Call for volunteers! See page 24.

Parents and Tots

Nursery on Friday mornings, 10

to noon. Moms and Dads

welcome! See page 39.

Yaya - Youth Trip to Zambia

See page 12.

Peacequest—Youth Conference

Building a culture of peace

See page 36.



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Being Restored and Unbound

Last month, Wendy and I had the privilege of returning to Jamaica for a most auspicious celebration. No, it wasn't to join the parade to welcome home those awesome Jamaican athletes who did so well at this past year's London Olympics; although many of them arrived home the same day we landed. Our trip was to join with the people of North Street United Church for their weeklong celebration of the congregation's 175th anniversary. I was afforded the honour of being the guest anniversary preacher on September 16th. Wendy and I were blessed to have served at North Street United for six years (1993-1999) as overseas personnel of the United Church of Canada.

There were two worship services. The morning service celebrated the congregation's actual anniversary, and the afternoon service featured the rededication of the newly refurbished Church building, featuring the Moderator of the United Church in Jamaica and Cayman Islands, the Governor General of Jamaica, Members of Parliament, ecumenical clergy and



other dignitaries.

The congregation began in 1837 with six members who met on the verandah of the Rev. John Woolridge's home, the Mission House of the London Missionary Society in Kingston,

Jamaica. The adjacent parcel of land on which the present church building sits was acquired in February, 1743, and the building was completed in April, 1844.

Many Parkdalers might remember that North Street United suffered a



Jamaica's North Street United sanctuary destroyed by fire in February 2006

devastating fire on February 7th, 2006.

The fire completely destroyed the church building except for the strong stone walls. The members of the congregation and community together hauled over 600 bags of charred debris out of the church shell after the fire. Six years later, by the grace of God and with the help of local

members, former members who now live overseas, partner churches (including Parkdale United), a number of Jamaican businesses and generous supporters, the building in which the congregation worships and the base for its ministries has been restored and refurbished. To God be the glory.

There are still a number of bills to be paid and few things to complete, but

congregation was counselled to abandon that location and join with another congregation because it was said they would never be able to afford to rebuild. Resoundingly the people said “NO”. They refused to abandon the locus of ministry they believe God has called them to steward.

It was a difficult six years but the congregation engaged in fervent



Completed rebuilt North Street sanctuary, rededicated at a celebratory worship service September 16th, at which Dr. Bailey was guest anniversary preacher

the congregation has demonstrated a strident faith, an indomitable spirit, perseverance and a deep dedication to the people of the inner city who they serve through their various ministries. When the fire struck, the

prayer, deep discernment, sacrificial giving and imaginative fundraising, joyful worship and a redoubled commitment to serve the community. They credit the equipping of the Holy Spirit and the

sustaining grace of God for bringing them through. Hence they were not only caught up in the restoration and refurbishment of the building, but also committed to a revitalization of their faith, mutual life together and ministry to the neighbourhood. The challenges in these areas are ongoing. Among the scripture verses



that encouraged those shepherding the congregation, namely the minister and the Council of Elders, were:

“So we rebuild the wall and all the wall was joined together to half its height for the people had a mind to work.” – Nehemiah 4:6

and

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith...”

—
Hebrews 10: 1,2

That latter text was part of a larger

passage on which I preached for the anniversary service. We were reminded in the sermon of a number of things. One, that the Christian faith is caught, learned and lived by focussing on Jesus; his way, his life, his teaching and the significance of his death and resurrection. Two, that the life of faith is difficult. In fact the Greek word translated “race” in verse 1 is “*agona*”. Do you hear that? Yes, it is the word from which our English word ‘agony’ is derived. Right off the bat, the author of Hebrews is reminding the congregation that the Christian life is hard, challenging, in fact at times agonizing. The good news is that there are many cheering us on in this ‘race’; others in the congregation, those who have gone before by their legacy of faith and faithfulness, and especially God – “a great cloud of witnesses”. Focussing on Jesus and being encouraged and supported by others enables us to persevere in faith and life. This is what the people of North Street United are experiencing and, by God’s grace, are continuing to celebrate. This is what we at Parkdale are also seeking to undertake.

We may not have had a devastating fire with which to contend; our fire in the southwest sanctuary door back in May pales in comparison. However, we too are seeking to focus on Jesus and the God whom he discloses. We too are depending on one another and the faith and faithfulness of those who have gone

before to encourage and cheer us on. One concerted way in which we as a congregation are undertaking this is through the **Unbinding Your Heart – Forty days of prayer and faith sharing** initiative beginning this October.

I am sure by now you have heard about this opportunity to be encouraged, supported and blessed by God through God's Spirit and the others with whom we will share this time of prayer, study, faith-sharing and witness. Commencing the week of October 8, small groups will begin meeting. All the people of Parkdale from senior youth on up

are invited to register for a group. These groups, led by members of the congregation who have experienced similar **Unbinding** sessions in the spring, will meet once a week for about an hour or so for six weeks and will be reading/discussing/reflecting on the same theme for that week. This weekly theme will be developed further in the worship service on the Sunday of that week, through music, prayers, preaching etc. The congregation will be journeying together as a whole community over these 40 days of Prayer and Faith Sharing. We will conclude on Sunday, November 18.



Wendy Bailey, front center

NEWS FROM THE PEWS



Birthdays in October Our warmest greetings to:



- Oct 1 - Hannie Fitzgerald
- Lucienne Giroux Koch
- Oct 2 - Chris Wicke
- Isaiah Duah
- Alice Menzies
- Oct 5 - Cora McQuinn
- Oct 7 - Erena Duncan
- Oct 8 - Carl-Henry Mercy
- Oct 9 - Alexander Shaw
- Miss Ells-McLaughlin
- Oct 10 - Amy Evans
- Oct 11 - Arianne Epale
- Delphine Ahmed-Robin
- Vaughn Hall
- Oct 13 - Jaiya Burnett
- Oct 14 - Cathy Lees
- Lois Shouldice
- Oct 15 - Joyce Sibanda
- Oct 16 - Mira Crew
- Oct 17 - Maddy Crabtree
- Mark Bradley
- Oct 19 - Alexis Bannoff
- Oct 22 - Julianna Jeglic
- Oct 23 - Jessica Ann Clark
- Oct 25 - Dawn Walker
- Hannah Johnston
- Oct 26 - Beverley Phillips
- Oct 27 - Tyrese Musenga
- Oct 29 - Isabelle Duncan
- Oct 30 - Nadine Ernest
- Oct 31 - Chania Bailey

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



Sacred Movement Participation at General Council

On August 16th, four members of Parkdale participated in a sacred movement offering at the opening ceremony of the 41st General Council at Carleton University. Camille Beaufort, Elise Mennie, Julee Pauling, and Jennifer Payne joined forces again with Wendy Morrell of Bells Corners United, along with her sacred dancers, for evenings of rehearsal fun before the big day.

The dancers used fabric and movement to represent the sacred healing circle colours and symbol, used as the motif for this year's General Council. These photos were taken during the dress rehearsal.



Rally Sunday: On September 9th, Parkdale United Church held its annual Rally Sunday to kick off a new program year. This photo shows families and members of the congregation enjoying a light lunch together and perusing new program information boards in the background.



**SIMS, John Gerald Fitzroy
"Roy"**

(1926 – 2012)

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our father, Roy Sims on Monday, August 6th, 2012. Predeceased by his loving wife Gwendolyn Mary Sims (nee Ackland) and beloved father of Margo, Jeff (Lori), Tom (Christine), and Beverley. Brother of the late Marion Prezeau, Iris Gray, Phyllis Scharf, Bernard "Buddy" Sims and Mary Wright. Loving grandfather of April, Amber, Ashley, Adam, Jack, Michael and great-grandfather of Julius, Reese, Georgia and Stone. Founder of Roy Sims Display Inc. and lifelong resident of West-End Ottawa, Roy enjoyed his later years spending the winters in Florida. The family offers sincere thanks to the staff of Park Place Retirement Residence and the Ottawa Civic Hospital for their continuous compassion and care. Friends may call at the Garden Chapel of Tubman Funeral Homes, 3440 Richmond Rd. (between Baseline Rd. and Bayshore Dr.), Nepean on Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursday from 10 a.m. until time of service in the chapel at 11 a.m. Those wishing may make memorial donations to

the Heart & Stroke Foundation. Tributes, condolences or donations may be made at www.tubmanfuneralhomes.com



Rev. John Dennis Pickering
(1924-2012)

The Rev. John Dennis Pickering died recently in Exeter, England. Dennis, as he was known, visited Ottawa three times between 1985 and 1990. He developed a warm relationship with Gervis Black and preached at Parkdale several times. His daughter reports that he often spoke of the wonderful hospitality he enjoyed in Canada. Rev. Pickering was eighty-eight when he died with a keen mind until the end.

YAYA trip to Zambia!!!



Are you a young adult looking for a life-changing experience that combines travel, meeting new friends and putting your faith into action?

Are you part of a congregation looking for ways to nurture young adult ministry? Ottawa Presbytery YAYA committee is hosting a partnership visit with the Chipembwi Girls' School in Zambia in May 2013.

for more info contact hmc@uccanotawa.org

ARE YOU a Young Adult looking for **A LIFE-CHANGING**



EXPERIENCE that combines **TRAVEL**, meeting and partnering with **NEW FRIENDS** in another part of the world and putting your **FAITH INTO ACTION?**

Or **ARE YOU** part of a congregation that is looking for ways to nurture and support young adult ministry at home and abroad?

WELL, LOOK NO FURTHER!!!

Ottawa Presbytery's Youth and Young Adult Committee is proposing a Young Adult trip in partnership with the Chipembi Girls' School in Chisamba, Zambia, which is near the capital of Lusaka. Chipembi Girls' School is run by the United Church of Zambia. Why the Chipembi Girls' School? We have been invited!

What are the Benefits Of a Young Adult Mission/Exposure Trip? -developing leadership skills in Young Adults; exposure to another context; faith in action; greater understanding of mission and what that means; faith exploration; learning to organize a mission trip that responds to a request for our involvement; understanding that mission is to/with all involved, ourselves included.

What would we be doing? Chipembi Girls' School is currently involved in a 5-year "resource mobilization campaign" called Autume Luteta or, translated, "Let Us Make The Way." Six key strategies and areas of actions have been identified and we will partner in appropriate activities as determined in dialogue with our hosts. The strategies identified are as follows:

1. Building partnerships and public engagement
2. Honouring Women
3. Come and See- a series of Chipembi community visits will be planned to welcome local and international visitors to the larger Chipembi Mission of which the school is a part. The project will include short and long term visits; internships; volunteers; and community workers. The focus will be on building relationships and shared learning on a variety of issues and questions that impact all in a globalised context. An outcome will be to create a network of Friends of Chipembi, a network enthusiastic in promoting and supporting the life and work of Chipembi Mission and offshoot projects of the Atume Luteta Campaign.
4. Leadership development seminars for girls at Chipembi Girls' Secondary School. The seminars will inform the girls about particular issues while also equipping them with the skills and resources needed to lead similar workshops/seminars in their own contexts. These could include: assertiveness training, entrepreneurship, gender-based violence, girl child

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Dawson is pleased to announce the birth of grand-baby – Heath Aaron Sharples, born Sunday, August 12, weighing 8.8 pounds, to parents Emily and Ralph Sharples and big sister Sydney Zoe Sharples.



City honours current Parkdale Choir member and former Gloucester mayor by naming a bridge after him

As posted by the Ottawa Citizen on August 24, 2012: “Mayor Jim Watson and Innes Ward Councillor Rainer Bloess recognized the many contributions of former Councillor and Mayor of Gloucester, **Harry Allen**, as the City of Ottawa officially named the St. Joseph Boulevard bridge over Green’s Creek the Harry Allen Bridge.

‘Starting with his community projects in Beacon Hill through to his time as Mayor of Gloucester, Harry Allen always kept residents’ best interests at heart,’ said Mayor Watson. ‘It is a great pleasure to recognize Harry Allen’s contributions and legacy.’

‘Harry Allen’s contributions to the former City of Gloucester continue to benefit the residents of Ottawa,’ said Councillor Bloess. ‘We are pleased to provide this honour and recognition for his foresight and his many years of public service.’

As a Councillor and Mayor of the City of Gloucester, Harry Allen made significant contributions to the community. His passion for improving public transit allowed him to complete a number of projects including working alongside OC Transpo to establish more efficient bus routes, re-aligning the Rockcliffe Parkway at St. Joseph Boulevard, and widening a bridge over Green’s Creek.”

Harry is one of our beloved basses in the Choir and a loyal member of the congregation.

- Submitted by Susan Mailer

“What do those stones mean to you?” Adventures in Biblical Archaeology: The Temple

By: Tom Grozinger

“In the four hundred eightieth year after the Israelites came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, he began to build the house of the Lord. The house that King Solomon built for the Lord was sixty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and thirty cubits high.” 1 Kings 6:1-2 (NRSV)

“About the middle of the festival, Jesus went up into the temple and began to teach.” John 7:14 (NRSV)

The Temple of God in Jerusalem

Originally built by King Solomon and completed circa 959 B.C., the Temple design was based on instructions received from God by Solomon's father, King David (1 Chronicles 28:19), who himself was not allowed to build it because God decreed that he was a man of war and had shed blood (1 Chronicles 28:2-3). The Temple is said to have been built on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 3:1) at the place where the Bible states that Abraham's hand was stayed by God's command as Abraham was about to sacrifice his son Isaac in a show of complete obedience to the will of God.

The Temple was also the home of one of the most famous religious artifacts of the Old Testament. Do you know which one? It was the Ark of the Covenant (remember the movie, *Indiana Jones and the Lost Ark*?). This was the vessel that contained the stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments were written. It was the Ark which the Israelites carried with them until Solomon built the Temple and brought the Ark inside to rest in the Temple's inner sanctum, the “Holy of Holies” (2 Chronicles 5:7). The Temple was built not only for the use of the Israelites, but was intended to be a place where peoples of all nations could come to worship and be near the Holy (1 Kings 8:41-43; Isaiah 56:7). In fact, the Bible tells us that the Temple was built with the help of many foreigners (1 Kings 5:1-18). For the Temple was the seat of God's presence on Earth, the place where God would tabernacle with all of God's children.

However, history and the Bible inform us that the Temple eventually lost its true purpose – those in charge sought to restrict access to foreigners, and over time the Temple was less about a place where people could worship God as God intended, and became more about exclusivity and a place where those in power sought to control access to God. The Temple no longer functioned as God had decreed and some of what took

place there no longer bore spiritual fruit. God had told Solomon that if the people turned aside and forsook God's statutes and commandments, and served and worshipped other gods, that the Temple would be cast out of God's sight (2 Chronicles 7:19-20). Although Jesus taught in the Temple (Mk 12:35), he also disrupted what he saw as inappropriate activities taking place in the House of God (Mk 11:15-19) and, eventually, predicted that the Temple would be destroyed (Mk 13:1-8).

In 70 A.D., that is exactly what happened. Rome attacked Jerusalem and left not a stone of the Temple standing. However, the Temple that the Romans destroyed was not the original Temple built by Solomon. It was in fact a 2nd Temple built after the 1st Temple had already been destroyed by the Babylonians under King Nebuchadnezzar circa 586 B.C. This end of the First Temple was the period when many Jews were taken away in captivity, and memorialized in the psalm: "*By the rivers of Babylon – there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion.*" [Psalm 137:1 (NRSV)]. The 2nd Temple, however, was completed circa 515 B.C., after the Jews were able to return to Jerusalem following the defeat of the Babylonians by the Persians.

However, starting around 19 B.C., after King Herod ascended the

throne, he undertook an ambitious expansion of the 2nd Temple and surrounding grounds, leveling Mount Moriah to create a great plaza. To do so, he needed to build a massive retaining wall around the mountain. But, where is the evidence of the 2nd Temple today? Visitors to Jerusalem will not see any remains of the Temple on top of Mount Moriah, but rather a Muslim mosque (the Al-Aqsa Mosque) and the famous Dome of the Rock, with its golden dome gleaming in the sunlight. Is there any evidence that the Temple existed?

When I visited Jerusalem in September, 2011, I had the great fortune of being able to secure tickets to visit what is known as the Western Wall Tunnels. What is the Western Wall? Sometimes referred to as the Wailing Wall, it is the wall often seen in television media or newspaper articles, and is a holy place for those of the Jewish faith. While one might think that this wall represents the outer wall of the 2nd Temple, it is in fact only a part of the retaining wall that King Herod had to build to hold up the sides of Mount Moriah when he enlarged the Temple and its grounds (although construction of the wall appears to have continued even after King Herod's death). Therefore, what we see today is only a small portion (on the western side) of what was once the great retaining wall surrounding the Temple Mount.

Centuries after the destruction of

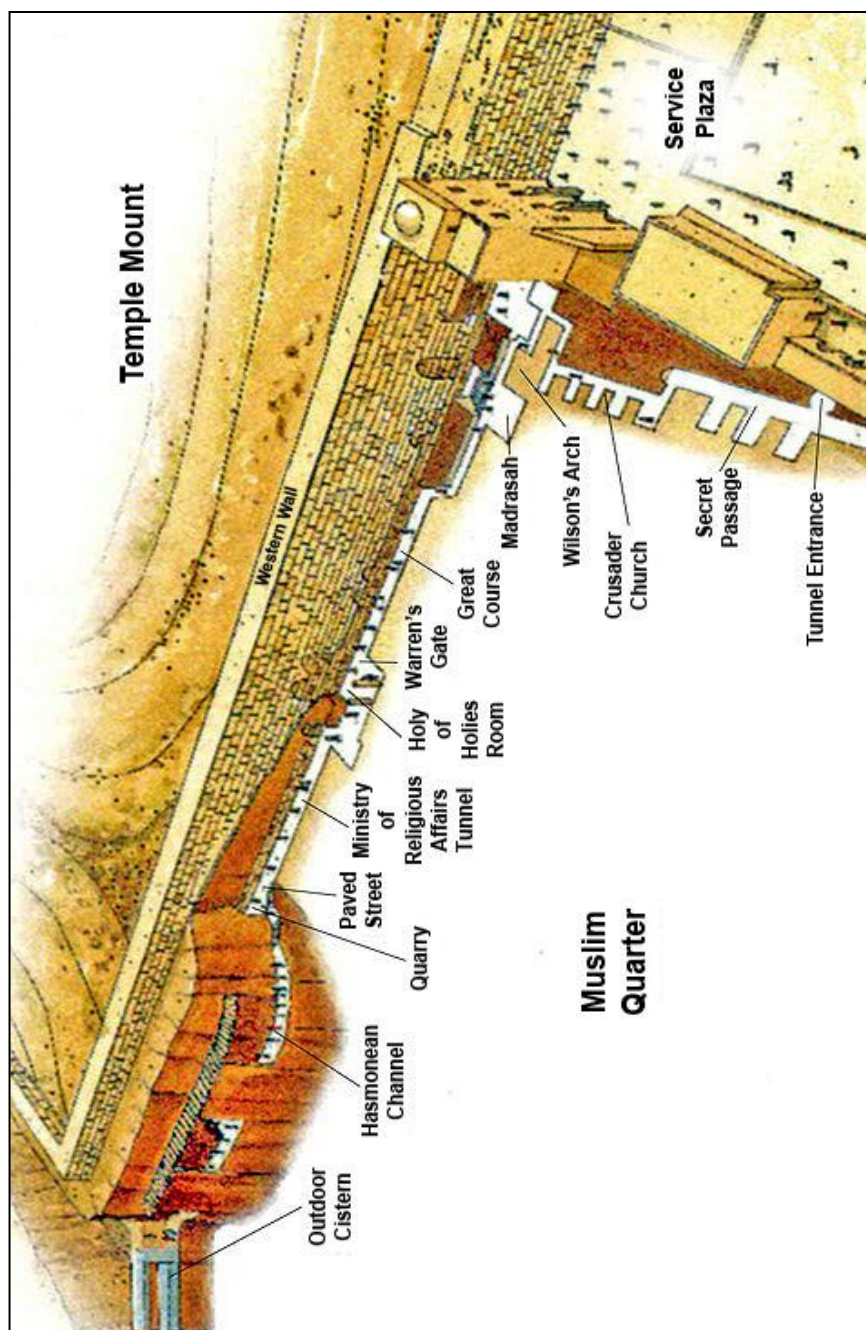
The Western Wall



Photograph #1 – The Western Wall. The covered walkway to the right allows visitors at certain times to be able to access Temple Mount and to walk on the grounds. To use the walkway, you must pass through a security checkpoint. Notice the small dividing wall about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way along the wall from the right in the photograph. The space to the left of the dividing wall is reserved for men only, who could approach the wall, touch it and pray. The space to the right of the dividing wall is reserved for women only.

their tradition, the place where the Prophet Mohammed ascended into heaven. Thus, the Temple Mount area has significance for three of the world's major religions (Judaism, Islam and Christianity). Muslims decided that they wanted to be as close as possible to their holy site, so they built a series of arches from the ground level to reach the top of this retaining wall (and thus be within sight of the holy ground). They built

houses and structures on these arches. It is now possible to travel down below these arches to the original ground level, right along the Wall's foundation stones. This is the Western Wall Tunnel tour experience (see Illustration A on next page).



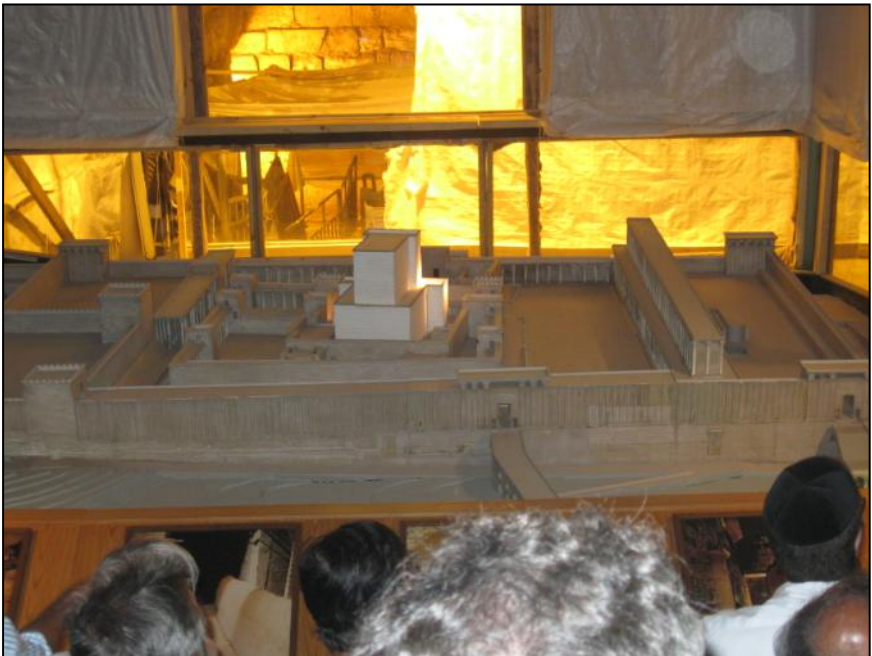
The Temple Mount

Illustration A – previous page—artistic rendering of the route of the Western Wall Tunnel. The area to the right is the service plaza in front of the currently exposed section of the Western Wall seen in Photograph #1 on page 18.

Source: Wikipedia, File: Western Wall EN.jpg (original uploader Joe DeRose, from Tamara Jordan, courtesy of the Western Wall Heritage Foundation).

The tour is a fascinating exploration of the history of Temple Mount, and includes a model of what the Temple and Temple Mount would have looked like during the time of Jesus (see Photograph #2, below).

One of the most interesting aspects of the tour was an explanation by the tour guide of the size and weight of the Wall foundation stones that would have supported what would have then been the visible retaining wall as depicted in the model shown in photograph #2 below.

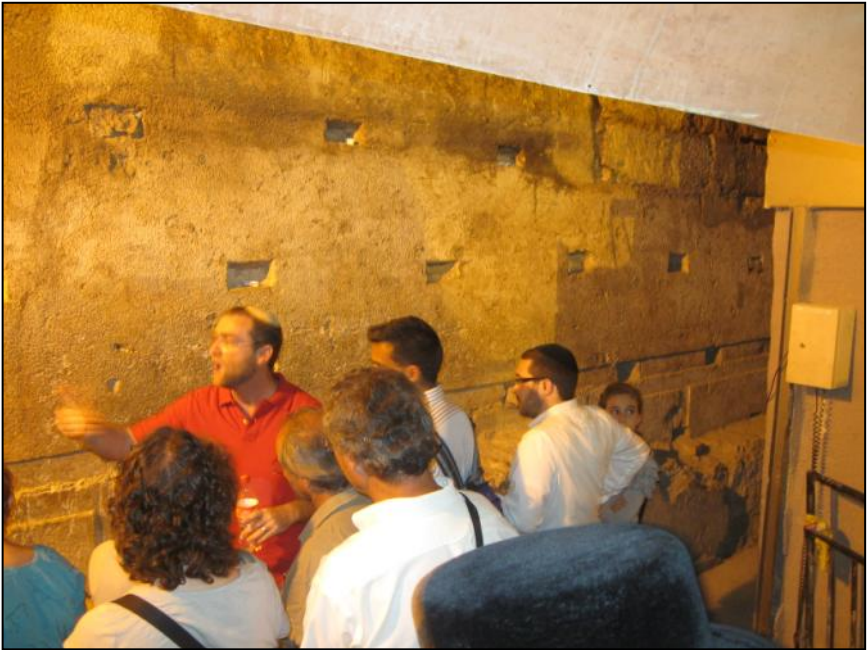


Photograph #2– Model of the Temple and Temple Mount on display as part of the Western Wall Tunnels tour. The white structure is the model of the Temple. Notice the gates in the exterior wall -- one almost in the centre of the foreground and the other just at the right edge of the photograph. The Wailing Wall (the section of this massive wall that is still visible today) would represent the portion of the Wall in the model above that appears between these two gates.

One of these stones was as long as a city bus and weighed as much as a fully loaded Boeing 747 plane! (see Photograph #3, below)

For me, one of the most thrilling and interesting aspects of the tour

was the ability to stand on a street that was located in front of the Wall which would have stretched high overhead and on the other side of which would have been the Temple. Imagine, Jesus and his disciples could have walked here!



Photograph #3 – picture of one of the massive Wall foundation stones

As well, we also came upon the location marking the spot that was the closest point to where the Holy of Holies would have been found in the Temple, if the Temple were still in existence today. In other words, if a tunnel were dug straight through the Wall at this point, it would have arrived at a spot at or under the space occupied by the Holy of Holies in the Temple (the place where the Ark

rested). This spot along the Wall holds great significance for Jews. In fact, our guide explained that couples on the eve of their wedding day will come to pray here (he told the story of one bride who came down in her wedding dress, despite the wedding dress getting soiled in the process!).

See photograph #4 on the next page.



Photograph #4 – Here I am touching the location of the Wall that marks the spot that is the closest point to where the Holy of Holies in the Temple would have been located assuming you could travel through behind the stones.

The Bible preserves the memory of the glorious Temple of God that once stood upon Temple Mount. The massive stones of the Wall are evidence that something of major importance was located here. Other archaeological discoveries supporting the evidence for the Temple of God can be found on display in museums, including stones containing inscriptions that relate to the Temple.

But what, you may ask, is now on top of Temple Mount? Although access is restricted for non-Muslims to only certain times, I was fortunate enough to plan a visit when access

was granted. Photograph #5 on the next page shows part of the vast open, flat space that visitors will see. It also shows the Dome of the Rock, which is not a Muslim mosque but rather a shrine that was built over the site where tradition states that the Prophet Mohammed ascended into heaven (and as noted earlier, is also the site where Abraham nearly sacrificed his son Isaac before God stayed his hand). The Dome of the Rock was not open to the general public. It is interesting to compare what we see today and the model of what Temple Mount is assumed to have looked like as shown in



Photograph #5 – The Dome of the Rock. The Dome itself is covered in real gold. Note the Dome of the Chain off to the left and behind the Dome of the Rock.

For Christians, the New Testament tells us that following Jesus' death on the cross, the Temple curtain (behind which the Holy of Holies was located) was torn in two from top to bottom. God was now again accessible to all humankind. God no longer needs the Temple to tabernacle with his children, because as Scripture tells us, each of us is a temple, and the spirit of God resides in all of us.

“For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, ‘I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.’” 2 Cor.6:16 (NRSV)

Still, to imagine that upon this place once stood the Temple of God, where Jesus preached and overturned the tables of the moneychangers, was a memorable experience. Seeing the massive foundation stones of the retaining wall also affirmed for me the veracity of the Biblical accounts of the Temple. For me, touching the stones of the Western Wall meant seeing and feeling indirect evidence for the historical existence of the Temple. And when I now read passages from the Bible that refer to the Temple, I have a whole new appreciation of the splendor, grandeur and majesty of both the Temple and the place where it was

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Our **IN FROM THE COLD MINISTRY** begins its Eleventh Season **Saturday, November 10th.**

Only New Volunteers need to fill out a Volunteer Registration Form. Forms are located at the four entrances to the Sanctuary and may be returned on the collection plate or to the church office.

As volunteers, we find our time serving in this ministry most rewarding - an excellent way to meet and work with others as together we make a difference for our guests.

High school students are most welcome and can count their time towards their volunteer hours.



RECIPE

Green Tomato Cake (or cupcakes)

"This is a moist, spice-type cake...
a good way to use some of those extra green tomatoes before frost hits."

4 cups chopped green tomatoes	1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 tablespoon salt	1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/2 cup butter	1 teaspoon baking soda
2 cups white sugar	1/4 teaspoon salt
2 eggs	1/2 cup raisins
2 cups all-purpose flour	1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Directions:

1. Place chopped tomatoes in a bowl and sprinkle with 1 tablespoon salt. Let stand 10 minutes. Place in a colander, rinse with cold water and drain.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease and flour a 9x13 inch baking pan.
3. Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs and beat until creamy.
4. Sift together flour, cinnamon, nutmeg, soda and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Add raisins and nuts to dry mixture; add dry ingredients to creamed mixture. Dough will be very stiff. Mix well.
5. Add drained tomatoes and mix well. Pour into the prepared pan.
6. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes in the preheated oven, or until toothpick inserted into cake comes out clean. Can also be baked as cupcakes using liners – 20 min

Donated to 2011 Yuletide Bazaar, Lynda Boonstra



How and what brought you to Parkdale ?

**Spencer and Freda Sutton,
since 2005**

A number of years back, I found myself in the very difficult situation of feeling that the church I was attending was not the spiritually supportive church I wanted it to be. Thus, after deciding to leave that location, over time, I began a casual search for a more meaningful church home. One evening, at a Christmas party, in talking with a friend who had attended Parkdale, I was encouraged by what she said to 'have a look' at that church. So, my husband, Spencer Sutton, and I did that.

Like many others before me who have described their move to Parkdale, I was really struck with the depth of meaning and outreach being conveyed and encouraged during that first worship service that we attended. Anthony's sermon

really spoke to me ...

After a few years of having attended Parkdale and now having transferred my membership to Parkdale, I feel very much at home here. I feel spiritually challenged and supported in my own search for meaning in my life. I very much appreciate the inclusive, multi-cultural environment of the church.

I am very grateful for Barbara's very insightful prayers, delivered in such direct, clear language. As I listen to her, I feel I am learning how to speak to God.

Thank you to Anthony and Barbara for their meaningful leadership here at Parkdale.



LECTIONARY FOR SEPTEMBER

October 7 **Thanksgiving Sunday**

Joel 2:21–27

Do not fear, O soil, for God will provide.

Psalms 126 (VU p. 850)

Those who sow in tears reap in joy.

1 Timothy 2:1–7

Offer prayers for everyone.

Matthew 6:25–33

Do not worry about what you will eat or drink.

October 14 **20th Sunday after Pentecost**

Job 23:1–9, 16–17

Job offers his complaint against God.

Psalms 22:1–15 (VU pp. 744–745 Part One)

My God, why have you forsaken me?

Hebrews 4:12–16

The word of God is living, active, sharper than a two-edged sword.

Mark 10:17–31

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle.

October 21 **21st Sunday after Pentecost**

Job 38:1–7, (34–41)

God's rebuttal to Job's complaint.

Psalms 104:1–9, 24, 35c (VU pp.

826–827 Parts One and Two)

With Wisdom, God created Earth and all its creatures.

Hebrews 5:1–10

Christ learned obedience and was made perfect.

Mark 10:35–45

James and John request to sit on Jesus' right and left.

October 28 **22nd Sunday after Pentecost**

Job 42:1–6, 10–17

Job acknowledges God's power; Job's fortunes are restored.

Psalms 34:1–8, (19–22) (VU pp. 761–762)

Taste and see that God is good.

Hebrews 7:23–28

Christ the permanent High Priest

Mark 10:46–52

The healing of blind Bartimaeus.

A Music Poem

Betty Lynn Schwab

(A poetic rendering of "A Theological Statement on Music in The United Church of Canada," prepared at
Are We Off-Key?, March 2008)

The music of the spheres...
Music permeates all God's creation and embraces all humanity.
Music is rooted in and evolves from God's relationship with us
and our relationship to God.
Music shapes who we are and who we are becoming
as people baptized in the name of Jesus Christ
and nourished at his table of thanksgiving.

The music of worship...
Music is not inserted into worship;
rather, worship is inherently musical.
We are a singing people.
How we sing together and what we sing together,
reflects our faith, our church, our union with fragile creation,
our thoughts and feelings about one another and all humanity.
"We long for a deeper relationship with God." *
Music empowers us to listen for God's voice.

It enables us to praise God,
who has created and is creating.
Music reminds us that we are loved by God
and made for God.
The fullest expression of these truths emerges
when a congregation sings.
"We long for deeper connections with one another." *

When we sing together,
barriers and categories are transcended.
Gaps are bridged.
Differences are softened.
Music unites us as the body of Christ,
opening us to others in body, and in the Body.
When we sing our common heart song,
we gain new compassion and mutual understanding.
"We acknowledge the brokenness, pain, and fear we carry." *
Song enables us to confess our brokenness,

We lament falling short of unity and harmony
in our lives as music makers.
We have sometimes broken the melody,
failed to be in tune
as individuals, as congregations.

Knowing this, we strive to join the chorus as reconciled people.
We believe that our spirituality and our prophetic voice
spring from one source and are lived in one Body.*
Song connects us to the music of the universe
and leads us into new creation.
When we sing together with one heart and voice,
we ground ourselves
in the spirit of, for, and with the world.

The stewardship of our church's song
needs the discipleships,
prayers, and voices of us all.
New voices are thus awakened and nurtured.
And old voices are renewed.
Thanks be to God!
A Music Prayer
God of harmony,
you give us music rich in variety,
to connect us with you and all creation.
We thank you for inspiring poets and musicians
who bring praise to our lips.
Help us embrace the harmonies of your creative genius;
Let your hope, faith, love, and joy
resound in us and ring throughout the earth.
Fill us with the rhythm of your heartbeat
in your symphony of being
as it guides and nurtures us
in mission with you.
We pray in the name of Christ, the singer and the song.
Amen.

*From "Call to Purpose: A message from the church to the church."
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notice.

New Library Books

When purchasing books for the Parkdale Library this summer, I relied partly on a list published in 2000 by the journal, *Christianity Today*, which had picked 100 books that had a significant effect on Christians in the twentieth century. By best books, they meant those that not only were important when first published, but also have an enduring significance for the Christian faith and church. The first five books mentioned below are from that list.

Unmasking the Powers: *The Invisible Forces that Determine Human Existence*, by Walter Wink. This book is Volume two in Wink's trilogy on the Powers. This is a powerful and insightful treatment of the evils which afflict our society and the church and it has made an enormous impression on other writers if the number of Walter Wink quotes I have encountered is any indication. The author, who was a professor of Biblical Theology, presents the sober and illuminating truth that underneath and within the social, economic, and political crisis we face, there are profoundly spiritual realities which must be confronted. Coming to terms with the existence and pervasive presence of the structural and spiritual forces the Bible refers to as principalities and

powers is crucial "for reasons of theology, pastoral care, social justice, and nothing less than the salvation of the world" writes one commentator. In spite of the tone of this resume, let me assure you, this book is quite fascinating and not difficult to read.

Moral Man and Immoral Society : *A Study in Ethics and Politics*, by Reinhold Niebuhr. This book is a classic written in 1932 as the threats posed by Nazism and Communism were intensifying. In an introduction to the 1960 edition, Niebuhr writes that "all our contemporary experience validates the basic thesis of this volume". It is described by the Christianity Today list as "breathhtakingly insightful, shrewd, and cunningly realistic about human sin, especially in its social expressions, rooted in biblical theology and a penetrating appraisal



of the dark era into which the western world had entered.

The Moral Vision of the New Testament: *A Contemporary Introduction to New Testament Ethics*, by Richard B. Hays,

Professor of New Testament at Duke

University. “Hays has pulled off, with a success for which I can think of no contemporary parallel, one of the most difficult tasks in theological and biblical writing today. He has produced one of the boldest and most successful attempts to demonstrate how the NT can provide norm and guidance for contemporary ethics”. This is a serious book, almost five hundred pages of scholarly writing and reasoning, but when it has been described as “without peer or rival”, and “not just a breath of fresh air but a hurricane blowing away the fog of half-understood pseudo morality and fashionable compromise”, it seemed that no church library should be without it.

The Politics of Jesus, by John Howard Yoder. This book was published first in 1972 and considered a watershed work. Tradition had portrayed Jesus as standing aloof from governmental concerns and calling his disciples to an apolitical life. Yoder argues that this picture is far from accurate and that Jesus was deeply concerned with the agenda of politics and the related issues of power, status and right relations. He goes beyond the question of whether Jesus was political to ask what sort of politics is the mark of Christian discipleship. The reason for its inclusion on Christianity Today’s list is given as: *Some 30 years after this book was published, the church has found itself culturally in a more marginal position, and this book is making*

wider and wider sense.

Things Fall Apart, by Chinua Achebe. This book was first published in 1958. It is widely regarded as Africa’s best loved novel. It tells two intertwining stories centering on Okonkwo, the “strong man” of an Ibo village in Nigeria. The first story traces his fall from grace with the tribal world and the second concerns the clash of cultures and the destruction of Okonkwo’s world with the arrival of European missionaries. If you are wondering what this book is doing

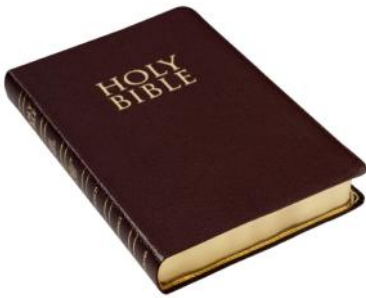


on the “list”, the cover speaks of Achebe’s awareness that is “capable of encompassing at once the life of nature, human history, and the serious compulsions of the soul”.

Love Wins: A Book about Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person on Earth, by Rob Bell. You may know something of the author from his NOOMA series of short films which Anthony has introduced to us in our Sunday evening services. This is Rob’s latest book (we have Velvet Elvis in the library) and deals with a subject that intrigues most people of faith but about which we rarely talk or preach. The reader will find here a

deeply biblical vision for rediscovering a richer, grander, truer, and more spiritually satisfying way of understanding heaven, hell, God, Jesus, salvation, and repentance. The result is that the “good news” is much, much better than we ever imagined.

How to Read the Bible for All Its



Worth, by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart. This is a practical book written by a professor of New Testament and a professor of the Hebrew Bible for ordinary readers like you and me. It covers everything from translation concerns to different genres of the writing in the Bible which has such a bearing on how we interpret what we read. The language is clear and simple, helping to make it easy to accurately understand the different parts of the Bible, their meaning for the ancient audiences and their implications for today.

Barbara Faught

Book Club — Autumn Edition 2012

Everyone welcome! Come join us as we discuss the month's book selection. We meet after the church service (bring a lunch) for approx. 1½ hours.

Next meetings and books are:

October 14

Half Blood Blues by Esi Edugyan. 2011 Giller Prize-winning novel of music, race, and love in 1939 Berlin.

November 18

Kiss the Sunset Pig: A Canadian's American Road Trip with Exotic Detours by Laurie Gough. Funny and poignant. 2006.



The Yuletide Bazaar

We have a wonderful, caring and very busy congregation at Parkdale and for many years individuals and families have given of their time and talents to ensure a successful Bazaar. To continue this wonderful tradition, please mark your calendars.

**The Bazaar will be
Saturday, November 3,
10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Your support with a donation, your time or your purchases on Nov 3 will be most appreciated. The Bazaar remains one of the major fund raisers for Parkdale, usually contributing \$10,000-\$12,000 to the church.

This year we have some **convenor vacancies**. Specifically we need someone to help convene the "greeters." These are the volunteers that hand out maps, answer questions and generally greet our guests at the 3

main entrances on the day of the Bazaar.

We also need someone to convene the yuletide café. This position involves overseeing the sale of coffee, tea, juice and treats. If you can help, please contact Val Hum, me or leave your name with Don in the office.



We will have your favourites returning this year, Attic Treasure, Antiques and Collectibles, Baking and Gourmet Foods, Books, Crafts, Jewellery, Kitchen and Baths, Linens, Plants and Silent Auction.

Please check the church website for further details regarding the Bazaar, how to donate, types of donations needed, how to volunteer, etc.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on November 3.

Ann Tompkins
Yuletide Bazaar Convenor.
ann.tompkins07@gmail.com



PRESBYTERY REPORT —

Ottawa Presbytery gathered at Shawville United Church on September 11, 2012 for its first meeting of the 2012 - 2013 pastoral year. The Shawville congregation provided a wonderful meal and hospitality. Chair of the Board, Eleanor Hayes, extended words of welcome to the court.

The meeting began with worship and the call to order by the retiring chair, the Rev. Dianne Cardin. Each year the September meeting includes the transfer of leadership from the retiring to the new chair. There were words of appreciation extended to the retiring chair, the Rev. Dianne Cardin, and prayers were offered for her time of medical treatment.

There was an act of covenanting with the new chair, the Rev. Dr. George Hermanson, and the executive for 2012-13. George shared a few words about the theme for the coming year . . . "Pray without ceasing."

There were two items in

business arising: the first was a notice of motion dealing with proceeds from the sale of church property, which would include an allocation of 15% to the presbytery for ministry development/redevelopment; the second was information regarding the restructuring of the Ventures in Mission loan with Glen Cairn United Church.

The coordinating group for the exploration of becoming an Affirming Ministry shared with the presbytery what to anticipate over the coming year as the matter is considered. The main agenda item of the meeting was given to reporting on General Council 41 held in Ottawa in August. Those presbyters who were present as commissioners shared briefly of their experience and its meaning for them and the Church.

A powerpoint prepared by the president of Montreal & Ottawa Conference was shown with words of explanation by the Rev. Angelika Piché and the Rev. Anne Montgomery. Commissioners are available as resources to pastoral charges

and their contact information is available from the presbytery office.

Those from Ottawa Presbytery are: Rev. Dr. Tom Sherwood, Rev. Anne Montgomery, Hannah Strong, Melissa Baldwin, Miriam Sherwin, Rev. Angelika Piché (nominee from Laurentian), Nicole Beaudry (GCE French Ministry), Rev. Brian Cornelius (GCE Finance Chair), Rick Balson (M&O President-Elect).

Co-chairs of the Local Arrangement Committee for GC41, Barbara Reynolds and David Stafford, expressed their appreciation to all the 220 volunteers and pastoral charges who shared in the hosting of General Council.

The Rev. Suzanne Sykes, Chair

of the Christian Development committee, encouraged participation in the learning event with Diane Butler Bass, October 12 - 13 at Dominion Chalmers United Church. This is a joint venture with the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa. There is limited capacity, so those interested are invited to register soon.

The Rev. Trisha Elliott, Chair-Elect, closed the meeting with prayer.

*-Rev. Lillian Roberts
Presbytery Minister*

Christian Meditation

"Be still and know that I am God".

Join us to experience Christian meditation, an ancient tradition of being with God in silence, also called the "prayer of the heart".

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Ladies Parlour.

Information: Elise Mennie, dunmenni@hotmail.com
or Jennifer Payne, odumodus@sympatico.ca

PEACEQUEST

A Youth Conference to explore the challenges in building a culture of peace and in taking action to achieve it.

Oct 12-14 at the Y Outdoor Centre in Dunrobin

Peacequest is a program of the Y Service Clubs of Central Canada, hosted by the Ottawa International Y Service Club and the National Capital Region YMCA-YWCA.

To be a peace builder, one must cultivate several important qualities that will ensure successful and meaningful action in one's local community and in the world. These include:

Commitment to follow through in achieving a dream.

Awareness of social justice issues at the local and global level.

Courage to step up and take direct action.

Generosity that is expressed in compassion for the least fortunate.

Responsibility for personal actions as the basis of enjoying the privileges we have.

Enthusiasm that expresses a quiet determination to enlist the support of others.

Appreciation of our good fortune as citizens of a rich country.

A love of peace as the way to build a better world, without violence and injustice.

A spiritual approach to life that supports the yearnings of people who look for a life of hope and a better future.

The conference explores what it takes to acquire and strengthen these qualities and to implement some actions that promote peace-building within their local Y, school, faith community or other youth-focused group.

OUR OVERALL THEME is: "Build a Culture of Peace - Say No to Violence."

Y branches, schools and faith groups in Ottawa can send up to three young people, grades 10 and up, minimum age 16. Delegates will participate in a series of interactive sessions leading to the development of

a personal action plan, to carry out some projects when they return to their Y or community. This may be a project that can be carried out during YMCA International Peace Week in November or it may be a program incorporated into their activity in their school, faith community or community group.

As background material, we build on Manifesto 2000 with its Pledge for Peace and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. Each year we will focus on one or two of these goals using Case Studies to look at specific problems and what we might be able to do about them.

We will provide opportunities for young people to share their personal stories about their recent international experiences. One of our goals is to encourage young people to get involved in some kind of youth exchange or conference that takes them out into the wider world. We will also help delegates plan activities or projects to carry out upon their return home.

The highlight for most delegates will be the opportunity to meet some great people from around the province, and to make some new friends as they share their hopes and dreams for building a world of peace.

For more information or to confirm your intention to participate, contact: Dave Hall at 613-225-3882 or ysservice@primus.ca

Come help “. . . be the change we wish to see in the world”.

Mahatma Ghandi

WORD OF FAREWELL

At the end of June, my contract with Parkdale United Church came to an end. After many years in your midst, I did not want to disappear from the choir loft without a word. Since I first walked through your doors in 1996, you have unfailingly welcomed me as a member of your family. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for all the support and appreciation you have extended to me over the years.

If you would like to stay in touch with me, or receive notices about future musical or theatrical pieces, please feel free to email me at: r.eugster@sympatico.ca, or through my website: <http://RachelEugster.com>.

Rachel



The Parkdale Food Bank

Look through your cupboards and consider giving to those in need.

All contributions are very welcome.

Parkdale Food Bank has been operating for many years in conjunction with several other local churches. Parkdale's "Sunday" is the first Sunday of every month, twelve months a year. Many items are acceptable as well as non-perishable food -- e.g. cardboard egg cartons, plastic containers and lids, and plastic bags.

Items are collected in a shopping cart located at the northeast entrance to the sanctuary, near the Vestry. The items are collected weekly and delivered to the Food Bank.



Parents and Tots

Friday mornings

10—noon

Parkdale Nursery

Those with preschool children are welcome to join us for play time, adult conversation, snacks and an opportunity to get to know other Christian parents with kids of the same age.



Moms *and*
Dads
welcome

Second Blessing Coffee Shop

Opening dates
for the
2012-2013
season

October 7
November 4
December 2
January 13
February 10
March 3
April 7
May 5



^{the} Messenger



EDITORIAL BOARD

Danica Rogers, Julie and Blain Pauling, Coeditors, John Butcher, Valerie Hum, Peter Meerburg, and you????
Call (613) 728-8656 to volunteer.

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

Next issue: **November 2012.**

Please submit articles and materials to pdale@trytel.com or the church office by **October 17.**