

# the Messenger

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## Parkdale United Church

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the Messenger



## 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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## In brief:

### Book Club

Sunday Oct 19th,  
12:00 PM  
"Three Day Road"  
by Joseph Boyden (pg. 18)



### Images & Stories

Friday Oct. 25th, 7:00 PM  
Russia with Vita Savelieva  
(pg.15)



### Parents & Tots

Wednesdays 10:00 AM to  
12:00 PM  
(pg. 31)



On September 10, seven Parkdalers volunteered to work on a Habitat build site in Orleans. They worked on frame construction and other tasks. (See cover photo and Anthony hammering in photo opposite).

### Celebrating our Cultures International Dinner

Saturday October 18th  
6:00 - 9:00 PM (pg. 21)

### Yuletide Bazaar

Saturday November 1  
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM (pg.18)

### In From the Cold

Nov. 8 to March 28 (pg. 20)

### Covenant Chain Link

(Kairos) Oct 17 and 18  
(pg. 29)

### Toward Reconciliation Together

(Ottawa Presbytery)  
Nov. 1 (pg. 29)



## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

### AT LONG LAST

At last, at last....Later this month, a group of Parkdalers and friends of Parkdale, will be journeying to South Africa for a couple of weeks. Now perhaps to some this may seem like just another trip abroad for which I am providing leadership. Over the years here at Parkdale, I have organized and/or led various types of service learning and exposure trips to Israel/Palestine, Nicaragua, Cuba, Turkey, and Greece. All have been very special, inspiring, memorable and provocative in their own way, particularly the tour to Israel/Palestine.

However, this trip to South Africa holds a distinct significance for me; not more or less than the others, just distinct. As many in the congregation have heard me recount over

the years, my relationship' with South Africa has spanned decades. In high school in Montreal I remember reading about South Africa and debating the reality of apartheid with other students and teachers. By the time I arrived at McGill to study Social Work I was actively involved in anti-apartheid activities. Motivated by my understanding of the



gospel and the way of Jesus, I became involved with 'McGill Students Against Apartheid' and took part in anti-apartheid rallies and protests, as well as

helping to organize campaigns calling for divestment in South Africa.

A few years later, after marrying Wendy, we discussed the fact that it would not be safe for us to visit South Africa as a bi-racial couple. She knew of my long time desire to travel to South Africa. Hence this

opportunity attracts a flood of emotions and memories indeed. Like so many around the world back then, I followed the incredible events that surrounded the political transformation in South Africa. There was the release of Nelson Mandela in 1990, his election as the first Black president of South Africa... my goodness who would have thought? However, even more radical was his courageous leadership into the vistas, realities and possibilities of reconciliation instead of retribution and violence. Mandela teamed up with Archbishop Tutu and others to conceive of and implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Though not a perfect initiative, it went a tremendously long way towards averting even more violence and bloodshed, as well as taking steps to provide space for truth-telling, confession, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

As Paul wrote: "So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view... Therefore, if anyone is in

*Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ."*  
2 Cor. 5:16-19



in Christ...  
we are a  
**New Creation**

When asked by a CNN reporter why he had chosen the way of reconciliation and forgiveness, Mandela answered that he remembered a lesson taught to him in Chapel at the Methodist school he attended as a boy. He said he remembered Jesus' command to "Love and forgive your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Matt. 5).

On another occasion, Mandela said so eloquently: "No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to

*hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."*

God's eyes were watching, and God's ears were listening to what was going on in South Africa. God uses whomever God chooses to respond to what God sees and hears.

Come, children, listen to me.

Let me teach you how to honor the LORD:

Do you love life;

do you relish the chance to enjoy good things?

Then you must keep your tongue from evil and keep your lips from speaking lies!

Turn away from evil! Do good!

Seek peace and go after it! The LORD's eyes watch the righteous,

his ears listen to their cries for help.

But the LORD's face is set against those who do evil, to eliminate even the memory of them from the earth.

When the righteous cry out,

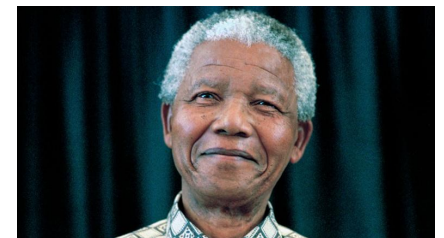
the LORD listens;  
he delivers them from all their troubles.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;

he saves those whose spirits are crushed.

(Psalm 34:11-18 CEB)

At his inauguration as President, Mandela invited his former jailer on the platform and he hired a white policeman as his personal bodyguard. Through words and gestures he signalled that a different order was being birthed. I was overjoyed to meet Nelson Mandela and hear him speak on June 19, 1990 when he came to my home congregation Union United Church in Montreal. I will always remember his dignity, passion, intelligence, ease with people, humility and infectious smile.





So by God's grace, I look forward to this trip and to taking in as much as I can of what the people, the beauty, the cultural diversity, the geography and the present reality has to offer. We will be experiencing the Apartheid Museum, the township of Soweto, Johannesburg, the Kruger National Park, the lagoon at Knysna, Stellenbosch, the ostrich farms at Oudtshoorn, Table Mountain, Cape Town and Robben Island.

We also have plans to meet with a couple of United Church of Canada partners who work in the areas of land justice and food security, as well as the ongoing healing of

memories from the Apartheid regime. Some of us may even be able to connect with Barbara Faught's son and daughter-in-law – Darroch and Heidi – who live in Cape Town.

And so in this season of Thanksgiving, I am profoundly grateful for this opportunity and for all the blessings which God so generously pours out in the world. Let us give thanks for all God's blessings as well as live thankfully, and loving, praying, serving, praising and working for the good of all. Do pray for us as we embark on this trip.

Thanks be to God  
Anthony



## Thank you, Anthony, for 15 years of service!

Dr. Anthony Bailey, Parkdale's Coordinating Minister, was honoured during the September 14th Rally Sunday worship service, which officially marked his 15 years of service with our church. On behalf of the congregation, Council Chair Blaine Pauling presented Dr. Bailey with the gift of an iPad tablet computer.

Dr. Bailey, who was ordained as a United Church minister in 1986, commenced his ministry with Parkdale on September 15, 1999. A preacher's son, he emigrated to Canada from Barbados with his family at the age of eight, and subsequently grew up in and around the Montreal area.

Before joining Parkdale, he served with the United Church of Canada's Division of World Outreach for six years in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands as overseas personnel (missionary).

In making his presentation, Blaine referred to the many gifts that Dr. Bailey has brought to Parkdale, in-



cluding strong preaching, explaining the context and meaning of scriptures and showing how they are relevant to our lives. Dr. Bailey also "disturbs and provokes" us to examine our own motives and actions.

Blaine referred to Dr. Bailey's work in the community in promoting social justice, which demonstrates that he "practices what he preaches." Blaine also mentioned Dr. Bailey's profound ability to connect with people, especially during baptismal services, and treating individuals with compassion and dignity through our

*In From the Cold* program.

In expressing his thanks to the congregation for the surprise presentation, Dr. Bailey said that when he commenced his service with Park-

dale, he had no idea he would still be here 15 years later, but he was simply "following the call of God." Being able to serve God through his Parkdale ministry has been "a wonderful privilege."



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September 15, 2014

Blaine Pauling  
Chair, Parkdale United Church Council

Dear Blaine,

Permit me this opportunity to extend my heartfelt appreciation to you, the Ministry and Personnel Committee and the entire Council, for the surprise tribute and gift this past Sunday during worship honouring 15 years of ministry here. Your words and sentiments were touching and humbling.


It is indeed hard to believe that 15 years have already elapsed in my ministry here at Parkdale United. I remember those first weeks and following months as I sought to get to know the congregation, its 'culture' and its rhythms, while adjusting to some reverse culture shock, returning to Canada after six years serving in Jamaica.

We have journeyed together through some challenging seas and much sunny weather. I give thanks for the colleagues with whom I have shared this ministry over the years. I want to recognize my current pastoral colleagues and our staff team; with the prayers and support of the congregation and our families, and by the grace of God, we are well blessed as we shepherd this congregational ministry.

I am eagerly awaiting what God has in store for us as a congregation as God's Spirit leads us to chart the next course of our missional journey.

Once again, thank you for your support, prayers, wisdom, laughter and spiritual gifts. I offer you...

Peace and Joy in  
Christ's name

  
Anthony Bailey  
Coordinating Minister

## *Rally Sunday, September 14*



Peter Schammerhorn (left) and Andrew Barbour operated the barbecue grills for the luncheon which followed the Rally Sunday worship service on September 14.





Members of the congregation enjoyed fellowship along with hamburgers and hot-dogs.

## LECTIONARY

### October 5 World Communion Sunday; Creation Time 4

**Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20**  
The Ten Commandments.

**Psalm 19** (VU pp. 740–741)  
The heavens declare the glory of God.

**Philippians 3:4b–14**  
I press on toward the goal of Christ's calling.

**Matthew 21:33–46**  
The unscrupulous tenants of the vineyard.



### October 12 Thanksgiving Sunday Creation Time 5

**Deuteronomy 8:7–18**  
God will bring you to a bountiful land.

**Psalm 65** (VU pp. 782–783)  
God provides; the valleys shout and sing.

**2 Corinthians 9:6–15**  
God loves a cheerful giver.

**Luke 17:11–19**  
Ten healed; one returns to offer thanks.

### October 19 World Food Sunday

**Exodus 33:12–23**  
God speaks to Moses as a friend.

**Psalm 99** (VU p. 819)  
God is a ruler who delights in justice.

**1 Thessalonians 1:1–10**  
We always give thanks to God for you.

**Matthew 22:15–22**  
Give to God the things that are God's.

### October 26 Peace Sabbath

**Deuteronomy 34:1–12**  
Moses dies and is buried in Moab.

**Psalm 90:1–6, 13–17** (VU pp. 805–806)  
O God, our help in ages past.

**1 Thessalonians 2:1–8**  
We care for you like a nurse tenderly cares for her own children.

**Matthew 22:34–46**  
Love God; love your neighbour as yourself.



## BIRTHDAY NEWS

**Birthdays in October**  
**Our warmest greetings to:**

2nd	Alice Menzies	17th	George Bush
2nd	Isaiah Duah	19th	Alexis Bannoff
4th	Doris Wilson	22nd	Julianna Jeglic
5th	Cora McQuinn	23rd	Jessica Ann Clark
7th	Erena Duncan	25th	Hannah Johnston
8th	Carl-Henry Mercy	27th	Tyrese Musenga
8th	Ruth Bush	29th	Isabelle Duncan
11th	Delphine Ahmed-Robin	31st	Kaitlyn Laurin
11th	Arianne Epale	31st	Camille Beaufort
14th	Cathy Lees		
15th	Joyce Sibanda		
17th	Maddy Crabtree		
17th	Mark Bradley		



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

## Parkdale Bookclub

Oct. 19 **Three Day Road** by Joseph Boyden, 2005. Joseph's maternal grandfather, as well as an uncle on his father's side, served as soldiers during the First World War, and Boyden draws upon a wealth of family narratives. This novel follows the journey of two young Cree men, Xavier and Elijah, who volunteer for that war and become snipers during the conflict. [Wikipedia]

Nov 16 **The Hare with Amber Eyes** by Edmund de Waal is a family memoir.

Coming up in the new year: The Russian Album, The Light Between Oceans, All That Matters, The Master and Margarita, God's Bits of Wood, and Medicine Walk.

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

### All Welcome!

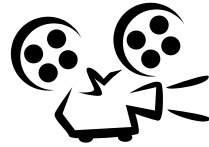
Meet in the Ladies Parlor after church on book club days  
Bring a lunch





## The Next Friday Night "Images and Stories"

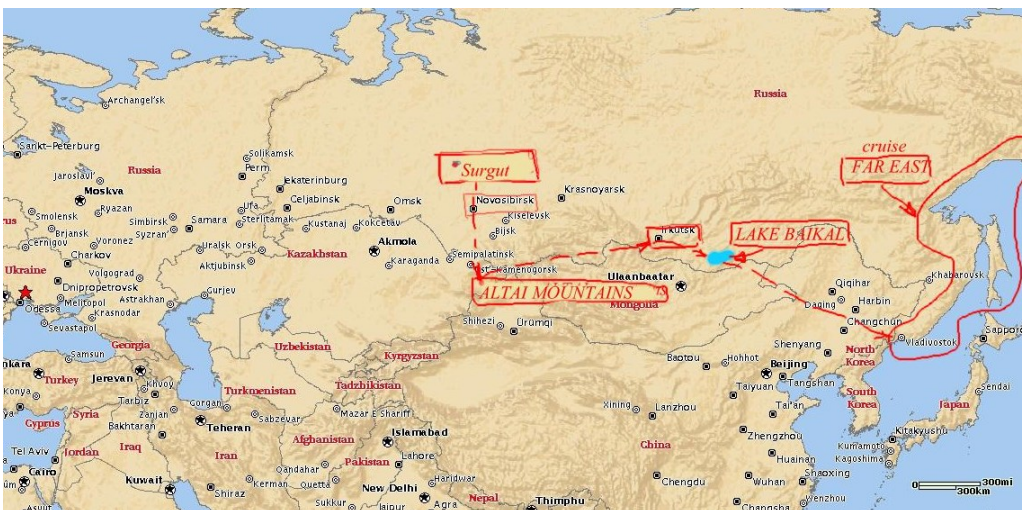
Friday, Oct. 24th  
at 7:00 PM in the Ladies Parlour



### An Unforgettable Summer 1983: Altai, Baikal, The Far East As experienced by Vita Savelieva

Come and travel with Vita through the vast former Soviet Union. From Surgut, Russia's oil and gas capital in Western Siberia, you'll move south to the Altai mountains in Kazakhstan, which border Russia, China and Mongolia. Then you'll head east to Russia's Lake Baikal in southern Siberia and finish with a cruise along Russia's Far Eastern shores. Don't miss this unforgettable experience!

The presentation starts at 7:00 PM, followed by beverages, treats and fellowship at 8:00 PM.



## RECIPES

### Mom Fritch's Peanut Butter Cookies

*The fastest, easiest and tastiest peanut butter recipe with only 5 ingredients. Published by the Ottawa Citizen 2014.*

#### Ingredients

- 1 cup peanut butter (creamy or chunky)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ cup chocolate mint chipits (optional)



#### Preparation

Preheat oven to 350°F and grease baking sheets. In a bowl with an electric mixer beat together peanut butter and sugar until combined well. In a small bowl lightly beat egg and beat into peanut butter mixture with baking soda until combined well.

Roll level teaspoons of dough into balls and arrange about 1 inch apart on baking sheets. With tines of a fork flatten balls to about 1 ½ inches in diameter, making a crosshatch pattern. Dot batter with about 3 – 4 chocolate chips per cookie.

Bake cookies in batches in middle of oven until puffed and pale golden, about 10 minutes. Cool cookies on baking sheets 2 minutes and transfer with a metal spatula to racks to cool completely. Cookies may be kept in an airtight container at room temperature for 5 days.

Contains no flour so perfect for someone with a gluten allergy.



## Second Blessings Coffee Shop

**Please join our youth at Second Blessings for great food and fellowship after church on the following dates:**

**In 2014**

**September 28**

**October 26**

**November 23**

**and in 2015**

**January 11**

**February 8**

**March 22**

**April 19**



## Parkdale Food Centre

### Milk bags:

Please note that we cannot take any more milk bags—our contact has enough to make her 15 to 20 woven mats. If you know of anyone who would be able to use milk bags, please contact Don at the church office or Dian Morris 613-828-3619, otherwise we will have to put them in the garbage.

### Containers:

Thank you to everyone who brought in small containers, clear bottles and ensure bottles. We have a good supply now. Keep them coming!

### Donations:

Check the 'Good Food' list on the side of the grocery cart in Gladstone Hallway. Or donate through your Sunday offering — marked "Parkdale Food Centre". These donations help us buy eggs, milk, cheese and butter for our clients.

Thanks!

Dian Morris

## Yuletide Bazaar

Saturday November 1st, 2014

10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Shop for unique gifts:

- Books
- Attic Treasures
- Baking and Gourmet Foods
- Jewelry
- Antiques and Collectibles
- Silent Auction
- Arts and Crafts
- Linens, Kitchen and Bath



Then take a break from shopping at the *Yuletide Café*.

**Donations:** Your donations to the Bazaar are gratefully accepted at the church office anytime during regular office hours or on Sunday mornings. We especially need home-made foods like pickles, relish, salsa, soups; home-made crafts; and unique items such as china or crystal.

Please drop off bakery and perishable food items on Friday October 31st, anytime during business hours or in the evening from 5:00-8:00 pm at the Gladstone entrance, where someone will be available to let you in.

**Volunteers:** We still need people willing to help with set-up and take-down and general activities. If you can help, please contact Ann Tompkins at <ann.tompkins07@gmail.com>.

## Gratias Dios Mio

By Sylvia Vincent © 1985

Dear Father

It is easy to say "thank You"  
For the blessings sent our way;  
I wonder, do You feel those thanks  
When we close our eyes and pray?

Shouldn't thanks, though, come from actions  
Not words without much thought?  
For actions count far more than words  
Sincere thanks can't be taught.

If Father

A gentle smile, a kindly deed,  
Can prove our thanks are true,  
We should lend a hand, and shed a tear  
So return Your love to You.

Oh! Father

Would it be in this world today  
All our thanks were truly meant,  
For peace would surely then descend  
And each life be well spent.

When we gather with our friends and kin  
On Thanksgiving Day this year,  
We'll consider others before ourselves  
As well as thank You in a prayer.

So Father

Guide us, please, and light our way  
That our thanks can then be true.  
We must give that hand and share that tear  
To show genuine thanks to You!

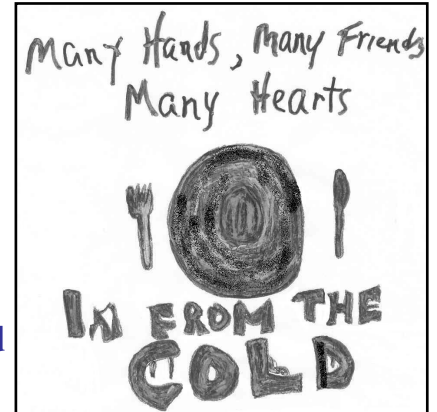
## *In From The Cold (IFTC) Ministry*

**Saturdays**

**from November 8, 2014**

**to March 28, 2015**

**Join the many, many vol-  
unteers from Parkdale and  
the wider community at *In  
from the Cold*, on Satur-  
days from November to March.**



**Be part of providing a warm, friendly environment  
where guests who are experiencing various challeng-  
es can come together and enjoy a delicious meal, live-  
ly conversations and caring support.**

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions  
or comments.

Email Cynthia or Camille at  
[infromthecold\\_parkdale@yahoo.com](mailto:infromthecold_parkdale@yahoo.com). Phone messages  
can also be left with the office at 613-728-8656.



## Celebrating our Cultures International Dinner

**Saturday October 18  
6:00 PM  
in Memorial Hall**

Come and celebrate the wonderful diversity of cultures in our Parkdale family. You will learn about different cultures, with a special focus this year on Scottish heritage. Enjoy music, dance, fellowship and sumptuous cuisine!



native traditional costume. You could even borrow one from a friend!

We will be happy to have you sign up to bring your favorite main dish or dessert. See the sign-up sheet in Gladstone Hallway behind the Sanctuary.

This year, please wear any



Besides being a great opportunity to share our cultures and get to know one another, this International Dinner is a fundraiser for Parkdale's Refugee Fund, to sponsor a refugee family from Syria.

If you would like to help with organizing and set-up, please contact Estelle Allen or Faye Beaufort through the office at 613-728-8656



### HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Saturday September 6th, Harvest Festival 2014 took place in the park just behind the Parkdale market. There were fun-filled family activities and music for all ages. Parkdale members helped run the BBQ, and in spite of the stormy weather the day before, and the morning's rainy weather, the BBQ was a success! We raised just under \$600 for the *In From The Cold* ministry.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the BBQ, and also to the many members who came out to support the event!





## COUNCIL MEETING REPORT

### COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

Council Chair Blaine Pauling welcomed members to the meeting by advising that the devotion had been deliberately designed by Anthony, Debbie and Melodee to encourage us to think about the upcoming October 4<sup>th</sup> Council Retreat.

Anthony read Ephesians 4:11-16, where Paul emphasizes the importance of unity, distinguishing this from 'sameness', and recognizes the importance of individual gifts to a ministry united in its purpose. Members were reminded of Council's role in holding the various aspects of Parkdale's ministry together and appreciating various gifts. Debbie then led a quiet reflection: we were asked to think about our day and to consider where we had seen God's footprints and when we had sensed His presence. Debbie reminded us that God is always with us and offered a prayer of gratitude. Melodee challenged us to think about Parkdale as a ship and to consider what kind of ship it was and what its needs might be. In small groups, members explored a possible voyage for this ship. Our 'homework assignment' is to pray about and carefully consider the future of Parkdale and to develop a question for discussion at the retreat.

Moving to the business of the meeting, Blaine updated Council on the

Strategic Planning process and efforts to recruit more members for the Strategic Planning Working Group.

With respect to correspondence, Helen read a letter from Anthony to Blaine, thanking him, the Ministry and Personnel Committee and the entire Council for the surprise tribute and gift provided during worship on September 14 in recognition of Anthony's 15 years of ministry at Parkdale.

Further to the discussion at our June meeting about the new legislative requirement for a Health and Safety Policy, Matt Baker and Judy Hamley led Council through a proposed Health and Safety Policy for Parkdale. Although the legislative requirement applies only to 'employees', the task group held the view that the policy should have a broader scope and apply to anyone who might be using Parkdale premises, including volunteers. After considerable discussion about the potential implications of broadening the scope of the policy, as well as the related accountability of Council, it was agreed that in the short term the Parkdale policy should be restricted to 'workers' as defined in legislation. It was noted that Property Trustees have reviewed the self-inspection checklist developed by Aviva for the United Church of Canada and will begin using it on an annual basis. Over the coming weeks, the proposed Parkdale policy will be revised



to reflect the changes suggested by Council and appropriate training will be undertaken.

Committee chairs provided written reports as well as verbal updates. A summary of these follows:

Financial statements were not available; the **Finance Committee** next meets on September 24, 2014.

On behalf of **Ministry and Personnel (M&P)**, **Judy Hamley** noted that meetings with staff to discuss goals and objectives will take place over the coming weeks. She also reported that the UCC has adopted new guidelines for salary and housing allowance that will do away with the current separate housing allowance. No problems are anticipated for Parkdale as a result of the new guidelines. As noted above, M&P developed a draft Health and Safety Policy for Parkdale as required by the Ministry of Labour.

**Faye Beaufort**, on behalf of the **Mission, Outreach and Justice Committee**, reported that the paperwork for the grandmother of our refugee family had been received on September 14. Next steps will be to send the documents to UCC in Toronto. Fundraising has started, with \$3,500 already raised towards our goal of \$32,000. The total amount will be shared with the co-sponsoring family members already living in Ottawa but the split is not yet known. The October Celebrating

our Cultures event will contribute to this project and Debbie has offered to organize a murder/mystery event in April or May 2015.

**Ken Elder** noted on behalf of **Property Trustees** that over the summer a number of projects have been completed: the refurbished Parkdale sign was delivered and installed; the Gladstone parking lot was re-paved and the lines and H/C symbols were painted/ re-painted on both the Gladstone and Parkdale lots; and the sprinkler heads were adjusted. Several window sills on Tape Hall kitchen windows damaged by misdirected sprinklers were replaced. Plans are in the works for repairs to the concrete steps at the southwest tower and for the reconnection of the piping to the radiator in the Chapel.

**Mary McLeod** assured members that the **Pastoral Care Team** continues its work of home visits, hospital visits, transportation and food as required. The Team next meets on September 29.

**Carolynn Halkett** tabled a couple of draft logos for Parkdale on behalf of the **Communications Committee** and requested feedback. The current suggested theme of "Come. Grow. Serve" appeared to resonate well with members. Carolynn also reported that the monthly e-newsletter will focus on various Committees in coming months. Work on revisions to the website continues and members were asked to once again give

some thought to how we define ministry and what Parkdale's ministries are so that this section of the website can be revised. Fall events have been publicized, including the Baby/Kids Gear Give-Away and Swap and the Fall Rummage Sale.

**Samantha Tim**, on behalf of the **Stewardship Committee**, reported that a lot of effort has gone into promoting the September 20 Financial Stewardship Workshop focussing on personal debt and planned giving. Work continues on the report from the Memorial Fund Working Group which will hopefully be presented to Council during the Fall. The Stewardship Committee next meets on October 7, 2014.

**Marilyn Hahn** reported that the **Membership Development Committee** is considering a second nametag blitz, given the large number of new people at Parkdale and the success of the first campaign.

**Beth Gutsell**, our **Presbytery representative**, reported that Presbytery had met on September 9. Rev. Lillian Roberts will be leaving Ottawa October 31, 2014 to take up new duties with the Manitou Conference. The agenda also included a presentation on the new compensation guidelines for Ministerial staff and a discussion of what the church means by ministry/minister; this conversation will be ongoing.

**Kathleen Stephenson**, our **Treasurer**, presented two tables depicting

Parkdale's annual budgets for the past 10 years, as approved at the AGM, and comparing them to actual expenditures for the same time periods. The tables clearly demonstrate the effect that annual transfers from the Memorial Endowment Fund have had on the bottom line. Kathleen noted that recent years have seen fewer bequests and suggested that some effort should be made to encourage this kind of gift.

**Barbara Faught**, Chair of **Worship**, reported that the Committee meets next on October 7, 2014.

Reports from our Ministerial staff were also received.

**Melodee Lovering**, Minister to Youth and Children, reported that the June family camp was well-attended and enjoyed by all; Gracefield has been booked again for 2015. During the summer, Kathryn Lagrandeur and Melodee worked to create the pattern for a new banner for the sanctuary, being constructed by Barbara Faught. Prayers have been answered with respect to Sunday School teachers. Given the expanding number of children, there will now be a separate grade 4 class as well as a grade 5&6 class. Teachers in 2014-15 will be: Ellen Andrews, Michelle Bailey, Jocelyn Barden-Underhill, Camille Beaufort, Heather Clark, Paul Crabtree, Julia Creasey, Tom Grozinger, Joanna Hamley, Rob Hilkes, Rosemary Kimberly, Cathy Lees, Melodee Lovering, Josee Mela, Wendy

Reid, Dave Smith, Samantha Tim, Elaine West and Holly Williams. We give thanks for the commitment of these people to our kids and to God's work. The Coffee Shop will be open on September 28, serving mini pizzas; other dates this season will be: October 26, November 23 and December 14. Sincere thanks are offered to Paul and Carolyn Crabtree, Rob and Irene Hilkes and Mark Vidalin who led the 'amazing' camping and canoeing retreat for youth on September 6 and 7. Junior and senior youth will meet on October 5, 19, 26 and November 2. DaleSong will be leading worship on October 19 and November 23 as well as periodically throughout the Christmas season.

**Rev. Debbie Roi**, Minister of Pastoral Care, noted that our Annual Hat Day in late June had been a highlight of the summer for her, an opportunity to honour our elder saints and to remember the inspirational and empowering life of Madeleine Honeyman. Debbie also reported that she is thoroughly enjoying her participation in the Spiritual Director's course, an opportunity to have dedicated time to embrace new learnings. Monthly worship services have resumed at Park Place and The Ravines. The Prayer Shawl ministry will be enhanced this fall by the introduction of bi-weekly sessions starting September 24, when those interested can come to work on shawls and pray together. A Ladies' Retreat, co-led by Melodee and Debbie, will be held at The Galilee

Center on the weekend of January 10, 2015.

**Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey**, Coordinating Minister, conducted five funerals and six weddings over the summer, noting that these are very special and sacred time in the lives of families and thanking God for the grace, wisdom and joy of participating in these events.

With respect to neighbourhood ministry, on August 19 Anthony hosted a prayer walk organized by LOVE Ottawa, an organization comprised of representatives from various churches who have committed to pray for the almost 100 communities that make up the National Capital Region. After receiving an overview of the Hintonburg, Mechanicsville and Laroche Park areas, 22 individuals fanned out on designated routes in groups of two or three to walk and pray for the neighbourhood. Anthony reported that this was a profoundly moving experience that resonated with some of the prayer exercises that were undertaken during the Unbinding series. On September 6, following a request from the Hintonburg Economic Development Committee to take over the barbecue and refreshment station at their annual Harvest Festival in Parkdale Market Park, an enthusiastic group of fifteen recruited on short notice by Faye Beaufort did an excellent job with this act of partnership and community connection. A heartfelt thank you goes out to those who volunteered so

willingly. The proceeds of approximately \$500 were donated to the "In From the Cold" ministry. Also, Anthony was recently approached by a local businesswoman who offered to use her granola business to raise funds for "In From the Cold", donating \$1 per unit to the cause. Anthony sought and received approval from Council to proceed with this initiative.

With respect to ministry in the public square, Anthony represented the Protestant community in Ottawa at

the Rally in Support of Murdered and Persecuted Christians and other religious minorities in Iraq. This was a rallying call to voice our outrage and to call on the federal government to increase humanitarian aid and admit more of the desperate refugees from the region. Monthly worship services have resumed after the summer break at Carlingview Manor and the Westwood.

The meeting closed with meaningful prayer led by Melodee.



### Toys and Clothes Swap!

A swap of baby/kids clothing and toys was a huge success on Sunday, September 21st, when families brought all kinds of clothing, shoes, books, sports equipment, baby gear and maternity/nursing clothing to Memorial Hall to be exchanged.

Items that did not find new homes were left for the church's rummage sale the following Saturday.



## Right Relations

How can you be part of the reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples? Here are two ways to get involved:

### **Covenant Chain Link V: *Beyond words....living into reconciliation***

Friday Oct. 17, 6:30 to 9:30 pm  
Saturday Oct. 18, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Diocesan Centre, 1247 Kilborn Place, Ottawa

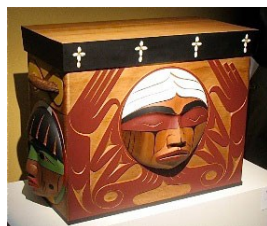
This KAIROS conference focuses on youth and education – learn from amazing speakers, gain resource materials, make connections! Keynote by: Dr. Anita Olsen Harper, Indigenous educator. Presentations by: First Nations Child and Family Caring Society; Nunavut Sivuniksavut, Inuit College Program; Anita Tenasco, Kitigan Zibi's Director of Education; Project of Heart. Also: great cultural performances!

Registration: 40\$ before Oct 7 (regular \$50) includes entry both days and lunch on Saturday. Discounts available for students and non-wage earners. Contact Ed Bianchi, [ebianchi@kairoscanada.org](mailto:ebianchi@kairoscanada.org) 613-235-9956 ext. 221

## Toward Reconciliation Together

Saturday November 1,  
8:30 am to 3:30 pm  
Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health,  
299 Montreal Road, Ottawa

Ottawa Presbytery's Church in Society Committee invites you to come build relationships and take steps on the journey toward reconciliation. You'll experience a special version of the Blanket Exercise in Wabano Centre's beautiful rotunda; hear from Jamie Scott of the United Church of Canada on the wrapping up of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; share the wisdom of Elder Albert Dumont, Ed Bianchi of Kairos, and Melissa Hammel of the Wabano Centre. You will discuss challenges, opportunities and actions towards reconciliation. An Indigenous catered lunch will be provided (free-will offering suggested \$10-15). Please register with Desna Sulway at [dsulway@gmail.com](mailto:dsulway@gmail.com), 613-828-7628, as spaces are limited to 60.



## OTTAWA PRESBYTERY MEETING

The September 9<sup>th</sup> 2014 meeting of Ottawa Presbytery was hosted by Glebe-St. James United Church, the home congregation of the new chair of presbytery, David Lee. The congregation extended a gracious welcome and provided a lovely dinner. Members and staff of Glebe-St. James also provided worship and music leadership, technical AV support and hosting duty. The Chair of the congregation's Council welcomed the presbytery.

As is the custom the retiring chair, Rev. Trisha Elliott, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. New presbyters and guests were welcomed, including a number of ministry personnel beginning new pastoral relationships. There will be about a dozen covenanting services over the coming months to celebrate these relationships. At the beginning of the program year, the presbytery covenants with the new chair, executive, each other and staff for the work ahead.

David Lee, as the new chair, reflected upon the theme for 2014-2015 "Creating and Re-creating in Community". Some of David's thoughts on the theme can be read on the front page of the Sojourner.

Rev. David Sherwin extended appreciation to Rev. Trisha Elliott for her leadership as the chair of presbytery during 2013-2014. Calling upon the

theme of her term, "Change Happens", David presented tokens of appreciation related to embracing change.

In an update from the Executive, Barbara Reynolds shared the plans for staffing the Presbytery Minister position that will be vacant on November 1, 2014, when Lillian Roberts leaves to assume her ministry with Manitou Conference as their Personnel Minister. There will be an opportunity at the October presbytery meeting and on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> to extend best wishes to her. A needs assessment group has been named by the executive to report to the September 26<sup>th</sup> Executive meeting.

Whit Strong, the Conference Personnel Minister, gave an overview of the new compensation model that will be in effect on July 1, 2015. A workshop on it was held on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at the presbytery office. The new model moves from understanding compensation by salary and housing to viewing it as an inclusive amount that reflects the cost of living in different regions of Canada.

Lillian Roberts presented an outline of the General Council study paper dealing with "One Order of Ministry". The paper explores the relationship of ordained, commissioned and designated lay ministries and recom-

mends moving to understanding that all are one order of ministry with different expertise, and emphasis. It considers the educational baseline for the one order, as well as the ecumenical implications. Responses are welcomed until November 28, 2014 and can be made online.

The presbytery received an enthusiastic invitation to the Cracks Festival being held at Dominion Chalmers United Church November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The Moderator will be present as part of his official visit to Montreal and Ottawa Conference. The Festival features concerts and workshops and there is information available online at [www.cracksfestival.org](http://www.cracksfestival.org).

In preparation for the 42<sup>nd</sup> General Council in 2015, the church is being asked to consider a number of remits. The Presbytery dealt with Remit 7 regarding the broadening of an ex-officio commissioner position to include either Conference presidents or presidents-elect; and Remit 8 regarding the question of proportional representation of Order of Ministry and Designated Lay Ministers among those elected from the Conference to be commissioners to General Council. Both remits were agreed to by the court.

Lillian Roberts led in closing theological reflection upon the gathering and Anne Montgomery led in music. David Lee then declared the meeting closed.

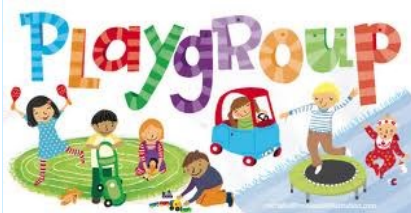
## Parents and Tots

**Wednesday mornings  
10 am to noon  
Parkdale Nursery**

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



Moms, Dads and grandparents are welcome!!!



## KNOWING FOR SURE

Namby: Good morning, Pamby.

Pamby: And the top of the morning to you, Namby.

Namby: Wow! You seem to be in a really good mood.

Pamby: Well, as good as anyone can be who one day realizes that he is more ignorant than knowledgeable and so, he is like most people.

Namby: Yes, they say that misery loves company.

Pamby: That's one way of looking at it, although it sounds negative.

Namby: Okay, I suppose there is something good about realizing that there is a lot that we don't know.

Pamby: Yes, it can make one more eager to learn.

Namby: Yes, and more humble too.

Pamby: But now and then I run into people who give the impression that they know and are certain about everything.

Namby: I had a different experience yesterday; I was talking to a friend when she suddenly said "I want certainty; there is too much in my life and the world which is uncertain".

Pamby: Well, what did she want to be certain about?

Namby: Questions such as "Why did she move from a city where she was happy and had several friends? Why did she buy a house, spending all that money? What's the next big thing that will happen to her? When will humankind stop fighting and live in peace?"

Pamby: That's a lot of questions, but it's always better to ask and it's natural after you have made a big decision to ask yourself again why you made it and whether you did the right thing.

Namby: Yes, but there are people who don't think that way at all; they are always sure about themselves and their understanding of the world.

Pamby: People like that scare me, especially when they claim to have God on their side. During the last Presidential Election in the United States, I remember hearing a Minister say on Benny Hinn's TV program that he knew who would win. When asked who, he replied "Governor Romney". "How do you know?", asked Hinn. "God told me", the Minister replied.

Namby: Well, President Obama won, so did the Minister explain how he could have been so certain and so wrong?

Pamby: Well, we haven't heard from him since, but I would doubt that God misled him.



Namby: Maybe he was saying what he wanted to happen and included God to make it sound more believable.

Pamby: And yet, there are people who will tell you that they prayed about a problem, received an answer, made a decision and are sure that it was the right decision.

Namby: Yes, and some pray, listen and don't hear anything.

Pamby: Not the young boy Samuel who became a great prophet. The old priest Eli told him to listen. That's what he did and when he heard what he thought was God's voice, he replied "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening". The experience changed his life.

Namby: Maybe something does happen when we are in a listening and praying mood.

Pamby: Perhaps. Maybe prayer, because it encourages us to focus on the particular problem quietly, permits us to see more options, allows us to see more clearly and that process may make us sure that our choice is the right one.

Namby: But what about the people who don't pray and prefer to trust Science to be certain about things? For example, we are sure that water freezes at a certain temperature; we can demonstrate it; night follows day; the sun never stops shining; each of us will die one day.

Pamby: And yes, don't forget taxes. They are a sure thing too. But your friend wanted to be certain about personal things as well as the world. What did you say to her?

Namby: We agreed that Science was a very important tool for developing certainty, but in our lives, we don't only trust what we can see.

Pamby: That's true, such as when you or I are ready to swear that a friend will or will not do something. There isn't at the time anything which we can see or touch to support our certainty, just our trust in the person's character.

Namby: That sounds like faith which that fellow Paul describes as something we hope for and behave as if it's true when all that we have to show is our belief that it's true.

Pamby: I particularly like one of his most famous verses in which he is absolutely sure that nothing can separate us from God's love.

Namby: Maybe my friend might gain some confidence in dealing with her own issues and the messy world if she tries a dose of Paul's certainty.

Pamby: Maybe and maybe not. Even the fellow JESUS struggled in the GARDEN, although, after prayer, he was sure that he was doing the right thing.

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## EDITORIAL BOARD

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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: **November 2014.**

Editor next issue: **Danica Rogers**

Please submit articles and materials to  
[messenger@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:messenger@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)  
or the church office  
by **Sunday October 19th**